

- 1642 Civil War in England, theaters closed.
- 1649 Charles I executed, beginning of Interregnum
- 1660 Charles II restored to the throne
- 1688 The Glorious Revolution: deposition of James II and accession of William of Orange
- 1707 Act of Union unites Scotland and England, which thus become "Great Britain."
- 1737 Theatrical Licensing Act is passed largely due to satires against Robert Walpole (Prime Minister and father of Horace Walpole) by Henry Fielding. This forces Fielding to write novels.
- 1752 *The Female Quixote* published.
- 1764 *The Castle of Otranto* published.
- 1778 *Evelina* published.
- 1791 *A Simple Story* published.
- 1796 *The Monk* published.
- 1801 *Female Quixotism* published in America.
- 1811-20 Regency—George, Prince of Wales, acts as regent for George III, who is declared incurably insane