



# Literature Resource Center 3.2 Navigation Guide

A single online database, *Literature Resource Center 3.2* provides direct access to biographies, literary criticism, bibliographies, work overviews, Web sites, and additional resources on more than 122,000 authors and their works.

## SOURCES

- Complete text of *Contemporary Authors*®/*Contemporary Authors*® *New Revisions Series*
- Complete text of *Dictionary of Literary Biography*®
- Selected criticisms from *Contemporary Literary Criticism*® (all of *Contemporary Literary Criticism*®-*Select*)
- Merriam-Webster's® *Encyclopedia of Literature* (includes 10,000 literary terms and their definitions)
- Selections from other Gale literary reference sets, including works such as *Poetry Criticism*, *Drama Criticism*, *Nineteenth-Century Literary Criticism*®, *Novels for Students*, *Literature and Its Times*, etc.

## CONTENT

- Biographies on more than 122,000 authors
- More than 36,718 critical essays
- 4,650+ work overviews, plot summaries, and explications
- Hundreds of thousands of full-text articles from 255+ literary journals
- Approximately 2,500 author portraits
- Pop-up boxes with recent author updates added weekly
- More than 5,800 links to Web sites selected for their authority and quality

## UPDATES

Content updates as frequently as two to four times monthly, with additional minor changes made on a continuous basis.

- Full text literary journal articles updated daily
- The *Modern Language Association (MLA) International Bibliography* is an optional add-on module, and is updated at least 10 times per year

Print Series Title	Volumes in Literature Resource Center and Gale Literary Databases/ Current Through: September 2003
Contemporary Authors	200
Contemporary Authors New Revisions	109
Contemporary Literary Criticism	Select criticism through 154*
Dictionary of Literary Biography	257

NOTE: The individual Gale Literary Databases (*Contemporary Literary Criticism - Select*, *Dictionary of Literary Biography* and *Contemporary Authors*) listed in the chart above are similarly current.

\**CLC - Select* contains criticism primarily pulled from *CLC* volumes 95 forward, with additional selections on most-studied authors coming from volumes 60 through 94.

## MODERN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION (MLA) INTERNATIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHY OPTIONAL ADD-ON

*The Modern Language Association (MLA) International Bibliography* – the *MLA Bibliography* for short – is the premiere tool for researchers in the humanities. It is the first stop for academic researchers in these areas and, with nearly 1.5 million bibliographic citations from 1963 to the present, is the key to finding published, scholarly material in areas such as linguistics, literature, modern languages, film studies and folklore. International in scope, it includes scholarship in English, French, Spanish, German, and Italian, as well as other languages and covers English, American, European, Asian, African, and Latin American literature and folklore in detail.

With the release of *Literature Resource Center 3.2*, Gale's *MLA International Bibliography* optional add-on module will now include MLA's *Directory of Periodicals*, providing scholars with key publishing details on more than 4,400 academic journals.

Founded in 1883, the Modern Language Association has a long tradition of advancing literary scholarship, and the *MLA International Bibliography* is one of the most important aspects of their mission. With a 119-year history, the MLA is one of the most recognizable and highly respected organizations in the field of literary studies.

With the *Literature Resource Center 3.2*, customers can opt to add the *MLA International Bibliography* to their *Literature Resource Center* subscription, integrating the wealth of information in *Literature Resource Center* with MLA's 1.5 million bibliographic citations. Since the two databases are in one overall interface, they are cross-searchable. For the first time ever, researchers will be able to combine the power of more than 40 years' worth of Gale proprietary literary reference information with more than 40 years of MLA scholarly bibliographic citations – all in one search.



## SEARCH OPTIONS

Powerful search capabilities deliver concise results. Search one of seven ways from the main screen. The default search is the Author Search. From the main screen you can also perform Title, Keyword, Advanced, Authors by Type, and Literary-Historical Timeline searches plus *MLA International Bibliography* searches (if a subscriber). Use full Boolean search capabilities as well as standard and advanced search modes when doing your research.

## AUTHOR SEARCH

Available from the main screen, through **Author Search** you can search by the author's full name, a part of the name, or variant names and pseudonyms. By default, the **Author Search** returns author names containing any name or names you enter. You may elect to execute a search by keying in a full name or any word or combination of words known to be part of the author's name. Or, you can choose to search using just the start of the last name by adding an asterisk to the end of your partial search term. The search is not case sensitive.

Executing the Author Search will either take you directly to the author you requested, or, if multiple author names match your search criteria, you will see an alphabetically arranged list of author names that matched your query. For example, a search for Samuel Langhorne Clemens returns the name Mark Twain and all results associated with this author. Whether you type in his birth name or a pseudonym, you will get all the results. This demonstrates the power of the name authority file in *Literature Resource Center 3.2*.



To search for **Start of the Last Name**, use the wildcard character – asterisk (\*) – after the last letter of your entry to find all names that begin with those letters. Then select the name for which you are searching from the Results List. The **Start of the Last Name** search yields less immediately precise results, but is useful in cases where a user is not sure of the spelling of a full last name.

For example, if you were searching for Kings\* you would get Barbara Kingsolver in addition to such authors as Arthur Kingsbury, Leslie Kingsland, Hugh Kingsmill and Maxine Hong Kingston. A search for Barak\* yields such names as Gregg Barak, Michael Hastings, and Amiri Baraka. Michael Hastings appears on the Results List because Barak is one of his variant names. This again shows the power of the name authority in *Literature Resource Center 3.2*.



A search for Ernest Hemingway returns two exact results, Ernest Hemingway and his wife's name, Mary Welsh Hemingway. Clicking on his name takes you to a screen containing a photograph of him, a link to a **Recent Update**, and tabbed folders: Biographies; Literary Criticism, Articles, and Work Overviews; Bibliographies; Additional Resources; Literary/Historical Timeline; and *MLA International Bibliography* (only accessible if add-on MLA option purchased). The tabbed folders organize the resources by type of document and allow easy access to articles and reference material about the author and his work.



On this screen and on subsequent screens the different search options are displayed as buttons across the horizontal bar at the top of the screen for quick and easy access. This format keeps you from having to go back to the **Home/Main Menu** screen each time you want to change your search method. You can also access Merriam Webster's Encyclopedia of Literature and *Gale's Literary Index* from any point within *Literature Resource Center* 3.2. Also, if you want to change research directions, you can type another author's name in the open **Author Search** box at the top of each page and get tabbed results on that author.

## BIOGRAPHIES TAB

The **Biographies Tab** is the default display from the author search and includes information on authors, such as their variant names, nationality, and genres, literary movements, and time periods associated with an author and his or her work. Following this information are links to biographies on this author.

## LITERARY CRITICISM, ARTICLES AND WORK OVERVIEWS TAB

The **Literary Criticism, Articles, and Work Overviews** tab contains three subtabs, allowing you to view each set of documents separately by clicking on subtabs for **Literary Criticism, Articles, and Work Overviews**. The default display is the **Literary Criticism** subtab. The items in the **Articles** subtab complement the critical pieces, range from brief to lengthy, and are arranged in reverse chronological order with the most recent article listed first. From this screen you can readily see how many items are available within each subtab, and easily move through your results by clicking on the page numbers to navigate your results. In the **Works Overviews** subtab, you will find analyses of works that address critical reception, social and historical context, characterization, and other topics related to works.



## BIBLIOGRAPHIES TAB

Within the **Bibliographies Tab**, we have provided two subtabs, one leading to lists of **Works by the Author**, the other to **Works about the Author**. Click on any link and view bibliographies from a variety of sources. The default is the **Works by the Author**.

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES TAB

From this tab you can extend your research to explore other hand-selected author Web sites; Themes, Autobiographical Essays, Interviews, related terms in the Encyclopedia of Literature and Topical Essays.







## KEYWORD SEARCH

The **Keyword Search** allows you to conduct a broad search against more targeted fields than an open full-text search would provide.



A search for **denouement** yields at least 522 biographical entries, with additional references listed in the **Literary Criticism, Articles, and Work Overviews**; **Additional Resources**, and **MLA Bibliography** tabs. In the **Additional Resources** tab, you'll find a definition of denouement from Merriam-Webster's Encyclopedia of Literature.



## ADVANCED SEARCH

The **Advanced Search** allows you to construct more powerful field searches simultaneously using Boolean operators. This guided Boolean search provides a more advanced broad document search.



Three search boxes with associated pull-down menus allow you to enter your search terms and select the appropriate fields pertaining to your research. Select either: **Author – name contains**; **Author – last name starts**; **Author – exactly**; **Critic**; **Fulltext**; **Keyword**; **Title – any words**; **Title – all words**; or **Title – exact match**.

You can use boolean operators from the pull-down at right and establish an “and,” “or,” or “not” relationship between your search terms.

**Limit by Document Type:** You can limit your search by document type by highlighting the desired document type(s) in the pull-down menu. You can search All types; Autobiographical Essay; Biographical Essay; Critical Essay; Definition; Interview; Topical Essay; Web Sites list; or Work Overview.

**Limit by Databases:** You can search the database(s) of your choice by scrolling down and highlighting any desired databases in the pull-down menu. The default is All Databases, but you may also select any combination of the following: *Contemporary Authors*; *Contemporary Literary Criticism Select*; *Dictionary of Literary Biography*; Full-text Journals, *Literature Resource Center*; and any of the following optional modules, if part of your subscription to *Literature Resource Center 3.2*: MLA International Bibliography, *Scribner Writers Series*; *Twayne's English Authors*; *Twayne's U.S. Authors*; or *Twayne's World Authors*.

An Advanced Search looking for a critical essay by Robert Merrill on Joseph Heller's book *Catch-22* and specifically from *Contemporary Literary Criticism Select* yielded one exact match.



## AUTHORS BY TYPE SEARCH



The **Authors by Type** search option launches a search using a variety of classifications specific to the author, including genre, literary movement/time period, nationality, ethnicity, date of birth and/or death. Select Gale databases from a pull-down menu to narrow your search. If you wish to select more than one option from the menus, hold down the **Control** key and highlight your choices. Using this search, it is easy to identify authors who share in common a variety of classifications. Here you can conduct a search for female African American authors who focus on the theme *Coming of Age*. Or, you can compile a list of Beat Movement authors who focused on the theme of *Alienation*.

**Author Name:** Using this field you may search for authors based on a complete name, word(s) that are known to be part of the author's name, variant names, or a pseudonym. Select from the pull-down menu either **Start of Last Name**; **Includes**; or **Exactly as entered**.

**Author Nationality:** Using this field you may search for authors based on their country of birth or nation of citizenship. Authors who have citizenship in more than one country have been identified.

**Author Ethnicity:** Using this field you may search for authors based on their membership in a group that shares a common language, culture, custom or background.

**Genre:** Using this search feature will allow you to locate authors based on the type of literature they create.

**Themes:** This search feature will allow you to locate authors based on the literary themes that are most commonly associated with their work.

## LITERARY MOVEMENT/TIME PERIOD

This search feature will allow you to identify and research authors based on the literary movement(s) to which they belong or major time period(s) in which they have written.

## LITERARY-HISTORICAL TIMELINE SEARCH

This search allows you to target a specific date range for literary figures, movements and historical events. It supports the way literature is studied and taught, offering sociological, cultural and historical context alongside literary reference. It also provides you with a sense of events that took place in an author's life and/or the period in which a work was published, helping researchers make interdisciplinary connections.



## MLA INTERNATIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHY SEARCH

(Subscribers only) You can link from MLA International Bibliography citations to the corresponding full text in *Literature Resource Center's* periodical articles. This allows you to immediately and easily identify any MLA Bibliography citations that are backed up with full text in *Literature Resource Center*.



1. To search MLA International Bibliographies, click on the *MLA International Bibliography* search button.
2. Type the author name **V. S. Naipaul** (winner of the 2001 Nobel Prize in Literature) in the open text box.
3. Select **“Author as Subject”** from the picklist.
4. Click **Search**.

This search yields more than 409 citations. In the screen shot below, it is easy to identify those citations that are in full text in *LRC*.



You'll also notice that there are two MLA tabs, one reading **“All Citations”** and the other reading **“Full Text Citations Only.”** The default display is **“All Citations,”** allowing you to see all results from your search. Again, those that are backed up with full text have the full text icon next to them.

Since we knew you would also want quick access to those citations that were backed up with full text, we added a second tab that isolates these. Of the 408 citations that matched the V. S. Naipaul query, 10 were matched by full text in *Literature Resource Center*. The **“Full Text Citations Only”** tab isolates these 10 citations, as you see below (in the screen shot at right). Both tabs are sorted in reverse chronological order.





## RETRIEVAL OPTIONS

While viewing an article, you can print it, e-mail it to yourself or another, or bookmark it. If you select the print button in the upper left of the screen the system will automatically format the document for printing, taking out the page set-up graphics and saving print time and toner. If you select the e-mail button, you can mail the document to yourself or another individual either in HTML format or in plain text. From either one of these options, use the Browser's **BACK** button to return to the document.

## NAVIGATING DOCUMENTS

Once you have selected a document from a **Results List**, it will be retrieved and displayed. Many documents have internal **Table of Contents** sections that will make it easy for you to jump to the specific information of interest. A button for **Current Results**, located on the upper left of the screen, will take you back to the original **Results List**.

## MARK LIST

You may also save documents in a **Mark List** for reading in more detail later. Simply check the box next to the title in the **Results List** and click on the button "**Update Mark List**." The documents you checked will be put in a **Mark List** and a new button will appear on the left side of the screen labeled "**View Mark List**." From within an article, check the box on the upper left of the screen labeled "**Mark this document**" and that article will be added to the **Mark List** automatically. You can also email your **Mark List** to yourself or to another subscriber for ready access to your research.

## SEARCH STRATEGIES

- The more search terms you add, the more precise your search results will be.

e.g. elizabethan (results = 1053)

elizabethan drama (results = 606)

elizabethan drama and poetry (results = 440)

- Be specific. If you want information about the Sundance Film Festival enter all those terms in your search rather than just the word film.

## PUNCTUATION

- **Ampersand** – An ampersand (&) is NOT recognized by the search engine and should not be included in your search. The proximity operator, W, can be used in place of the ampersand.

e.g. A W1 P (not A&P)

- **Capitalization** – Capitalization does not affect your search since the search engine is not case sensitive. That means that a search on Bill Clinton and bill clinton will return the same results.
- **Double Quotes** – Use double quotes when you want to find your search term as an exact phrase.

e.g. "Algonquin Round Table"

- **Hyphen** – If a hyphen (-) is considered to be part of the search term, include the hyphen when you key in your term. The search engine will recognize it in your search.

e.g. twentieth-century

## TRUNCATION

- **The asterisk (\*)** – standing for any number of characters

e.g. poet\*

This will return results with words like poets, poetry, and poetic. Note: you must have at least two characters preceding the asterisk (To\* Morrison not T\* Morrison).

- **The question mark (?)** – used to replace exactly one character within a word

e.g. p??t

The question mark is good for those times when you are not sure about spelling. In this example, the results list will include essays with the word poet in the text.

- **The exclamation point (!)** – stands for one or no characters

e.g. poet!

This will return results with either the word poet or poets included.

\*\*You cannot use the asterisk (\*) or the question mark (?) in date fields.

For example, if you are not sure how to spell Allen or Allan with an "a" or an "e," use the question mark in its place. For example, a search for Edgar All?n Poe returned the name Edgar Allan Poe; whereas if you had misspelled the name the system would have returned a "sorry" message.

## DATE RANGES

- 1970-1979 (This will search for any year in the 1970s.)
- 1939-1945 (This will search for any year from 1939 to 1945.)

## BOOLEAN SEARCH OPERATORS

Boolean operators used in *Literature Resource Center* are applied in the order in which they appear.

- **AND** – both terms must appear in the essay

e.g. Marx AND Communism

This search will find essays that include both Marx and Communism somewhere in the essay but not necessarily together.

- **OR** – broadens the search because only one of the terms must appear in the essay

e.g. Marx OR Communism

This search will find essays that include either Marx or communism, but not necessarily both. OR can be used to find plural or other word endings, like actors or actor or acting. OR can also be used with searches involving synonyms, like author or writer.

- *NOT* – the term following not will not be found in the essay

e.g. Marx NOT Communism

This search will find essays that include Marx but do not include the word Communism.

## PROXIMITY OPERATORS

- *The W operator* – finds essays containing the specified words in the specific order within the number of words you indicate

e.g. Peking w2 opera

This search will find the word Peking within 2 words of opera, but opera must follow Peking.

- *The N operator* – locates essays containing the words you specify within the number of words you indicate, but the words can be in ANY order

e.g. electronic n2 book

This search will find the word electronic within 2 words of book in any direction.

## INFOTRAC INFOMARKS®



An *InfoMark* at the top of any page indicates that the URL of the page persists even when the session is over. Persistent URLs can be bookmarked for future reference or copied into an electronic mail message or onto a Web page. *InfoMarks* technology lets you save and re-launch searches and embed them on Web pages, e-mail, word processing documents and more. With a click of the mouse, you can access a comprehensive knowledge base that you have designed. *InfoMarks* is the premier tool for creating reading lists, course packs, study guides, content services, guidelines for special projects, bibliographies, training sites, electronic journal directories and so much more. You could track an author, *InfoMark* the search, then revisit the new and updated data as often as you like.

For more information on how to use *InfoMarks*, click the icon from within *Literature Research Center*, or refer to the Web site at [www.gale.com/infomarks](http://www.gale.com/infomarks)

*\*\*For more information about these tips and additional information about Literature Resource Center 3.2, click the **Help** button located on the upper middle portion of the screen.*