
Further Reading

Note Individual requirements for further reading are largely conditioned by your own syllabus. Your lecturers and the editorial matter (introduction and notes) in your copies of the prescribed texts will provide you with the titles of books and articles that you should read to fill out your set book study.

Chapter 1 of this book (Section 1.5) makes detailed suggestions to help you to organise your extra reading and – while giving it all the time you can – to keep it within manageable limits.

In addition to the further reading that stems directly from your own set texts, the specialised help provided by the books in this short list of further reading will be of benefit to all ‘A’ level candidates.

(a) Standard Reference Books

The Oxford Companion to English Literature (O.U.P.)
Brewer’s Dictionary of Phrase and Fable (Cassell)

(b) Histories of Literature

The Cambridge History of English Literature (C.U.P.)
The Macmillan History of Literature (Macmillan)
The Pelican Guide to English Literature (Penguin Books)

(c) Unseen Critical Appreciation

S. H. Burton, *The Criticism of Poetry* (Longman)
S. H. Burton, *The Criticism of Prose* (Longman)

(d) The Technical Terms of Literature and Criticism

J. A. Cuddon, *A Dictionary of Literary Terms* (Penguin Books)
Patrick Murray, *Literary Criticism: a glossary of major terms* (Longman)
John Peck and Martin Coyle, *Literary Terms and Criticism* (Macmillan)

(e) Study Guides

Until fairly recently, books of this kind were rarely of much value. *Notes* – on this book, that book, and the other – weighed down the bookshop shelves with their stodgy comments and dull exercises. Nowadays, however, there are many

lively and thought-provoking 'Study Guides' offering factual but imaginative critical comments on individual books and authors. An hour's browsing in your local bookshop will show you how wide a choice is provided by several leading publishers who, between them, issue titles corresponding to most of the set texts specified by the various examining boards. *Macmillan Master Guides* are particularly useful. They introduce their subjects in an interesting and stimulating way. Each contains a carefully chosen and up-to-date list of further reading from which you can plan a programme to meet your examiners' demands.

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