

English Literature

A Select Guide to Reference Sources

Library of Congress Classification for English Literature

PR1-9680	-- English literature
PR57-990	-- Criticism and history of English literature
PR1490-1799.2	-- Anglo-Saxon literature
PR2199-3195.22	-- English Renaissance (1500-1640)
PR3291-3785	-- 17th and 18th centuries (1640-1770)
PR3991-5990	-- 19th century, 1770/1800-1890/1900
PR6000-6049	-- 1900-1960
PR6050-6075	-- 1961-2000
PR2001-	-- 2001-
PR8309-9680	-- English literature: Provincial, local, etc



PS1-3626	-- American literature
PS55-490	-- Criticism and history of American literature
PS501-688.2	-- Collection of American literature
PS700-3626	-- Individual author, A-Z

PS8001-8599	-- Canadian literature
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LITERATURE GUIDES

Hawkins-Dady, Mark, ed. **Reader's guide to literature in English**. London: Fitzroy Dearborn Publisher, 1996.
[PR19 Rea](#) (CL Reference 1)

Henderson, Lesley, ed. **Reference guide to world literature**. 3rd ed. London: St. James Press, 2003.
[PN524 Ref 2003](#) (CL Reference 1)

Kehler, Dorothea. **Problems in literary research: a guide to selected reference works**. 4th ed., rev. Lanham, MD: Scarecrow Press, 1997.
[Z6511 Keh](#) (CL Reference 9)

Ousby, Ian, ed. **The Cambridge guide to literature in English**. New ed. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1993.
[PR85 Cam](#) (CL Reference 8)

Serafin, Steven R, ed. **Encyclopedia of world literature in the 20th century**. 3rd ed. Detroit: St. James Press, 1999.
[PN774 Enc 1999](#) (CL Reference 1)

ENCYCLOPEDIAS & DICTIONARIES

Abrams, M H. **A glossary of literary terms**. 7th ed. Fort Worth: Harcourt Brace College Publishers, 1999.
[PN44.5 Abr](#) (CL Main Shelves)

Baldick, Chris. **The concise Oxford dictionary of literary terms**. 2nd ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2001.
[PN41 Con](#) (CL RBR, Reference 1)

Barton, Edwin J A & Glenda A. Hudson. **A contemporary guide to literary terms: with strategies for writing essays about literature**. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1997.
[PN44.5 Bar](#) (CL Reference 1)

Benson, Eugene & L W Conolly, eds. **Encyclopedia of post-colonial literatures in English**. London: Routledge, 1994.
[PR19 Enc](#). (CL Reference 1)

Cuddon, J A. **A dictionary of literary terms and literary theory**. 4th ed. Oxford: Blackwell, 1998.
[PN44.5 Cud](#) (CL Reference 1)

Drabble, Margaret, ed. **The Oxford companion to English literature**. 6th ed. New York: Oxford University Press, 2000.
[PR19 Oxf](#) (CL Reference 1)

Hawthorn, Jeremy. **A glossary of contemporary literary theory**. 4th ed. London: Arnold, 2000.
[PN44.5 Haw](#) (CL Reference 1)

Henderson, Helene & Jay P Pederson, eds. **Twentieth-century literary movements dictionary: a compendium to more than 500 literary, critical, and theatrical movements, schools, and groups of more than 80 nations, covering the novelists, poets, short-story writers, dramatists, essayists, theorists, and works, genres, techniques, and terms associated with each movement**. Detroit, MI: Omnigraphics, 1999.
[PN597 Twe](#) (CL Reference 1)

Sobczak, A J, ed. **Cyclopedia of literary characters**. Rev. ed. Pasadena, CA: Salem Press, 1998.
[PN44 Cyc](#) (CL Reference 8)

Stringer, Jenny, ed. **The Oxford companion to twentieth-century literature in English**. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1996.
[PR471 Oxf](#) (CL Reference 1)

Wynne-Davies, Marion, ed. **The Bloomsbury dictionary of English literature**. Rev. ed. London: Bloomsbury Publishing, 1997.
[PR19 Blo](#) (CL Reference 1)

BIOGRAPHY

Chevalier, Tracy, ed. **Contemporary world writers**. 2nd ed. Detroit, MI: St. James Press, 1993.
[PN51 Con](#) (CL Reference 2)

Contemporary authors: a bio-bibliographical guide to current writers in fiction, general nonfiction, poetry, journalism, drama, motion pictures, television and other fields. Detroit, MI: Gale Research Co., Vol. 1(1962)-Vol 209 (2003)-
[PN771 CA](#) (CL Reference 2, Closed Stacks)
See also:

Contemporary authors autobiography series; Contemporary authors, cumulative index, including references to all entries in

Contemporary authors, Contemporary authors new revision series and numerous other reference works;
Contemporary authors on CD (CL Information Desk)

Dictionary of literary biography. Detroit, MI: Gale Research Co., 1978-
PN451 Dlb (CL Reference 2)
Each volume has a distinctive title.
See also:

Dictionary of literary biography yearbook.

Engdahl, Horace, ed. **Literature 1996-2000**. Singapore: World Scientific, 2002.
[PN771 Nob 2002](#) (CL Reference 8)

Kamm, Antony. **Biographical companion to literature in English**. Lanham, MD: Scarecrow Press, 1997.
[PR106 Kam](#) (CL Reference 2)

Sutherland, John. **Literary lives**. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2001.
[PR471 Lite](#) (CL Reference 2)

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Bracken, James K. **Reference works in British and American literature**. 2nd ed. Englewood, CO: Libraries Unlimited, 1998.
[Z2011 Bra](#) (Reference 9)

Harner, James L. **Literary research guide: an annotated listing of reference sources in English literary studies**. 3rd ed. New York: Modern Language Association of America, 1998.
[Z2011 Har](#) (Reference 9)

Nilsen, Don L F. **Humor in twentieth-century British literature: a reference guide**. Westport, CN: Greenwood Press, 2000.
[Z2014.Wit.Ni](#) (CL Reference 9)

Shattock, Joanne, ed. **The Cambridge bibliography of English literature**. 3rd ed. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1999.
[Z2011 Cam](#) (CL Reference 9)

INDEXES & ABSTRACTS

Indexes and abstracts are useful especially for searching journal articles. They may come in

the form of hard copy, CD-ROM or online database.

- **Specialised Databases**

Literature online (Digital Library)

A fully searchable library of more than 300,000 works of English and American poetry, drama and prose, plus biographies, bibliographies, and key secondary sources.

MLA international bibliography (Digital Library)

English poetry (CD-ROM, CL Information Desk)

A bibliography of the English poetry full-text database. Release one (covering the period 600-1600) and release two (covering the period 1661-1800) are in one disc whereas release three (covering the period 1801-1900) comes in two discs.

Shakespeare: his life, times and works (CD-ROM, CL (Media Resources))

Offers 169 documents and 500 images featuring first folio editions of the Shakespeare's play and their sources, contemporary pamphlets, newspapers and broadsheets depicting the social, political and literary environment of the time and details of the playwright's theatre.

Film index international (CD-ROM, CL Information Desk)

FIAF international filmarchive database (CD-ROM, CL Information Desk)

- **General Databases**

Arts & Humanities Citation Index (Digital Library)

Allows users to search for articles not only by Author but also those that cite an author and his articles.

Essay & General Literature Index (Digital Library)

BHI (British Humanities Index) Plus (CD-ROM, CL Information Desk)

Humanities Abstracts (Digital Library)

Biography index (Digital Library)

- **Area Studies Databases**

BAS (Bibliography of Asia) Online (Digital Library)

PERIND (Digital Library)

An Index to journal articles, book chapters, conference papers (published and unpublished) relating to Singapore, Malaysia, Brunei and ASEAN (as an entity). Almost all the cited articles are available in the NUS Libraries.

Singapore Literature: A Select Bibliography of Critical Writings (Digital Library)

Singapore periodicals index (CD-ROM, CL Information Desk)

- **Theses**

Index to Theses with Abstracts Accepted for Higher Degree by the Universities of Great Britain & Ireland (Digital Library)

Proquest Digital Dissertation (Digital Library)

Contains citations and abstracts of doctoral dissertations and master's theses submitted to over 1,000 North American graduate schools, European and Australian universities. Allows preview of the image of the first 24 pages of theses submitted since 1997.

- **Printed Indexes & Abstracts**

Annual bibliography of English language and literature. Cambridge: Bowes & Bowes,

1921-
Z2011 MHR (CL Closed Stacks, Reference 10)

NEWSPAPER SOURCES

- **Press Clippings**

Press clipping files on Singapore, Malaysia, Brunei and Asean (as an entity) compiled from the Straits Times and Business Times are arranged by broad subjects. They are located at the Singapore/Malaysia Collection

- **Digital Library**

The following databases provide access to major regional and international newspapers such as Straits Times, Sunday Times, etc.

Factiva

Lexis/Nexis

USEFUL WEBSITES

Some World Wide Web sites on English literature are worth visiting as they contain rich references on the subject. The following are some of them:

[American and English Literature Internet Resources](#)

Highlight some of the major internet sites for American and English Literature. Included are world wide web sites, gopher sites, listservs, newsgroups and homepages of various authors.

[Contemporary Postcolonial & Postimperial Literature in English](#)

Maintained by George Landow, this site provides a rich introduction to postcolonial writers in various countries including Singapore.

[EServer](#)

Previously known as English Server, is now based at Iowa State University. Provides a comprehensive list of links to English literature and language resources.

[Literary Resources on the Net](#)

Maintained by Jack Lynch at the English Department of the Newark campus of Rutgers University. A collection of links to sites on the Internet dealing especially with English and American literature.

[The Modern English Collection](#)

Created and maintained by The Electronic Text Center at the University of Virginia. This collection contains fiction, non-fiction, poetry, drama, letters, newspapers, manuscripts and illustrations from 1500 to the present, arranged for browsing by author's name or by category of interest. Provides high level free access to thousands of texts and images which are browseable and searchable.

[The Voice of the Shuttle: English Literature](#)

Woven by Professor Alan Liu at the Department of English at the University of California, Santa Barbara, and a development team in the University. Superb collection of electronic resources on English literature and humanities.

[Websites on Singapore Literature](#)

Forms part of Singapore literature: a select bibliography of critical writings published by the NUS Libraries.

CRITICISM

• **Dictionary**

Harris, Wendell V. **Dictionary of concepts in literary criticism and theory.** New York: Greenwood Press, 1992.

[PN41 Har](#) (CL Reference 1)

• **Bibliography**

Baker, William & Kenneth Womack, comps. **Recent work in critical theory, 1989-1995: an annotated bibliography.** Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1996.

[Z6514 Cri.R](#) (Reference 8)

Bullock, Chris & Peck, David. **Guide to Marxist literary criticism.** Brighton: Harvester, 1980.

[Z6514 Cri.B](#) (CL Reference 8)

Groden, Michael & Martin Kreiswirth, eds. **The Johns Hopkins guide to literary theory and criticism.** Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1994.

[Z6514 Cri.J](#) (CL Reference 8)

• **Indexes**

Contemporary literary criticism: annual cumulative title index. [Detroit, MI: Gale Research, 1988]-

[PN771 CLCC](#) (CL Closed Stacks, Reference 8)

Weiner, Alan R. & Spencer Means, ed. **Literary criticism index.** 2nd ed. Metuchen, NJ: Scarecrow Press, 1994.

[Z6511 Wei](#) (CL Reference 9)

FICTION

• **Guides & Handbooks**

Burgess, Michael & Lisa R. Bartle. **Reference guide to science fiction, fantasy and horror.** 2nd ed. Westport CO: Libraries Unlimited 2002.

[Z5917 Sci.Bu 2002](#) (CL Reference 9)

Magill, Frank, ed. **Masterplots II. Short story series.** Pasadena, CA: Salem Press, 1986-1996.

[PN3326 Mas](#) (CL Reference 8)

Examines the theme, characters, plot, style and

technique of more than 700 nineteenth- and twentieth-century works by prominent authors from around the world.

May, Charles E, ed. **Critical survey of short fiction**. 2nd Rev. ed. Pasadena, CA: Salem Press, 2001.

[PN3321 Css 2001](#) (CL Reference 1)

- **Encyclopedias & Dictionaries**

Clute, John & John Grant, eds. **The encyclopedia of fantasy**. New York: St. Martin's, 1997.

[PN3435 Clu](#) (CL Reference 1)

Focuses on fantastic fiction.

Fulton, Roger. **The encyclopedia of TV science fiction**. New ed. London: Boxtree, 1997.

[PN1992.8 Sci.Fu](#) (CL Reference 1)

Henry, Laurie. **The fiction dictionary**. Cincinnati, OH: Story Press, 1995.

[PN3355 Hen](#) (CL Reference 1)

Ousby, Ian. **Cambridge guide to fiction in English**. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1998.

[PR821 Ous](#) (CL Reference 1)

- **Biography**

Bleiler, Richard, ed. **Science fiction writers: critical studies of the major authors from the early nineteenth century to the present day**. 2nd ed. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1998.

[PS374 Sci.S](#) (CL Reference 8)

Brown, Susan Windisch, ed. **Contemporary novelists**. 6th ed. Detroit, MI: St. James Press, 1996.

[PR883 Con](#) (CL Reference 2)

Moseley, Merritt, ed. **British and Irish novelists since 1960**. Detroit, MI: GaleResearch, 2002.

[PN451 Dlb 271 2003](#) (CL Reference 2)

Wheeler, Kathleen M. **A guide to twentieth-century women novelists**. Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishers, 1999.

[PR888 Wom.Wh](#) (CL Main Shelves)

- **Bibliography**

Adelman, Irving & Rita Dworkin. **The**

contemporary novel: a checklist of critical literature on the English language novel since 1945. 2nd ed. Lanham, MD: Scarecrow Press, 1996.

[Z1231 Fic.A](#) (CL Reference 9)

Carlson, Laura, Sean Creighton & Sheila Cunningham, eds. **Literary laurels: a reader's guide to award-winning fiction**. New York: Hillyard, c1995.

[Z1035 Lit](#) (CL Reference 9)

DRAMA

- **Guides**

Drama criticism. Detroit, MI: Gale Research, Inc., 1991-

[PN1601 Dc](#) (CL Reference 8)

Magill, Frank N, ed. **Critical survey of drama**. Rev. ed. Pasadena, CA: Salem Press, 1994.

[PR623 Cri](#) (CL Reference 8)

- **Encyclopedias & Dictionaries**

Chambers, Colin, ed. **The continuum companion to twentieth century theatre**. London: Continuum, 2002.

[PN2035 Con 2002](#) (CL Reference 1)

Hochman, Stanley, ed. **McGraw-Hill encyclopedia of world drama: an international reference work in 5 volumes**. 2nd ed. New York, NY: McGraw-Hill, 1984.

[PN1625 Mcg](#) (CL Reference 1)

Kennedy, Dennis, ed. **The Oxford encyclopedia of theatre and performance**. Oxford : Oxford University Press, 2003.

[PN20035 Oxf 2003](#) (CL Reference 1)

Pavis, Patrice. **Dictionary of the theatre: terms, concepts, and analysis**. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1998.

[PN2035 Pav](#) (CL Reference 1)

- **Biography**

Berney, K A, ed. **Contemporary women dramatists**. London: St. James Press, 1994.

[PR736 Con](#) (reference 2)

Meyer-Dinkgräfe, Daniel, ed. **Who's who in contemporary world theatre**. London:

Routledge, 2000.

[PN2035 Who](#) (CL Reference 2)

Riggs, Thomas, ed. **Contemporary dramatists**. 6th ed. Detroit, MI: St. James Press, 1999.

[PR106 Con](#) (CL Reference 2)

- **Bibliography**

Demastes, William W, ed. **British playwrights, 1956-1995: a research and production sourcebook**. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1996.

[PR736 Bri](#) (CL Reference 8)

POETRY

- **Encyclopedias & Dictionaries**

Drury, John. **The poetry dictionary**. Cincinnati, OH: Story Press, 1995.

[PN1021 Dru](#) (CL Reference 1)

Hamilton, Ian, ed. **The Oxford companion to twentieth-century poetry in English**. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1994.

[PR601 Oxf](#) (CL Reference 1)

- **Biography**

Riggs, Thomas, ed. **Contemporary poets**. 6th ed. New York: St. James Press, 1996.

[PR603 Con](#) (CL Reference 2)

Scott-Kilvert, Ian, ed. **Poets: American and British**. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1998.

[PS584 Poe](#) (CL Reference 2)

- **Bibliography**

Alexander, Harriet Semmes, comp. **American and British poetry: a guide to the criticism**. Athens, OH: Swallow Press, 1984-1996.

[Z1231 Poe.A](#) (CL Reference 9)

- **Indexes**

Frankovich, Nicholas, ed. **The Columbia Granger's index to poetry in collected and selected works**. New York: Columbia University Press, 1996.

[PN1022 Col](#) (CL Reference 8)

Kline, Victoria. **Last lines: an index to the last lines of poetry**. New York: Facts on File, 1991.

[PN1022 Kli](#) (CL Reference 8)

RESEARCH & WRITING

Browner, Stephanie, Stephen Pulsford & Richard Sears. **Literature and the Internet: a guide for students, teachers, and scholars**. New York: Garland Publishing, Incorporated, 2000.

[PN73 Bro](#) (CL Main Shelves)

Eliot, Simon & W R Owens, eds. **A handbook to literary research**. New York: Routledge in association with the Open University, 1999.

[PN73 Han](#) (CL Main Shelves)

Gibaldi, Joseph. **MLA style manual and guide to scholarly publishing**. 2nd ed. New York: Modern Language Association of America, 1998.

[PN147 Gib](#) (CL Reference 8)

Li, Xia & Nancy B Crane. **Electronic style: a guide to citing electronic information**. 2nd ed. Westport: Meckler, 1996.

[PN171 Dat.L](#) (CL Reference 8)

Trimmer, Joseph F. **The essentials of MLA style: a guide to documentation for writers of research papers, with an Appendix on APA style**. Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1998.

[PN147 Tri](#) (CL Main Shelves, Reference 8)

Turabian, Kate L. **A manual for writers of term papers, theses and dissertations**. 6th ed. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1996.

[LB2369 Tur](#) (CL RBR, Reference 8)



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