

Johnson, Samuel (1709 – 1784)



The chief advantage which these fictions have over real life is, that their authors are at liberty, though not to invent, yet to select objects, and to cull from the mass of mankind, those individuals upon which the attention ought most to be employed; as a diamond, though it cannot be made, may be polished by art, and placed in such a situation, as to display that lustre which before was buried among common stones.

— The Rambler

Works

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|------|--|------|---|------|---|
| 1728 | Translation of Alexander Pope's "Messiah" into Latin | 1753 | The Adventurer, 1753-54 | 1765 | The Plays of William Shakespeare |
| 1732 | Birmingham Journal, 1732-33 | 1755 | A Dictionary of the English Language | 1770 | The False Alarm |
| 1738 | "London" | 1756 | Proposals for Printing, by Subscription, the Dramatick Works of William Shakespeare | 1771 | Thoughts on the Late Transactions Respecting Falkland's Islands |
| 1744 | Life of Mr Richard Savage | 1756 | The Literary Magazine, or Universal Review | 1774 | The Patriot |
| 1745 | Miscellaneous Observations on the Tragedy of Macbeth | 1756 | Universal Visiter | 1775 | A Journey to the Western Islands of Scotland |
| 1747 | Plan for a Dictionary of the English Language | 1758 | The Idler, 1758-1760 | 1775 | Taxation No Tyranny |
| 1749 | "The Vanity of Human Wishes" | 1759 | The History of Rasselas, Prince of Abissinia | 1779 | Lives of the Poets, 1779-81 |
| 1749 | Irene, a Tragedy | | | 1781 | The Beauties of Johnson |
| 1750 | The Rambler, 1750-52 | | | | |

SHAKESPEARE