

# ProQuest Learning: Literature™ Quick Start Guide



## About ProQuest Learning: Literature

ProQuest Learning: Literature offers a comprehensive and integrated literary resource for original full-text works, author biographies, contemporary literary criticism, study guides, and multimedia. Researchers will find more than 150,000 searchable works of poetry, prose, and drama from around the world – from medieval times to the present; and, thousands of secondary literary sources such as biographies, literary criticism, essays, reviews, interviews, video, and Web sites.

Discover a new way to experience literature with ProQuest Learning: Literature – an indispensable literary resource for students and teachers!

## Part 1: Choose a Search Method

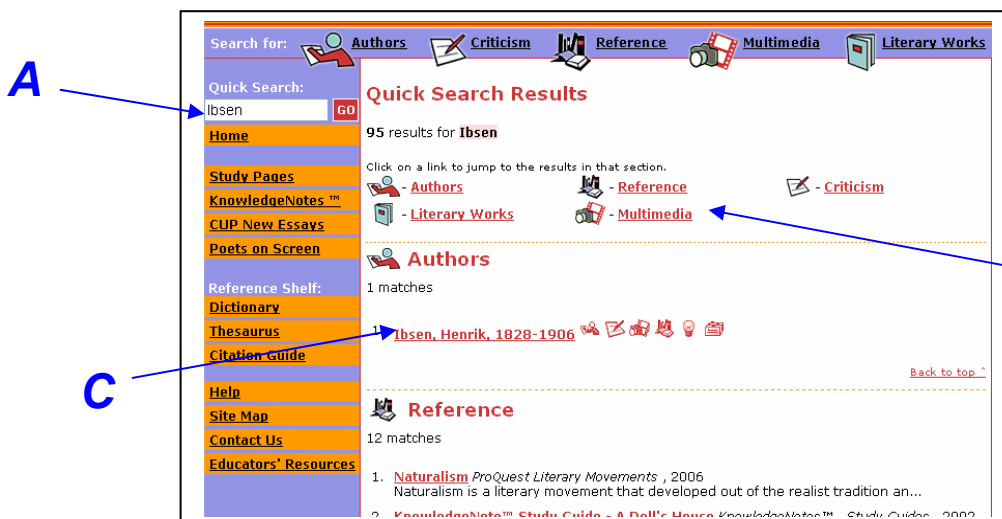
All ProQuest Learning: Literature research begins at the main search page. **Quick Search (A)** allows you to search the entire database by a specific keyword or phrase. **Search For (B)** allows you to search by specific content area: **Authors, Criticism, Reference, Multimedia, or Literary Works**. In addition, the **Reference Shelf (C)** allows you to access commonly used reference aids, such as a dictionary and thesaurus.



Main search page

## Part 2: Quick Search

To run a Quick Search, enter your search terms into the **Quick Search box** on the main search page, and then click the **GO** button. Quick Search is also available at the top of every page (A).



Quick Search results page

### Quick Search Results

Quick Search returns results from all the content areas available in ProQuest Learning: Literature. To view the results, scroll through the list or click a **content area (B)** to jump to the results in that section. Click the **result link** to access the Author's Page or document **(C)**. To access more than 5 results within a particular set of results, click the **More...** link.

*TIP:* An author may not always have content available in all areas. Example: full-text works of current contemporary authors, such as Amy Tan, are often not available.

## Part 3: Author Pages

The **Author Page** acts as a home page for each author; all resources are gathered together in one place. It contains general author information, a picture of the author if available, and links to all other available information for an author.

To locate an author page, you may choose to submit a **Quick Search**, or use the **Author Search** page **(A)** to search by an **Author name (B)** or browse an **Author A-Z list (C)**. Click a **result link** to access all documents available in a category specific to the author **(D)**. Use the **Bookmark This Page** or **Add to My List** to save an Author Page for future reference **(E)**.

*Author Search page*

**A** Search for: Authors Criticism Reference Multimedia Literary Works

Quick Search:  **GO**

**B** **Authors Search**

Home Type in the Author's name and click the Search button.

Study Pages **Find Author:**  **Search**

KnowledgeNotes™ Hint: Charles Dickens or just Dickens

CUP New Essays Need more help? Try the [search tutorials](#) for further guidance.

Poets on Screen [Show more search options](#) - Follow this link to search for authors using their literary movement, period, nationality or gender.

Reference Shelf: [clear search](#)

Dictionary

Thesaurus

Citation Guide

Help

Site Map

Contact Us

**C** **Educators' Resources**

**Browse for an Author:**

ProQuest Learning: Literature contains information on more authors. Use Authors A-Z to browse through an alphabetical list.

**A-Z** ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

**Advanced Search Options**  
Search for authors using their literary movement, period, nationality or gender.

*Author Page*

Search for: Authors Criticism Reference Multimedia Literary Works

Quick Search:  **GO**

**Home** [Back to search results](#) [Previous result](#) [Next result](#)

Study Pages [Link to this page](#) [Add to My List](#)

KnowledgeNotes™

CUP New Essays

Poets on Screen

Reference Shelf:

Dictionary

Thesaurus

Citation Guide

Help

Site Map

Contact Us

**Educators' Resources**

**Beckett, Samuel, 1906-**

**Author Information:**

**Dates of Birth/Death:** 1906-1989

**Gender:** Male

**Literary Periods:** Inter-War Period, 1918-1939 ; Modernist Period, 1899-1945 ; Postwar Period, 1945-1999 ; Twentieth Century, 1900-1999

**Literary Movements:** Modernism c.1899-1945 ; Postmodernism 1963- ; Theatre of the Absurd

**Nationality:** Irish / European

**A** **Author's Biography** - an introduction to the author's life and works.

**B** **Search for Criticism** - journal and newspaper articles.

**C** **Search for Multimedia** - images, audio, video and web links.

**D** **Search for Reference** - reference book articles on this author.

**E** **Search for KnowledgeNotes™ Study Guides**

**Bibliography** - a complete list of the author's works in all genres.

*Available author information*

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## Author Page Content

Each Author Page contains up to six content areas that aid in the study and research of literature.



**Author's Biography** offers an introduction to the author's life and works. ProQuest Learning: Literature author biographies, adapted from H.W. Wilson, typically include an introduction and background essay, review of major and other works, later life of the author, and a retrospective of the critical reception of the author.



**Search for Criticism** returns journal and newspaper articles about the author and their work. Results are drawn from more than 40 literary periodicals; titles include *The New York Times Book Review*, *Black Issues Book Review*, *The Explicator*, *Hispanic Review*, *World Literature Today*, and *The Writer*.



**Search for Multimedia** searches for all types of media – images, video, audio, and Web links – available for an author. This includes more than 800 *Poets on Screen*, a collection of streaming audio/video that showcases contemporary poets reading selections of their own work and their favorite classic poems.






**Search for Reference** returns results from reference works intended as a source of contextual materials for the study of literature and writing. These works include literary dictionaries, encyclopedias, essays, and glossaries.



**Bibliography** links to a full bibliography of the author's works, including posthumously published works and collections.



**Literary works by this author** returns original works of literature written by the author. ProQuest Learning: Literature collects three different types of literature:

-  - Novel and Short Stories
-  - Plays
-  - Poems

*TIP:* Can't find an author? Try Quick Search instead of Author Search. While ProQuest Learning: Literature features over 3,000 Author Pages, not every author that has ever written will have an Author Page. This is especially true of popular contemporary authors not typically studied in schools. For example: Neal Stephenson.

## Part 4: Criticism Search

A key component to most research in literature is literary criticism. ProQuest Learning: Literature contains 114 cover-to-cover full-text literary journals and newspapers available as a resource for reading criticism or as a bank of materials for English language study.

To run a **Criticism Search (A)** you can search for **Word(s) in the Text** of the document, search for **Word(s) in the Article Title** of the document, and/or search for the **Article Author (B)**. You can also use the **Date of Criticism Publication** and **Search In (C)** to restrict your search to certain dates and/or publications.

**Table of Contents**  
You can also view the table of contents for each journal or magazine.

**Criticism Search**  
View a Table of Contents for each journal and magazine  
Type in your search and click the Search button.

Word(s) in the Text: "In the Skin of a Lion" **Search**

Hint: George Orwell, verb, or "First World War" to search for a phrase

Word(s) in the Article Title:

Hint: irony, or "pathetic fallacy" to search for a phrase

Article Author:

Date of Criticism Publication:

From: select month Year:

To: select month Year:

Hint: We have Criticism from 1500 to the present day

Search in:

All Resources

ANQ: a quarterly journal of short articles, notes, and reviews

African American Review

*Criticism Search page*

### Part 5: Reference Search

ProQuest Learning: Literature contains 20 cover-to-cover full-text reference sources including Encyclopedias, Bibliographies, KnowledgeNotes and Dictionaries. A **Reference Search** works much the same way as a **Criticism Search**, so refer to the above example for further tips.

To run a **Reference Search** click on the reference icon in the top **Search For** tabs. You can search for **Word(s) in the Text** of the document and/or search for **Word(s) in the Article Title** of the document. For example, a search for the word prose will retrieve several definitions of prose and various genre examples. You can also use view the **Table of Contents** for each reference book.

### Part 6: Multimedia Search

ProQuest Learning: Literature contains thousands of multimedia sources including Web links, pictures, and Poets on Screen.

To run a **Multimedia Search** simply enter your keywords and select what type of resources you would like the database to search in. Your choices include images, video, audio, and Web links.

### Part 7: Literary Works

ProQuest Learning: Literature delivers more than 180,000 searchable works of literature from medieval times to the present. Click on the Literary Works icon in the top **Search For** tabs to begin your search.

**Literary Works Search**  
Type in your search and click the Search button.

Word(s) in the Text: autumn leaves falling **Search**

Hint: superstar, or "talking to a superstar" to search for a quotation

Word(s) in the Article Title:

Hint: education, or "education for leisure" to search for a quotation

Author:

Hint: Carol Ann Duffy or just Duffy

Search in:

Novels and Short Stories  Plays  Poems

[clear search](#) **Search**

*Literary Works Search*

To run a **Literary Works** search you can search for **Word(s) in the Text**, search for **Word(s) in the Title**, and/or search for the **Author (A)**. You may also choose to limit your search to **Novels and Short Stories**, **Plays** and/or **Poems (B)**.

*TIP:* The Author's Page is essentially a homepage that gathers all of the available information for that author in one place. A search for **Criticism**, **Reference**, **Multimedia** or **Literary Works**, will allow you to search in an individual collection.

## Part 8: Educators' Resources

ProQuest Learning: Literature provides additional resources to supplement the teaching and appreciation of literature accessible from **Educators' Resources (A)**.

*Educators' Resource*

Resources are organized into three areas.

- **General Information.** This section contains information on what is new in the database, contact information for support services, and training materials.
- **Content Information.** This section provides detailed indexes of the content in the database. Two special areas of note:
  - **KnowledgeNotes™** Study Guides provide in-depth analysis of nearly 300 frequently studied literary texts that help teachers prepare. Each guide includes the author biography, bibliography, character analyses, plot summary, style discussion, theme and motif summary, and chapter highlights, which focus on key images, events, and passages.
  - **Poets on Screen™** provides a growing collection of more than 800 filmed readings by poets of their own works and works by other authors. Each Poets on Screen reading gives students the chance to see and hear one poet's interpretation of the work, prompting the discussion of what form alternative readings might take and how this reading has influenced their thoughts about the poem and other works they have studied. You can browse the list by author name or poem by title. To view the video you will need to have RealPlayer installed on your computer or network.

Librarians will also find useful content linking resources, such as MARC records and Open URLs, which allow integration of ProQuest Learning: Literature content into library OPAC systems. Also look for quick links to the **Study Pages**, **KnowledgeNotes**, **CUP New Essays** and **Poets on Screen** in the toolbar on the left hand side.

- **Curriculum Support.** This section highlights standards-based lesson plan ideas using ProQuest Learning: Literature content; and provides pre-formatted content links for use in student assignments, online course environments, whiteboards, etc.