**Answer NO-02**

Modernism is a 20th century art. It’s a period in literary history. Which started around the early 1900s and continued until the early 1940s. Modernist writers in general rebelled against clear cut storytelling and formulaic verse from the 19th century. Instead, many of them told fragmented stories which reflected the fragmented state of society during and after World War I. The First World war was an important influence on the development of modernist literature. Writers experimented with different styles such as stream of consciousness, fragmentation and symbolism. It’s a [philosophical](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Philosophy), [religious](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Modernism_in_the_Catholic_Church) and [art movement](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Art_movement) that arose from broad transformations in [Western society](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Western_world) during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Modernism rejected all the movements that became before it, arguing that these forms of representation no longer adequately reflected the new forms of society. Modernism literature movement that was characterized by the use of literary techniques such as stream of consciousness, free indirect speech, and unreliable narrator. It is important to note that the modernist movement was not influenced by any one single event or object. Modernism was a cultural movement that encompassed many styles and genres in its short span. Despite these differences, it is possible to identify characteristics common to all modernist texts: personal voice, fragmentation and dislocation, emotional numbness and detachment from society, alienation and the use of irony. Modernism describes things you do that are contemporary or current. Your modernism may be seen in your up-to-date clothing, your contemporary taste in books, and your willingness to stay up on current trends. Modernism can describe thought, behaviour, or values that reflect current times, but it can also be used to describe an art and literature movement of the 19th and 20th centuries that intentionally split from earlier conservative traditions. The poet Ezra Pound was a key figure in modernism, and his famous slogan "Make it new!" sums up the values of modernism, which rejected traditional forms and styles for more experimental techniques. Many Modernists wrote in free verse and they included many countries and cultures in their poems. Emily Dickinson and Walt Whitman are thought to be the mother and father of the movement because they had the most direct influence on early Modernists. Some-time after their deaths, the Imagist poets began to gain importance. In the broadest sense Modernism is about rejecting what came before it and embracing new ways to create meaning.

There are the main features of Modern Drama. There are-

* **Realism**
* **Naturalism**
* **Absurdism**
* **Romanticism**
* **Impressionism**
* **Expressionism**

I read George Bernard Shaw’s drama play “Arms and the man”. It’s a romantic comedy. It’s one of Shaw’s most glittering comedies. This play is set in Bulgaria in 1885. When the Serbo-Bulgarian War was ongoing. It sets on in three acts. It produced in 1894 at the [Avenue Theatre](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Avenue_Theatre) and published in 1898. The play was first performed in 1895 in London. It title comes from the opening words of [Virgil](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Virgil)'s [Aeneid](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aeneid). In Latin “Arma virumque cano”. In English "Of arms and the man I sing". Arms and the Man was one of Shaw's first commercial successes. He was called on to stage after the curtain. Where he received enthusiastic applause. Arms and the Man is a humorous play that shows the futility of war and deals comedically with the hypocrisies of human nature. English novelist [George Orwell](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Orwell) said that Arms and the Man was written when Shaw was at the height of his powers as a dramatist.

“Arms and the man” written by George Bernard Shaw. He was an Irish playwright, critic, [polemicist](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polemic) and political activist. He is the winner of the Nobel Prize. For Literature in 1925. He preferred to be called him “G.Bernard Shaw” or “Bernard Shaw”. That he cleared the English stage of humbug and the English stage of cant’. He hated the “George” and never used it, either personally or professionally. He was best known for drama. He was also proficient in the areas of journalism, music and literary criticism. He began his literary career as a novelist. Shaw’s works concerned themselves mostly with prevailing social problems, specifically with what he saw as the exploitation of the working middle class. Shaw attended various schools throughout his youth but always harboured an animosity towards schools and teachers. He is quoted as saying that “Schools and schoolmasters, as we have them today, are not popular as places of education and teachers, but rather prisons and turnkeys in which children are kept to prevent them disturbing and chaperoning their parents”. Shaw was born in Dublin on July 26, 1856 in a lower-middle-class family of Scottish-Protestant ancestry. His father’s name was George Carr Shaw who was a failed corn merchant, with a drinking problem. His mother’s name was Lucinda Elisabeth Shaw who was the daughter of an impoverished landowner and professionally a singer, the sole disciple of Vandeleur Lee, a voice teacher claiming to have a unique and original approach to singing. When Shaw was just short of his 16th birthday after his mother left with his sister Lucy, Shaw remained in Dublin with his father, completing his schooling which he hated passionately and working as a clerk for an estate office which he hated just as much as school. His ninetieth birthday in 1946 was the occasion for an international celebration. He was the first person to be awarded the Nobel prize for Literature as well as an Oscar. For his work on Pygmalion. Which was an adaptation of his play of the same name. He wrote 60 plays, most of which deal with social themes such as marriage, religion, class government and health care. Two of his greatest influences were Henrik Ibsen and Henry Fielding. He died at the age of 94 due to injuries incurred from falling while pruning a tree.

The play “Arms and the man” opens with the young romantic Raina Petkoff and her mother [Catherine](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/arms-and-the-man/characters/catherine-petkoff) talking excitedly about a successful cavalry charge led by the handsome and heroic [Sergius](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/arms-and-the-man/characters/major-sergius-saranoff). To whom Raina is betrothed. They are thrilled at his success. Their defiant young servant [Louka](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/arms-and-the-man/characters/louka) comes in and tells them that there will be fighting in the streets soon and that they should lock all of their windows. Raina’s shutters do not lock and shortly after the gunshots start that night, she hears a man climb onto her balcony and into her room. He is a Swiss professional soldier fighting for Servia. Though he fights for the enemy and is not in the least heroic he fears for his life, threatens to cry and carries chocolates instead of ammo. Raina is touched by his plight. He angers her when he tells her that the man who led the cavalry charge against them only succeeded because he got extremely lucky the Servians were not equipped with the right ammo. Raina indignantly says that that commander is her betrothed and the man apologizes, holding back laughter. Raina nevertheless agrees to keep the man safe, saying that her family is one of the most powerful and wealthy in Bulgaria, and that his safety will be ensured as their guest. She goes to get her mother and when they return, he has fallen asleep on Raina’s bed. In the next act the war has ended and [Major Petkoff](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/arms-and-the-man/characters/major-paul-petkoff) who was Raina’s father arrives home and Sergius and Raina are reunited. They speak lovingly to one another about how perfect their romance is. But when Raina goes inside, Sergius holds Louka in his arms, clearly lusting after her. Louka believes he is taking advantage of her because she is a servant and tells him she does not believe she and he are any different simply because he is rich and she is poor. They part just as Raina returns. Then, to make things more complicated, the man from Raina’s balcony, announcing himself as [Captain Bluntschli](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/arms-and-the-man/characters/captain-bluntschli), arrives, to return a coat he was loaned the morning after he rested at the house. Catherine tries to keep him from being seen, but Major Petkoff recognizes him, and invites him inside to help with some of the last remaining military orders. In the final act, in the [library](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/arms-and-the-man/symbols/the-library), it comes out that Louka, though she had been assumed to be engaged to the head servant [Nicola](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/arms-and-the-man/characters), is in love with Sergius, and he is in love with her. Raina eventually admits she has fallen for Bluntschli, who is at first hesitant, believing her to be much younger than she is. When he finds out her real age is 23 rather than the 17, he had thought she was, he declares his affection for her. The play ends happily, with two new couples “Raina-Bluntschli” and “[Sergius](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/arms-and-the-man/characters/major-sergius-saranoff)-[Louka](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/arms-and-the-man/characters/louka)”.

I can see “Arms and the Man” by George Bernard Shaw is a Modern Drama. I found modern features in play “Arms and the man” by George Bernard Shaw. Because in this play I can see the features of modern drama. Like Romanticism. This play is known for its witty satire of romanticism. Romanticism what shows in the characters of Sergius, Raina, Bluntschli and Louka. I also see some other features of modern drama in Arms and the Man by George Bernard Shaw too. That’s why I think, George Bernard Shaw ‘s “Arms and the Man” is Modern Drama.