

This Thing Called Literature Reading Thinking Writing

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Explorations: Reading, Thinking, Discussion, Writing

Thomas Clark Pollock 1956

Fahrenheit 451 Ray Bradbury 1968 A fireman in charge of burning books meets a revolutionary school teacher who dares to read. Depicts a future world in which all printed reading material is burned.

Resources for Teaching the Compact Bedford Introduction to Literature Michael Meyer 2006

Conversations with Friends Sally Rooney 2017-05-25

CONVERSATIONS WITH FRIENDS WILL BE ADAPTED FOR A BBC THREE DRAMA, PREMIERING IN MAY 2022! ***SALLY ROONEY'S NEW NOVEL, BEAUTIFUL WORLD, WHERE ARE YOU, IS OUT NOW***

'This book. This book. I read it in one day. I hear I'm not alone.' - Sarah Jessica Parker (Instagram)

'Fascinating, ferocious and shrewd.' - Lisa McInerney, author of *The Glorious Heresies*

'I really like *Conversations with Friends*. I like the tone [Rooney] takes when she's writing. I think it's like being inside someone's mind.' - Taylor Swift

Frances is twenty-one years old, cool-headed and observant. A student in Dublin and an aspiring writer, at night she performs spoken word with her best friend Bobbi, who used to be her girlfriend. When they are interviewed and then befriended by Melissa, a well-known journalist who is married to Nick, an actor, they enter a world of beautiful houses, raucous dinner parties and holidays in Provence, beginning a complex ménage-à-quatre. But when Frances and Nick get unexpectedly closer, the sharply witty and emotion-averse Frances is forced to honestly confront her own vulnerabilities for the first time.

FROM THE AUTHOR OF *NORMAL PEOPLE*, THE BOOK OF THE HIT TV SERIES, NOW AVAILABLE ON THE BBC

Mad, Bad & Dangerous to Know Samira Ahmed 2020-04-07

Discover New York Times bestseller Samira Ahmed's romantic, sweeping adventure through the streets of Paris told in alternating narratives that bridge centuries, continents, and the lives of two young Muslim women fighting to write their own stories. Smash the patriarchy. Eat all the pastries. It's August in Paris and 17-year-old Khayyam Maquet—American, French, Indian, Muslim—is at a crossroads. This holiday with her parents should be a dream trip for the budding art historian. But her maybe-ex-boyfriend is ghosting her, she might have just blown her chance at getting into her dream college, and now all she really wants is to be back home in Chicago figuring out her messy life instead of brooding in the City of Light. Two hundred years before Khayyam's summer of discontent, Leila is struggling to survive and keep her true love hidden from the Pasha who has "gifted" her with favored status in his harem. In the present day—and with the company of Alex, a très charmant teen descendant of Alexandre Dumas—Khayyam searches for a rumored lost painting, uncovering a connection between Leila and Alexandre Dumas, Eugène Delacroix, and Lord Byron that may have been erased from history. Echoing across centuries, Leila and Khayyam's lives intertwine, and as one woman's long-forgotten life is uncovered, another's is transformed.

Fahrenheit 451 Ray Bradbury 1951 A totalitarian regime has ordered all books to be destroyed, but one of the book burners suddenly realizes their merit.

Using Critical Theory Lois Tyson 2011-11-16 Explaining both why theory is important and how to use it, Lois Tyson introduces beginning students of literature to this often daunting area in a friendly and approachable style. The new edition of this textbook is clearly structured with chapters based on major theories that students are expected to cover in their studies. Key features include: coverage of major theories including psychoanalysis, Marxism, feminism, lesbian/gay/queer theories, postcolonial theory, African American theory, and a new chapter on New Criticism (formalism) practical demonstrations of how to use these theories on short literary works selected from canonical authors including William Faulkner and Alice Walker a new chapter on reader-response theory that shows students how to use their personal responses to literature while avoiding typical pitfalls new sections on cultural criticism for each chapter new 'further practice' and 'further reading' sections for each chapter a useful "next step" appendix that suggests additional literary titles for extra practice. Comprehensive, easy to use, and fully updated throughout, *Using Critical Theory* is the ideal first step for students beginning degrees in literature, composition and cultural studies.

Why I Write George Orwell 2021-01-01 George Orwell set out 'to make political writing into an art', and to a wide extent this aim shaped the future of English literature – his descriptions of authoritarian regimes helped to form a new vocabulary that is fundamental to understanding totalitarianism. While *1984* and *Animal Farm* are amongst the most popular classic novels in the English language, this new series of Orwell's essays seeks to bring a wider selection of his writing on politics and literature to a new readership. In *Why I Write*, the first in the *Orwell's Essays* series, Orwell describes his journey to becoming a writer, and his movement from writing poems to short stories to the essays, fiction and non-fiction we remember him for. He also discusses what he sees as the 'four great motives for writing' – 'sheer egoism', 'aesthetic enthusiasm', 'historical impulse' and 'political purpose' – and considers the importance of keeping these in balance.

Why I Write is a unique opportunity to look into Orwell's mind, and it grants the reader an entirely different vantage point from which to consider the rest of the great writer's oeuvre. 'A writer who can – and must – be rediscovered with every age.' – *Irish Times*

Compact Bedford Introduction to Literature: Reading, Thinking, and Writing & Videocentral for Literature (Access Card) Michael Meyer 2014-01-10

The Bedford Introduction to Literature Michael Meyer 2008 The Bedford Introduction to Literature responds to the teaching and learning needs of all kinds of literature classrooms and composition courses where literature is a focus. Author Michael Meyer understands that a particular challenge for instructors is that students do not necessarily see literature as relevant to their lives. They may be new to the study of literature, may have difficulty reading it, and may lack confidence in their critical abilities and writing skills. With these factors in mind, Meyer has put together a lively collection of stories, poems, and

plays from many periods, cultures, and themes, with voices ranging from the traditional to the latest and hottest contemporary authors. As an experienced anthologist and instructor of literature, Meyer has a knack for choosing enticing selections including humorous works and readings from popular culture that students both enjoy and respond to. Complementing this unparalleled collection are proven editorial features that offer students real help with reading, appreciating, and writing about literature. The Bedford Introduction to Literature is a book designed to bring literature to life and to make students life-long readers. - Publisher.

Authorship's Wake Philip Sayers 2020-12-10 Authorship's Wake examines the aftermath of the 1960s critique of the author, epitomized by Roland Barthes's essay, "The Death of the Author." This critique has given rise to a body of writing that confounds generic distinctions separating the literary and the theoretical. Its archive consists of texts by writers who either directly participated in this critique, as Barthes did, or whose intellectual formation took place in its immediate aftermath. These writers include some who are known primarily as theorists (Judith Butler), others known primarily as novelists (Zadie Smith, David Foster Wallace), and yet others whose texts are difficult to categorize (the autofiction of Chris Kraus, Sheila Heti, and Ben Lerner; the autotheory of Maggie Nelson). These writers share not only a central motivating question — how to move beyond the critique of the author-subject — but also a way of answering it: by writing texts that merge theoretical concerns with literary discourse. Authorship's Wake traces the responses their work offers in relation to four themes: communication, intention, agency, and labor.

The Bedford Introduction to Literature Michael Meyer 1990

An Introduction to Literature, Criticism and Theory

Andrew Bennett 2016-03-02 Lively, original and highly readable, *An Introduction to Literature, Criticism and Theory* is the essential guide to literary studies. Starting at 'The Beginning' and concluding with 'The End', chapters range from the familiar, such as 'Character', 'Narrative' and 'The Author', to the more unusual, such as 'Secrets', 'Pleasure' and 'Ghosts'. Now in its fifth edition, Bennett and Royle's classic textbook successfully illuminates complex ideas by engaging directly with literary works, so that a reading of *Jane Eyre* opens up ways of thinking about racial difference, for example, while Chaucer, Raymond Chandler and Monty Python are all invoked in a discussion of literature and laughter. The fifth edition has been revised throughout and includes four new chapters — 'Feelings', 'Wounds', 'Body' and 'Love' — to incorporate exciting recent developments in literary studies. In addition to further reading sections at the end of each chapter, the book contains a comprehensive bibliography and a glossary of key literary terms. A breath of fresh air in a field that can often seem dry and dauntingly theoretical, this book will open the reader's eyes to the exhilarating possibilities of reading and studying literature.

The Story of Electricity John Munro 2014-05-16 The purpose of this little book is to present the essential facts of electrical science in a popular and interesting way, as befits the scheme of the series to which it belongs. Electrical phenomena have been observed since the first man viewed one of the most spectacular and magnificent of them all in the thunderstorm, but the services of electricity which we enjoy are the product solely of scientific achievement in the nineteenth century. It is to these services that the main part of the following discussion is devoted.

Veering Nicholas Royle 2011-10-12 'Reading Veering generates the intense joy of veering. An exuberantly

successful medium, Royle calls up swarms of passages from literature and elsewhere where the word or concept "veering" is salient. On this basis he creates new theories of literature and of creative writing's place in criticism. Royle's best book yet.' J. Hillis Miller, Distinguished Research Professor of Comparative Literature and English, University of California, Irvine 'Nicholas Royle is one of the most interesting, inventive, and provocative thinkers of literary language currently writing in English, and he has done something truly extraordinary here. By allowing a theory of literature to emerge right from the traces of the veering movements of fiction and poetry, he has thoroughly renewed the possibility of thinking in the wake of our literary encounters. Veering issues a general license to read, once again, with all the wonder, generosity, and freedom it calls forth on every page.' Professor Peggy Kamuf, University of Southern California 'Every genre, every great work has its way of veering. This fascinating, richly compendious, necessary book shows the way forward for literary studies. Nicholas Royle's twisty key opens and magically re-opens the wonders of the canon and beyond. The spiralling pleasure he takes in doing so lightens, refreshes, instructs and inspires. Royle is a wonderful communicator about literature and theory and a uniquely powerful, original critical voice. This is his most exciting and widely relevant work so far.' Sarah Wood, University of Kent 'Reflections on the figure of veering form the basis for a new theory of literature Exploring images of swerving, loss of control, digressing and deviating, *Veering* provides new critical perspectives on all major literary genres: the novel, poetry, drama, the short story and the essay, as well as creative writing Royle works with insights from Lewis Carroll, Freud, Adorno, Raymond Williams, Edward Said, Deleuze, Cixous and Derrida. With wit and irony he investigates veering in the writings of Jonson, Milton, Dryden, Wordsworth, Coleridge, Melville, Hardy, Proust, Lawrence, Bowen, J.H. Prynne and many others. Contrary to a widespread sense that literature has become increasingly irrelevant to our culture and everyday life, Royle brilliantly traces a strange but compelling literary turn

World Literature in Theory David Damrosch 2014-01-28 *World Literature in Theory* provides a definitive exploration of the pressing questions facing those studying world literature today. Coverage is split into four parts which examine the origins and seminal formulations of world literature, world literature in the age of globalization, contemporary debates on world literature, and localized versions of world literature Contains more than 30 important theoretical essays by the most influential scholars, including Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, Hugo Meltzl, Edward Said, Franco Moretti, Jorge Luis Borges, and Gayatri Spivak Includes substantive introductions to each essay, as well as an annotated bibliography for further reading Allows students to understand, articulate, and debate the most important issues in this rapidly changing field of study

The Lives of Literature Arnold Weinstein 2022-01-18 Mixing passion and humor, a personal work of literary criticism that demonstrates how the greatest books illuminate our lives Why do we read literature? For Arnold Weinstein, the answer is clear: literature allows us to become someone else. Literature changes us by giving us intimate access to an astonishing variety of other lives, experiences, and places across the ages. Reflecting on a lifetime of reading, teaching, and writing, *The Lives of Literature* explores, with passion, humor, and whirring intellect, a professor's life, the thrills and traps of teaching, and, most of all, the power of literature to lead us to a deeper understanding of ourselves and the worlds we inhabit. As an identical twin, Weinstein experienced early the dislocation of being mistaken for another person—and of feeling that he

might be someone other than he had thought. In vivid readings elucidating the classics of authors ranging from Sophocles to James Joyce and Toni Morrison, he explores what we learn by identifying with their protagonists, including those who, undone by wreckage and loss, discover that all their beliefs are illusions. Weinstein masterfully argues that literature's knowing differs entirely from what one ends up knowing when studying mathematics or physics or even history: by entering these characters' lives, readers acquire a unique form of knowledge—and come to understand its cost. In *The Lives of Literature*, a master writer and teacher shares his love of the books that he has taught and been taught by, showing us that literature matters because we never stop discovering who we are.

Making Meaning in English David Didau 2021-02-10 What is English as a school subject for? What does knowledge look like in English and what should be taught? *Making Meaning in English* examines the broader purpose and reasons for teaching English and explores what knowledge looks like in a subject concerned with judgement, interpretation and value. David Didau argues that the content of English is best explored through distinct disciplinary lenses – metaphor, story, argument, pattern, grammar and context – and considers the knowledge that needs to be explicitly taught so students can recognise, transfer, build and extend their knowledge of English. He discusses the principles and tools we can use to make decisions about what to teach and offers a curriculum framework that draws these strands together to allow students to make sense of the knowledge they encounter. If students are going to enjoy English as a subject and do well in it, they not only need to be knowledgeable, but understand how to use their knowledge to create meaning. This insightful text offers a practical way for teachers to construct a curriculum in which the mastery of English can be planned, taught and assessed.

This Thing We Call Literature Arthur Krystal 2016-03-16 "This Thing We Call Literature collects ten essays from the combative, cantakerous cultural critic Arthur Krystal. The essays in this compact volume, mostly coming from *The New Yorker*, *Harper's*, and *The Chronicle of Higher Education*--all share Krystal's conviction that literature and the humanities more broadly are going down the tubes"--

The Compact Bedford Introduction to Literature 2009
Writing and Literature Tanya Long Bennett 2018-01-10 In the age of Buzzfeeds, hashtags, and Tweets, students are increasingly favoring conversational writing and regarding academic writing as less pertinent in their personal lives, education, and future careers. *Writing and Literature: Composition as Inquiry, Learning, Thinking and Communication* connects students with works and exercises and promotes student learning that is kairotic and constructive. Dr. Tanya Long Bennett, professor of English at the University of North Georgia, poses questions that encourage active rather than passive learning. Furthering ideas presented in *Contribute a Verse: A Guide to First-Year Composition* as a complimentary companion, *Writing and Literature* builds a new conversation covering various genres of literature and writing. Students learn the various writing styles appropriate for analyzing, addressing, and critiquing these genres including poetry, novels, dramas, and research writing. The text and its pairing of helpful visual aids throughout emphasizes the importance of critical reading and analysis in producing a successful composition. *Writing and Literature* is a refreshing textbook that links learning, literature, and life.

The Giving Tree Shel Silverstein 2014-02-18 As *The Giving Tree* turns fifty, this timeless classic is available for the first time ever in ebook format. This digital edition allows young readers and lifelong fans to continue the legacy and love of a classic that will

now reach an even wider audience. "Once there was a tree...and she loved a little boy." So begins a story of unforgettable perception, beautifully written and illustrated by the gifted and versatile Shel Silverstein. This moving parable for all ages offers a touching interpretation of the gift of giving and a serene acceptance of another's capacity to love in return. Every day the boy would come to the tree to eat her apples, swing from her branches, or slide down her trunk...and the tree was happy. But as the boy grew older he began to want more from the tree, and the tree gave and gave and gave. This is a tender story, touched with sadness, aglow with consolation. Shel Silverstein's incomparable career as a bestselling children's book author and illustrator began with *Lafcadio, the Lion Who Shot Back*. He is also the creator of picture books including *A Giraffe and a Half*, *Who Wants a Cheap Rhinoceros?*, *The Missing Piece*, *The Missing Piece Meets the Big O*, and the perennial favorite *The Giving Tree*, and of classic poetry collections such as *Where the Sidewalk Ends*, *A Light in the Attic*, *Falling Up*, *Everything On It*, *Don't Bump the Glump!*, and *Runny Babbit*. And don't miss the other Shel Silverstein ebooks, *Where the Sidewalk Ends* and *A Light in the Attic!*

The Bedford Introduction to Literature Michael Meyer 2010-02-21

Wonderworks Angus Fletcher 2021-03-09 This "fascinating" (Malcolm Gladwell, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Outliers*) examination of literary inventions through the ages, from ancient Mesopotamia to Elena Ferrante, shows how writers have created technical breakthroughs—rivaling scientific inventions—and engineering enhancements to the human heart and mind. Literature is a technology like any other. And the writers we revere—from Homer, Shakespeare, Austen, and others—each made a unique technical breakthrough that can be viewed as both a narrative and neuroscientific advancement. Literature's great invention was to address problems we could not solve: not how to start a fire or build a boat, but how to live and love; how to maintain courage in the face of death; how to account for the fact that we exist at all. *Wonderworks* reviews the blueprints for twenty-five of the most significant developments in the history of literature. These inventions can be scientifically shown to alleviate grief, trauma, loneliness, anxiety, numbness, depression, pessimism, and ennui, while sparking creativity, courage, love, empathy, hope, joy, and positive change. They can be found throughout literature—from ancient Chinese lyrics to Shakespeare's plays, poetry to nursery rhymes and fairy tales, and crime novels to slave narratives. A "refreshing and remarkable" (Jay Parini, author of *Borges and Me: An Encounter*) exploration of the new literary field of story science, *Wonderworks* teaches you everything you wish you learned in your English class, and "contains many instances of critical insight...What's most interesting about this compendium is its understanding of imaginative representation as a technology" (*The New York Times*).

The Bedford Introduction to Literature 2011

The Rock of the Lion Molly Elliot Seawell 2020-08-14
Reproduction of the original: *The Rock of the Lion* by Molly Elliot Seawell

Suicide Century Andrew Bennett 2017-10-05 *Suicide Century* investigates suicide as an increasingly 'normalised' but still deeply traumatic and profoundly baffling act in twentieth-century writing.

The Labour of Literature in Britain and France, 1830-1910 Marcus Waithe 2018-04-20 This volume examines the anxieties that caused many nineteenth-century writers to insist on literature as a laboured and labouring enterprise. Following Isaac D'Israeli's gloss on Jean de La Bruyère, it asks, in particular, whether writing should be 'called working'. Whereas previous

studies have focused on national literatures in isolation, this volume demonstrates the two-way traffic between British and French conceptions of literary labour. It questions assumed areas of affinity and difference, beginning with the labour politics of the early nineteenth century and their common root in the French Revolution. It also scrutinises the received view of France as a source of a 'leisure ethic', and of British writers as either rejecting or self-consciously mimicking French models. Individual essays consider examples of how different writers approached their work, while also evoking a broader notion of 'work ethics', understood as a humane practice, whereby values, benefits, and responsibilities, are weighed up.

Think Again Adam Grant 2021-02-02 #1 New York Times Bestseller "THIS. This is the right book for right now. Yes, learning requires focus. But, unlearning and relearning requires much more—it requires choosing courage over comfort. In *Think Again*, Adam Grant weaves together research and storytelling to help us build the intellectual and emotional muscle we need to stay curious enough about the world to actually change it. I've never felt so hopeful about what I don't know." —Brené Brown, Ph.D., #1 New York Times bestselling author of *Dare to Lead* The bestselling author of *Give and Take* and *Originals* examines the critical art of rethinking: learning to question your opinions and open other people's minds, which can position you for excellence at work and wisdom in life Intelligence is usually seen as the ability to think and learn, but in a rapidly changing world, there's another set of cognitive skills that might matter more: the ability to rethink and unlearn. In our daily lives, too many of us favor the comfort of conviction over the discomfort of doubt. We listen to opinions that make us feel good, instead of ideas that make us think hard. We see disagreement as a threat to our egos, rather than an opportunity to learn. We surround ourselves with people who agree with our conclusions, when we should be gravitating toward those who challenge our thought process. The result is that our beliefs get brittle long before our bones. We think too much like preachers defending our sacred beliefs, prosecutors proving the other side wrong, and politicians campaigning for approval--and too little like scientists searching for truth. Intelligence is no cure, and it can even be a curse: being good at thinking can make us worse at rethinking. The brighter we are, the blinder to our own limitations we can become. Organizational psychologist Adam Grant is an expert on opening other people's minds--and our own. As Wharton's top-rated professor and the bestselling author of *Originals* and *Give and Take*, he makes it one of his guiding principles to argue like he's right but listen like he's wrong. With bold ideas and rigorous evidence, he investigates how we can embrace the joy of being wrong, bring nuance to charged conversations, and build schools, workplaces, and communities of lifelong learners. You'll learn how an international debate champion wins arguments, a Black musician persuades white supremacists to abandon hate, a vaccine whisperer convinces concerned parents to immunize their children, and Adam has coaxed Yankees fans to root for the Red Sox. *Think Again* reveals that we don't have to believe everything we think or internalize everything we feel. It's an invitation to let go of views that are no longer serving us well and prize mental flexibility over foolish consistency. If knowledge is power, knowing what we don't know is wisdom.

How Literature Changes the Way We Think Michael Mack 2011-12-01 >

[Using Key Passages to Understand Literature, Theory and Criticism](#) Barry Laga 2018-09-21 *Using Key Passages to Understand Literature, Theory and Criticism* is a completely fresh and innovative approach to teaching and learning literary theory: using short passages of theory

to make sense of literary and cultural texts. It focuses on the key concepts that help readers understand literature and cultural events in new and provocative ways. Covering a wide variety of iconic and contemporary theorists, the book offers a broad chronological and global overview, including thirty passages from theorists such as Viktor Shklovsky, Roland Barthes, Judith Butler, Diana Fuss, Jean Baudrillard, Kwame Anthony Appiah, Michel Foucault, Monique Wittig, and Eve Sedgwick. Built on the premise that scholars use theory pragmatically, *Using Key Passages to Understand Literature, Theory and Criticism* identifies problems, puzzles, and questions readers may encounter when they read a story, watch a film, or look at artwork. It explains, in detail, thirty concepts that help readers make sense of these works and invites students to apply the concepts to a range of writing and research projects. The textbook concludes by helping students read theory with an eye on finding productive passages and writing their own "theory chapter," signaling a shift from student as critic to student as theorist. Used as a main text in introductory theory courses or as a supplement to any literature, film, theater, or art course, this book helps students read closely and think critically.

Contemporary Literature: The Basics Suman Gupta 2012-03-12 'Contemporary Literature' is among the most popular areas of literary study but it can be a difficult one to define. This book equips readers with the necessary tools to take an analytical and systematic approach to contemporary texts. The author provides answers to some of the critical questions in the field: What makes a literary text contemporary? Is it possible to have a canon of contemporary literature? How does a reader's location affect their understanding? How do print, electronic, and audio-visual media impact upon contemporary literature? Which key concepts and themes are most prevalent? Containing diverse illustrative examples and discussing the topics which define our current sense of the contemporary, this is an ideal starting point for anyone seeking to engage critically with contemporary literature.

A Psychoanalytic Perspective on Reading Literature Merav Roth 2019-08-14 What are the unconscious processes involved in reading literature? How does literature influence our psychological development and existential challenges? *A Psychoanalytic Perspective on Reading Literature* offers a unique glimpse into the unconscious psychic processes and development involved in reading. The author listens to the 'free associations' of various literary characters, in numerous scenarios where the characters are themselves reading literature, thus revealing the mysterious ways in which reading literature helps us and contributes to our development. The book offers an introduction both to classic literature (Poe, Proust, Sartre, Semprún, Pessoa, Agnon and more) and to the major psychoanalytic concepts that can be used in reading it – all described and widely explained before being used as tools for interpreting the literary illustrations. The book thus offers a rich lexical psychoanalytic source, alongside its main aim in analysing the reader's psychological mechanisms and development. Psychoanalytic interpretation of those literary readers opens three main avenues to the reader's experience: the transference relations toward the literary characters; the literary work as means to transcend beyond the reader's self-identity and existential boundaries; and mobilization of internal dialectic tensions towards new integration and psychic equilibrium. An Epilogue concludes by emphasising the transformational power embedded in reading literature. The fascinating dialogue between literature and psychoanalysis illuminates hitherto concealed aspects of each discipline and contributes to new insights in both fields. *A Psychoanalytic Perspective on Reading*

Literature will be of great interest not only to psychoanalytic-psychotherapists and literature scholars, but also to a wider readership beyond these areas of study.

The God Focused Life Jr. Argyl L. Dickson 2010-03 About the author: He is married and he and his wife have 12 children. They home school and he pastors a church plant called Living Water Community Church located in northern California. Argyl is available for seminars and speaking engagements on a limited basis. He can be reached at Argyl@GodFocusedLife.org.

Rescuing Socrates Roosevelt Montás 2021-11-16 A Dominican-born academic tells the story of how the Great Books transformed his life—and why they have the power to speak to people of all backgrounds What is the value of a liberal education? Traditionally characterized by a rigorous engagement with the classics of Western thought and literature, this approach to education is all but extinct in American universities, replaced by flexible distribution requirements and ever-narrower academic specialization. Many academics attack the very idea of a Western canon as chauvinistic, while the general public increasingly doubts the value of the humanities. In *Rescuing Socrates*, Dominican-born American academic Roosevelt Montás tells the story of how a liberal education transformed his life, and offers an intimate account of the relevance of the Great Books today, especially to members of historically marginalized communities. Montás emigrated from the Dominican Republic to Queens, New York, when he was twelve and encountered the Western classics as an undergraduate in Columbia University's renowned Core Curriculum, one of America's last remaining Great Books programs. The experience changed his life and determined his career—he went on to earn a PhD in English and comparative literature, serve as director of Columbia's Center for the Core Curriculum, and start a Great Books program for low-income high school students who aspire to be the first in their families to attend college. Weaving together memoir and literary reflection, *Rescuing Socrates* describes how four authors—Plato, Augustine, Freud, and Gandhi—had a profound impact on Montás's life. In doing so, the book drives home what it's like to experience a liberal education—and why it can still remake lives.

Directory Modern Language Association of America 2002

The Prevention of Literature George Orwell 2021-01-01 George Orwell set out 'to make political writing into an art', and to a wide extent this aim shaped the future of English literature – his descriptions of authoritarian regimes helped to form a new vocabulary that is fundamental to understanding totalitarianism. While 1984 and *Animal Farm* are amongst the most popular classic novels in the English language, this new series of Orwell's essays seeks to bring a wider selection of his writing on politics and literature to a new readership. In *The Prevention of Literature*, the third in the Orwell's Essays series, Orwell considers the freedom of thought and expression. He discusses the effect of the ownership of the press on the accuracy of reports of events, and takes aim at political language, which 'consists almost entirely of prefabricated phrases bolted together.' *The Prevention of Literature* is a stirring cry for freedom from censorship, which Orwell says must start with the writer themselves: 'To write in plain vigorous language one has to think fearlessly.' 'A writer who can – and must – be rediscovered with every age.' – Irish Times

This Thing Called Literature Andrew Bennett 2015-02-11 What is this thing called literature? Why should we study it? And how? Relating literature to topics such as dreams, politics, life, death, the ordinary and the uncanny, this beautifully written book establishes a sense of why and how literature is an exciting and rewarding subject to study. Bennett and Royle delicately

weave an essential love of literature into an account of what literary texts do, how they work and what sort of questions and ideas they provoke. The book's three parts reflect the fundamental components of studying literature: reading, thinking and writing. The authors use helpful, familiar examples throughout, offering rich reflections on the question 'What is literature?' and on what they term 'creative reading'. Bennett and Royle's lucid and friendly style encourages a deep engagement with literary texts. This book is not only an essential guide to the study of literature, but an eloquent defence of the discipline.

Literature Elizabeth Howells 2010-09-21 "Literature: Reading to Write" masterfully weaves together critical thinking skills, writing, and reading instruction through the use of writing prompts, literary selections, and intriguing discussion points. The book helps you transition from being an active reader to a critical writer through a series of reading prompts and unique writing exercises. This process helps you find meaning in a broader context by forging connections between literature and your personal experiences. The book includes an eclectic array of classic and contemporary voices in literature, as well as sections devoted to newer genres, such as graphic novels. This interactive approach develops the knowledge and confidence you need to write in your own voice and to produce research papers and essays that are thought-provoking, engaging, and authentic. "Literature: Reading to Write" includes features designed to focus on reading, critical thinking, and research writing Reading - A diverse, four-genre assortment of readings, handpicked by professors, includes a variety of authors, such as Susan Glaspell, Tim O'Brien, and Lucille Clifton. - Shorter mini-chapters introduce you to the writing/reading process and highlight newer, appealing genres, such as comedy, horror, music, film, graphic novels, and experimental literature. - Integrated writing instruction is broken down into a step-by-step process that analyzes each chapter reading. Critical Thinking - Biographical and contextual boxes are strategically placed next to selections to illustrate historical and literary meaning. - In a feature called Comparing Themes, you are asked to compare the same theme in various works to develop your skills in comparative analysis. - Three critical casebooks demonstrate argumentative and interpretive writing for each genre. Writing - Model student papers appear in every chapter in Part II (Writing in Response to Literature) to show progress in mastering and demonstrating the various writing skills. - Part IV on Research Writing comprehensively covers the entire research process from brainstorming to citing sources. - The book conforms to the MLA Guidelines that were updated in 2009.

Approaching Literature Peter Schakel 2007-12-24 Developed by authors with more than 50 years of teaching experience between them, *Approaching Literature* has been designed as a true alternative to more traditional literature anthologies. The authors conceived this anthology with three principles in mind: (1) that exposing students to the widest array of literature can help every one find common ground with that literature; (2) that contemporary literary works can serve as entry points to reading and appreciating the canonical literature that students often find unfamiliar, intimidating, and sometimes irrelevant; and (3) that the instruction in reading and writing about literature should be accessible and jargon-free to all students, not just potential English majors. With its streamlined and student-friendly instructional text, and its ongoing commitment to showcasing the most engaging and diverse literary works publishing right now, *Approaching Literature* is built from the ground up with today's students in mind.

