



Discovering Collection: Literature

Core curriculum area: literature




Discovering Collection

Step into the world of literature

The *Discovering Collection* gives students the power of knowledge. The power to think. The power to comprehend literature and the people that write it. The power to see how literature shapes the future — how one story, or one author, can make all the difference in the world.

The *Discovering Collection* provides biographical and critical information on the most studied and most popular authors of all time. Also included are biographies, plot summaries, criticisms and literary definitions. Students may use documents and multimedia images to conduct research, write papers, create projects and deliver oral presentations.

SEARCH TIP

 When you see the *InfoMark*® icon on your results page, this means that you can bookmark the page for future reference, copy it into an electronic mail message or embed it into a Web page. For more information on how to use *InfoMarks*, click the icon on the results page, or go to: www.gale.com/infomarks

LITERARY ERAS AND TOPICS

From the Literature page, students can access the **Literary Era** link, which provides more than 150 links to literary eras or topics.

Era or topic samples

- Algonquin Round Table: informal group of American literary men and women who met daily for lunch at a large round table in the Algonquin Hotel in New York City during the 1920s and 30s
- Black humor: humor marked by the use of morbid, ironic or grotesquely comic episodes that ridicule human folly; comic work that employs black humor is considered black comedy

- Enlightenment (Age of the Enlightened): a European intellectual movement of the 17th and 18th centuries in which ideas concerning God, reason, nature and humankind were synthesized into a worldview that gained wide assent; instigated revolutionary developments in art, philosophy and politics; a major author and work of this period: Thomas Paine's *Age of Reason*
- Free verse: poetry organized to the cadences of speech and image patterns rather than to a regular metrical scheme
- Melodrama: featuring stock characters such as the noble hero, the long-suffering heroine and the cold-blooded villain, the melodrama emphasizes sensational incident and spectacular staging at the expense of character development
- New Journalism: a style of reporting that arose in the United States during the 1960s in which much of the objectivity and impersonality of standard journalism was abandoned

HERBERT GEORGE WELLS

An **Author Search** for "H.G. Wells" produces numerous documents on his life and accomplishments.

About H. G. Wells

- Also wrote under pseudonyms: Sosthenes Smith and Walter Glockenhammer
- English novelist, short story writer, historian, essayist, autobiographer and critic
- Genre: autobiographies, essays, journalism, novels, problem novels, science fiction, short stories and social novels
- Literary movement/time period: Edwardian age, English modern period, realistic movement and Victorian period

Criticisms

Numerous criticisms of his works are found, including:

- “The Dream”
- “Experiment in Autobiography”
- “Looking Backward”
- “Men Like Gods”
- “A Modern Utopia”
- “News from Nowhere”
- “A Short History of the World”
- “The Time Machine”
- “Tono-Bongay”
- “The War of the Worlds”
- “The World Set Free”

Plot summaries

Numerous plot summaries of his works are found, including:

- “The Invisible Man”
- “The Time Machine: An Invention”
- “The War of the Worlds”

JOAN AIKEN

An **Author Search** for “Joan Aiken” produces an in-depth biography of her life and accomplishments.

About Joan Aiken

- Genre: historical fiction, horror fiction, mystery/crime/suspense fiction, short stories, adventure fiction and fantasy fiction
- Detailed information on Aiken’s awards, career and personal life; includes list of further readings and works

Plot summaries

Numerous plot summaries of her works are found, including:

- “A Fit of Shivers”
- “Cold Shoulder Road”
- “Is Underground”
- “Night Fall”
- “Tales for Late at Night”
- “The Teeth of the Gale”

Plot summaries also include a “you might also like” section.

WILLIAM FAULKNER

An **Author Search** for “William Faulkner” produces numerous documents on his life and accomplishments.

About William Faulkner

- Also known as William Cuthbert Faulkner
- American novelist, short story writer, poet, screenwriter and essayist
- Literary Movement/Time Period: American modern period, Modernism and Southern Renaissance

Criticisms

Numerous criticisms of his works are found, including:

- “Absalom, Absalom!”
- “As I Lay Dying”
- “Light in August”
- “Sanctuary”
- “Soldiers’ Pay”
- “The Sound and the Fury”

Plot summaries

Numerous plot summaries of his works are found, including:

- “Barn Burning”
- “The Bear”
- “Light in August”

Merriam Webster’s® Encyclopedia of Literature

From the Literature page, students can access Merriam Webster’s® Encyclopedia of Literature. A **Keyword Search** of the following terms include the following results:

“Epic”

- Epic caesura
- Epic theater
- Etana epic
- Mock-epic
- Tukulti Ninurta epic

“Drama”

- Comedy drama
- Folk drama
- Heroic drama
- Medieval drama

“Gothicism”

- Gothic literature is characterized by elements of the supernatural, horror and violence
- Settings are dark and isolated
- Some major authors and titles include William Congreve – “Mourning Bride”; William Godwin – “Caleb Williams”; and Edgar Allan Poe – “The Pit and the Pendulum”

What have you been searching for? For more information and search assistance contact your Gale Representative at 1-800-877-GALE (in the U.S. and Canada), and select option #5.



Discovering Collection Search Tips

Discover a world of knowledge

How to use *Discovering Collection*

Use your library's Internet browser to go to the *Discovering Collection* URL. On the home page, you will find several search options.

- For common topics, **Subject Search** gives you the most results
- Use **Keyword Search** for less common terms, such as proper names
- **Advanced Search** lets you use up to three fields to broaden or narrow your search
- Search within **Person**, **Literature** and **Timeline** for more topic-specific information

SUBJECT SEARCH

Choose "**Subject Search**" from home page. The tabbed results list includes indexed terms match your search term(s) as well as selections for Primary Sources and Multimedia. You can also mark your choices to save for later.

KEYWORD SEARCH

Choose "**Keyword Search**" from the home page, enter your search term(s) in the entry box and click "**Search.**"

ADVANCED SEARCH

You may enter search terms in up to three fields, using the search operators **and**, **or** and **not** to broaden or narrow your results. For each search field you use, select the kind of search you want to make from the pull-down menu: Title/Headline, Source, Author, Subject, Full Text, Document Number or Document Type.

PERSON SEARCH

This is a narrower search than subject search. Select "**Person Search**" from the home page. You may search by name or use the "**Identify a Person**" category, which finds a person by:

- Name
- Occupation
- Nationality
- Ethnicity
- Birth Year
- Death Year
- Birth Place
- Death Place
- Gender



CLASSROOM TOPIC SEARCH

Choose "**Search by Classroom Topic**" from the home page.

Select one of the topics from Cultures, Geography, History, Literature, Science and Health. For each field you use, select the kind of search you want to make from the pull-down menu: Nations, Provinces, U.S. History, World History, Novels, Poems, Shakespeare, Short Stories, Health, Science, Multicultural America or World Cultures. Narrow your search by entering a keyword.



MULTIMEDIA GALLERY

Choose "**Multimedia Gallery**" from the home page and enter a search term. Select one of the topics: image, audio files, video files, maps, flags and seals. Other searches also locate documents under the Multimedia Gallery tab.



DICTIONARY

Choose "**Dictionary**" from the home page and enter a term or the beginning of the term you are searching for. You can search from Merriam-Webster's® Collegiate, Biographical and Geographical dictionaries.



LITERATURE

Click on "**Literature**" from the home page and you can search within one or all of several categories: Author Biographies, Title Search, Encyclopedia of Literature and Literary Eras.



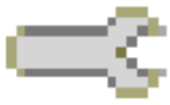
TIMELINE SEARCH

Use this search to find topics using a specific year, one or more Decades, one or more Centuries or by Timeline Event.

TOOLS

- Help
- Search Tips
- Gale Group Databases
- Tool Box — helps you think about ideas and organize information for papers and presentations, including:
 - How to Judge Information
 - How to Make a Concept Web
 - How to Choose a Topic
 - How to Write a Topic Sentence
- How to Make an Outline
- How to Cite a Source
- How to Organize a Report
- How to Build an Argument
- How to Write a Conclusion
- How to Write a Thesis Statement
- How to Create Visual Representations of Data
- How to Footnote
- List of Sources

If you need further assistance with *Discovering Collection*, please consult your media specialist.



How to use the Tool Box

Searching for articles in databases may seem easy, but putting all that information together for a report can be a challenge. The Gale Tool Box is an integral feature of all our K-12 databases and helps students think about their ideas and organize information for any paper or research project. They can be accessed at any point in the research process by clicking on the Tool Box icon at the top of each page.



Tools for Getting Started

- How to Judge Information
- How to Make a Concept Web
- How to Choose a Topic
- How to Write a Topic Sentence
- How to Make an Outline



Tools for Wrapping it Up

- How to Cite a Source
- How to Organize a Report
- How to Build an Argument
- How to Write a Conclusion
- How to Write a Thesis Statement
- How to Create Visual Representations of Data (charts, graphs, etc.)
- How to Footnote

All Tool Box topics include a worksheet, suitable for downloading. For example, the topic, “How to Cite a Source” discusses the elements of a bibliography as well as when, why and how to give credit to an outside source. Students can then reinforce the information discussed by accessing the worksheet.