The periodical essayist and the novelist were both exponents of the same... Of these two new literary genres the periodical essay was a peculiar product of the environment prevailing at that time. It was born with the eighteenth century and died with it after enjoying a career of phenomenal popularity. The novel, on the other hand, survived valiantly...
the turn of the century and has since then been not only managing to live, but has been growing from strength to strength and adding to its popularity. Again, in the eighteenth century, with a remarkable spurt in the mass of the reading public which no longer remained confined to London, it became impossible for the theatre to cater for the entire public. Hence the novel came as a welcome substitute of the drama. British colonisation over a period of three centuries scattered the English language to all the continents of the world. But the spread of American English in the twentieth century has contributed most to the increasing number of English-speakers in the world today. In the 1770s, the English spoken by the colonists in America hardly differed from the English spoken in Britain. These people still referred to Britain as the mother country and their language was a last, lingering link with the homeland they had left. But once the political breakaway had occurred, contact between the two countries The eighteenth-century great novels are semi-anti-romance, or it was the first time that the novel emerged and distributed widely and largely among its readers; reading public. Moreover, with the increase of the literacy, the demand on the reading material increased rapidly, among well-to-do women, who were novel readers of the time. The story of the book relied on the real life event. It is about the story of Alexander Selkirk, a Scottish sailor who quarreled with his captain, was, in fact, put into the island of Juan Fernandez near Chile, and he lived there alone for four years. In the eighteenth century, Britain economically depended on slave trade, which was abolished on the early 1800s. Therefore, Daniel Defoe was familiar with this practice, even though he did not active criticise it. 18th-century prose The eighteenth century, however, if it was not a great age of poetry, was great in prose, and in other realms of prose than that of theatrical comedy. At its outset the short essay was almost perfected by Steele and Addison in the pages of the Toiler and the Spectator. Pamphleteering was elevated into a fine art by Defoe and Swift. Defoe, in a series of works unmatched in their realism from the Journal of the Plague to Robinson Crusoe, created the English Novel; and Swift made the travels of Gulliver to Lilliput and Brobdingnag almost as convincing as the adventures of Crusoe.