

WORLD LITERATURE



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A NOTE ON THE SPECIAL FEATURES IN THIS BOOK

People around the world share many common traits, but they also enjoy unique cultural differences. To help you better understand world literature, this book offers four special ways of getting to know the countries and peoples of the world. Each of the following features acknowledges that in order to understand literature from around the world, you have to know something about the part of the world the literature is from.

Map of the Contemporary World (*pages xxii–xxiii*)

Here you'll find an up-to-date map that you can use as a reference whenever you read a selection. This large, accurate map will provide context for the many specialized maps that you'll find throughout the book.

Preview: The Author and the World (*preceding most selections*)

Most selections in this book begin with a special Preview page. Here you'll learn where the author is from and find that country highlighted on a locator map of the world.

Then you'll find a Geography and Culture feature that gives you background on the geography, culture, and history of the country in which the selection takes place. This background will help you to immerse yourself in the piece of literature. Below this information you'll find a detailed map of the country or area.

On the facing page is a list of all the Geography and Culture features that appear on the Preview pages. Looking down the list, you should get a sense of how much the world's literature—and this book—have to offer you.

Culture Links (*at the end of each unit*)

At the end of each unit you'll be able to stand back and look at its literature from a fresh point of view in the Culture Link.

Literature and Culture Sourcebook (*pages 544–583*)

Here you'll find dynamically written and dramatically illustrated overviews of ten significant regions of the world. This section provides insights and connections between a region's literature and its culture. You'll find yourself turning to these pages time and time again as you move from one literature selection to another.

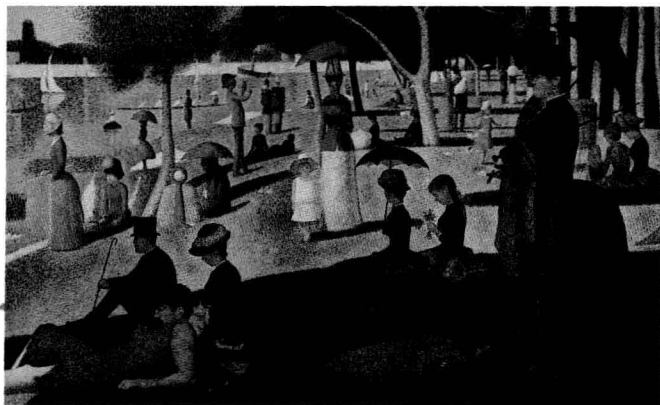
The topics covered in the Literature and Culture Sourcebook are Classical Greece and Rome, Italy, France, Spain, Latin America, Germany, Russia and Eastern Europe, China and Japan, Africa, and India and the Middle East.

GEOGRAPHY AND CULTURE FEATURES

- Uganda and Buganda ... 2
- France and the Region of Normandy ... 11
- England and Its Gardens ... 18
- Poverty in Nineteenth-Century Russia ... 23
- Yorkshire and the English Class System ... 29
- Nigeria and the Ibo ... 39
- The Nation of Norway ... 44
- Calcutta and the Indian Subcontinent ... 48
- Chile and Its Coastline ... 56
- Värmland and Its Ironworks ... 63
- The Changing Face of China ... 72
- Sudan and the Nile ... 77
- The Philippine Islands ... 83
- Ireland and Its Countryside ... 91
- South Africa and Its People ... 96
- New Zealand's British Ties ... 104
- German Music Traditions ... 112
- Canada and the Dukhobors ... 120
- Finland and the Finns of Norway ... 129
- Florence and the Great Plague ... 134
- India and Its Music ... 140
- Bohemia and Prague's Little Quarter ... 145
- Mexico and Its "Lost" Villages ... 152
- Cairo and the "Old Quarter" ... 157
- Don Quixote and the Age of Chivalry ... 161
- America's Railroads ... 167
- Belgium and Paris, France ... 172
- Japan, China, and Oriental Painting ... 180
- The Region of Alsace ... 188
- The Spanish Civil War ... 193
- Colombia and Its Caribbean Coastline ... 197
- West Germany and the Postwar Era ... 204
- Algeria and Its Colonial Past ... 208
- The Island of Sardinia ... 219
- Greek and Roman Mythology ... 230
- Mexico and the Zapotecs ... 234
- Ancient Greece: The Cradle of Western Civilization ... 237
- The Palace of Versailles ... 239
- Ancient India and Its Storytelling Traditions ... 242
- Medieval Arabia and the City of Baghdad ... 246
- The Kabyles of North Africa ... 252
- Folk Tales from Germany's Black Forest ... 257
- The Trojan War ... 261
- The Founding of Rome ... 269
- Medieval Florence ... 275
- India's British Colonial Legacy ... 372
- Guinea's Economy and Culture ... 379
- The French Countryside ... 392
- Ancient Chinese Civilization ... 398
- France in the Age of Louis XIV ... 400
- Poland and Its Jewish Community ... 403
- The Soviet Union's Cultural Diversity ... 409
- Spain and Andalusia ... 413
- Spain and the Alcarria ... 417
- Kenya: Preserve of Natural Beauty ... 420
- Athens and the Peloponnesian War ... 423
- The Ivory Coast and Yamoussoukro ... 430
- Nigerian Rural Village Life ... 438
- Japan's Former Feudal Society ... 453
- France in the Seventeenth Century ... 463

CONTENTS

<i>Alternate Contents by Country . . .</i>	<i>xv</i>
<i>A Note on the Special Features in This Book . . .</i>	<i>xx</i>
<i>Map of the Contemporary World . . .</i>	<i>xxii</i>
<i>World Events Time Line . . .</i>	<i>xxiv</i>
<i>Reading Literature in Translation . . .</i>	<i>xxvi</i>



THE SHORT STORY ... 1

Stories About Life's Surprises

Barbara Kimenye	The Winner ... 3
UGANDA	
Guy de Maupassant	The Piece of String ... 12
FRANCE	
Rumer Godden	You Need to Go Upstairs ... 19
ENGLAND / INDIA	
Anton Chekhov	The Beggar ... 24
RUSSIA	
Stan Barstow	The Actor ... 30
ENGLAND	

Stories About Human Relationships

- Chinua Achebe** Dead Men's Path ... 40
NIGERIA
- Bjørnstjerne Bjørnson** The Father ... 45
NORWAY ■ NOBEL PRIZE ■
- Rabindranath Tagore** The Kabuliwallah ... 49
INDIA ■ NOBEL PRIZE ■
- Manuel Rojas** The Glass of Milk ... 57
CHILE
- Selma Lagerlöf** The Rat Trap ... 64
SWEDEN ■ NOBEL PRIZE ■
- Tu Peng-cheng** Lingkuan Gorge ... 73
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Stories About Growing Up

- Tayeb Salih** A Handful of Dates ... 78
SUDAN
- N. V. M. Gonzalez** On the Ferry ... 84
PHILIPPINES
- Sean O'Faolain** The Trout ... 92
IRELAND
- Alan Paton** The Quarry ... 97
SOUTH AFRICA
- Katherine Mansfield** The Doll's House ... 105
NEW ZEALAND / ENGLAND
- Thomas Mann** The Infant Prodigy ... 113
GERMANY ■ NOBEL PRIZE ■

Stories About Personal Values

- Gabrielle Roy** Hoodoo Valley ... 121
CANADA
- Åsta Holth** Salt ... 130
NORWAY
- Giovanni Boccaccio** Federigo's Falcon ... 135
ITALY

R. K. Narayan Like the Sun ... 141
INDIA

Jan Neruda Hastrman ... 146
CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Stories About Reality and Fantasy

Gerardo María Matusalén, the Village Without Time ... 153
MEXICO

Naguib Mahfouz A Tale of Our Quarter ... 158
EGYPT ■ NOBEL PRIZE ■

Miguel de Cervantes *from* Don Quixote ... 162
SPAIN

Thomas Wolfe The Far and the Near ... 168
UNITED STATES

Françoise Mallet-Joris Air des Clochettes ... 173
BELGIUM / FRANCE

Akutagawa Ryūnosuke Autumn Mountain ... 181
JAPAN

Stories About Cultures and Conflicts

Alphonse Daudet The Last Lesson ... 189
FRANCE

Ernest Hemingway Old Man at the Bridge ... 194
UNITED STATES ■ NOBEL PRIZE ■

Gabriel García Márquez Tuesday Siesta ... 198
COLOMBIA ■ NOBEL PRIZE ■

Heinrich Böll The Laugher ... 205
GERMANY ■ NOBEL PRIZE ■

Albert Camus The Guest ... 209
ALGERIA / FRANCE ■ NOBEL PRIZE ■

Grazia Deledda The Shoes ... 220
ITALY ■ NOBEL PRIZE ■



■ CULTURE LINK: The Tradition of Oral Storytelling ... 226 ■



MYTHS, FOLK TALES, AND EPICS ... 229

Ovid *from the Metamorphoses* ... 231

ANCIENT ROME

Zapotec Traditional The Bat ... 235

MEXICO

Aesop The Fox and the Grapes ... 238

ANCIENT GREECE

The Goatherd and the Wild Goats ... 238

Jean de La Fontaine The Fox and the Crow ... 240

FRANCE

Indian Traditional *from the Panchatantra* ... 243

INDIA

Arabian and Persian Traditional *from The Thousand and One Nights* ... 247

MIDDLE EAST

Kabyle Traditional The Story of the Chest ... 253

ALGERIA / TUNISIA

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe The Erl-King ... 258

GERMANY

Homer *from the Iliad* ... 262

ANCIENT GREECE

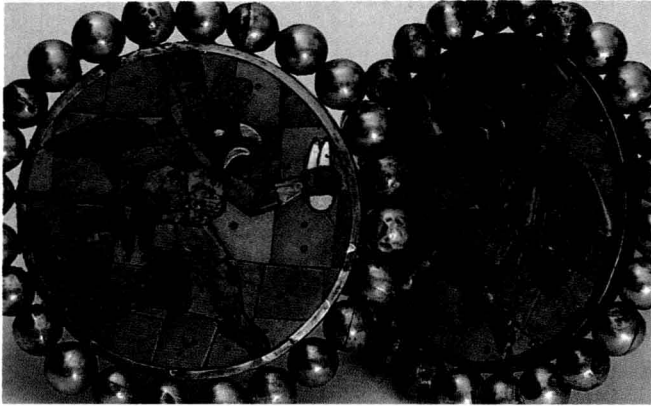
Virgil *from the Aeneid* ... 270

ANCIENT ROME

Dante Alighieri *from The Divine Comedy* ... 276

ITALY

■ CULTURE LINK : Saving the Past ... 282 ■



POETRY ... 285

Poems About Love

- Tu Fu** The Emperor ... 286
CHINA
- William Butler Yeats** Politics ... 288
IRELAND ■ NOBEL PRIZE ■
- Sappho** Fragment of a Lullaby ... 290
ANCIENT GREECE
- Gabriela Mistral** Rocking ... 291
CHILE ■ NOBEL PRIZE ■
- Lady Ōtomo** My Heart, Thinking ... 293
JAPAN
- Yevgeny Yevtushenko** Colors ... 294
SOVIET UNION
- Léopold S. Senghor** And We Shall Be Steeped ... 296
SENEGAL
- Anna Akhmatova** Lot's Wife ... 298
SOVIET UNION

Special Feature on the Sonnet

- Petrarch** Sonnet 3 (It Was That Very Day on Which the
ITALY Sun) ... 300
- William Shakespeare** Sonnet 29 (When, in Disgrace with Fortune
ENGLAND and Men's Eyes) ... 301

Poems About Nature

Antonio Machado Winter Sun ... 304

SPAIN

Victor Hugo June Nights ... 305

FRANCE

Nelly Sachs The Swan ... 307

GERMANY ■ NOBEL PRIZE ■

Pablo Neruda The Horses ... 308

CHILE ■ NOBEL PRIZE ■

Oswald Mbuyiseni Mtshali Sunset ... 311

SOUTH AFRICA

João Cabral de Melo Neto Weaving the Morning ... 312

BRAZIL

Chaim Nachman Bialik Summer Is Dying ... 315

RUSSIA / ISRAEL

Octavio Paz Wind and Water and Stone ... 316

MEXICO ■ NOBEL PRIZE ■

Special Feature on Haiku

Bashō, Jōsō, Chiyo, Shiki Four Japanese Haiku ... 318

JAPAN

Poems of Delight

Gabon Pygmy Traditional All That Dances ... 321

GABON

Sarojini Naidu Street Cries ... 324

INDIA

Jorge Carrera Andrade Reaping the Barley ... 326

ECUADOR

Nguyen Trai The Bamboo Hut ... 329

VIETNAM

Emily Dickinson How Happy Is the Little Stone ... 330

UNITED STATES

Vicente Aleixandre On the Way to School ... 332
SPAIN ■ NOBEL PRIZE ■

Rainer Maria Rilke Spanish Dancer ... 335
AUSTRIA

Poems of Sorrow

Li Po Taking Leave of a Friend ... 337
CHINA

Czeslaw Milosz Encounter ... 338
POLAND / UNITED STATES ■ NOBEL PRIZE ■

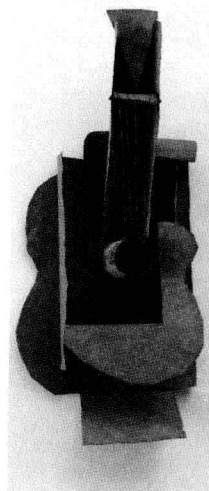
Special Feature on Translation

Federico García Lorca The Guitar ... 340
SPAIN

George Seferis I Am Sorry ... 344
GREECE ■ NOBEL PRIZE ■

Jorge Luis Borges Afterglow ... 345
ARGENTINA

Heinrich Heine The Lorelei ... 347
GERMANY



Poems About Values and Ideals

Nazim Hikmet The World, My Friends, My
TURKEY Enemies, You, and the Earth ... 350

C. P. Cavafy Che Fece ... Il Gran Rifiuto ... 353
GREECE

Jaime Torres Bodet The Window ... 354
MEXICO

A. B. ("Banjo") Paterson Waltzing Matilda ... 356
AUSTRALIA

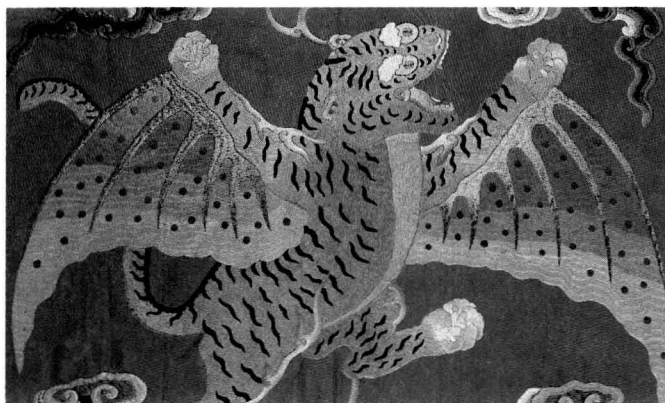
Horace Ode: Better to Live, Licinius ... 359
ANCIENT ROME

José Martí *from* Versos Sencillos ... 362
CUBA

Alexander Pushkin Message to Siberia ... 364
RUSSIA

Joseph Brodsky The Monument ... 365
SOVIET UNION / UNITED STATES ■ NOBEL PRIZE ■

■ CULTURE LINK: The Bible's Influence on World Literature ... 368 ■



NONFICTION ... 371

Santha Rama Rau By Any Other Name ... 373
INDIA

Camara Laye The Snake and the Goldsmith ... 380
GUINEA

Colette Two Memories of Sido ... 393
FRANCE

Confucius Sayings *from* The Analects ... 399
CHINA

François de La Rochefoucauld *from* Maxims ... 401
FRANCE

Isaac Bashevis Singer Shosha ... 404
POLAND / UNITED STATES ■ NOBEL PRIZE ■

Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn Three Prose Poems ... 410
SOVIET UNION ■ NOBEL PRIZE ■

Juan Ramón Jiménez *from Platero and I* ... 414

SPAIN ■ NOBEL PRIZE ■

Camilo José Cela *Traveling in the Alcarria* ... 418

SPAIN ■ NOBEL PRIZE ■

Isak Dinesen *The Iguana* ... 421

DENMARK / KENYA

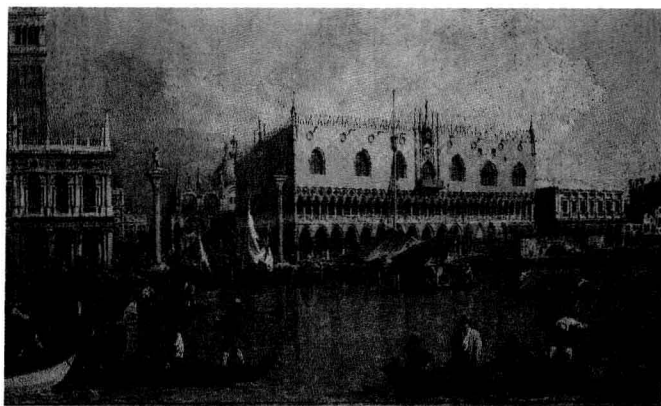
Thucydides *Pericles' Funeral Oration* ... 424

ANCIENT GREECE

V. S. Naipaul *The Crocodiles of Yamoussoukro* ... 431

TRINIDAD / ENGLAND

■ CULTURE LINK: International Travel Writing ... 434 ■



DRAMA ... 437

James Ene Henshaw *The Jewels of the Shrine* ... 439

NIGERIA

Seami Motokiyo *The Dwarf Trees* ... 454

JAPAN

Edmond Rostand *Cyrano de Bergerac* ... 464

FRANCE

■ CULTURE LINK: From Literature into Film ... 540 ■

STUDENT'S RESOURCES ... 542

Literature and Culture Sourcebook

Classical Greece and Rome ... 544

Italy ... 548

France ... 552

Spain ... 556

Latin America ... 560

Germany ... 564

Russia and Eastern Europe ... 568

China and Japan ... 572

Africa ... 576

India and the Middle East ... 580

Guide to Literary Movements ... 584

Author Time Line ... 586

Winners of Nobel Prize for Literature ... 590

Writing About Literature Handbook ... 592

Lesson 1: Writing a Response to Literature ... 592

Lesson 2: Writing About Plot ... 594

Lesson 3: Writing About Character ... 596

Lesson 4: Writing About Setting ... 598

Lesson 5: Writing About Point of View ... 600

Lesson 6: Writing About Theme ... 602

Lesson 7: Writing About a Symbol ... 604

Lesson 8: Writing About Nonfiction ... 606

Lesson 9: Writing About Poetry ... 608

Lesson 10: Writing About the Total Effect ... 610

Literary Terms Handbook ... 612

Glossary ... 621

Index of Skills ... 633

Index of Fine Art ... 637

Index of Authors and Titles ... 641