

# Icse English Literature Guide

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a guide to english literature embraces a wide spectrum of literary works in the field of the  
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aimed at students of a level or equivalent courses or those beginning degrees this lively and immensely readable book provides the ideal introduction to studying english today essential for all those planning to do english

at first glance a guide to english literature may seem to be no more than a short bibliography of english literature with perhaps rather more extensive and certainly more outspoken comments on the principal editions commentaries biographies and critical works than bibliographies usually provide but it is something more this guide contains long inter chapters that provide reinterpretations of the principal periods of english literature in the light of modern research as well as two final sections summarizing in unusual detail the literary criticism that exists in english and recent scholarship in the field the purpose of this book then is to provide the reader with convenient access to a disciplined study of the texts themselves this guide proposes itself as a new kind of literary history the conventional history of literature has often tended to become a substitute for the reading of the literature it describes the better the history the greater the temptation to substitute it the present combination of reading lists and inter chapters cannot be a substitute for anything else meaningless as literature in themselves they nevertheless provide the necessary preliminary information to meaningful reading since oddities of arrangement derive from these assumptions the authors are not arranged alphabetically instead there are chronological compartments with the divisions circa 1500 1650 and 1800 in which authors succeed each other in the order of their births this pioneering handbook is primarily a bibliographical laborsaving device it is meant mostly for students and the general reader in that it stops where original research by the reader is expected to begin however the last chapter on literary scholarship is devoted specifically to the research specialist and provides indispensable equipment for the reader there is also a general section on literary criticism which will be of use to all

provides chronologies for thirty five poets and novelists including coleridge tennyson eliot dickens and woolf and includes essay questions and answers concerning their major works

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an introduction to english literature is an engaging and accessible guide that takes readers on a journey through the vast evolving landscape of english literary history covering major periods from old english literature to contemporary works this book introduces readers to key movements influential authors essential genres and the cultural forces that have shaped english literature over the centuries this guide delves into the origins of english literature with works like beowulf moves through the artistry of the renaissance with figures like shakespeare explores the satirical wit of the restoration and 18th century and dives into the novelistic rise of social consciousness in the victorian era each chapter is designed to highlight the defining characteristics of each period connecting major themes across time from the romantic celebration of nature and individualism to the experimental forms and social critiques of modernism and postmodernism readers will also gain insights into prominent genres including poetry drama and the novel as well as timeless themes like love identity mortality and the human quest for meaning ideal for students literature enthusiasts or those simply interested in deepening their understanding of english literature this comprehensive guide presents clear analyses of significant works and explores how they reflect and influence the cultural values of their time

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