

## The Bedford Introduction to Literature, 8<sup>th</sup> ed: A treasure hunt

*Working with a teammate, explore the textbook for the following elements. Prizes await.*

What feature sits in the front end papers? what feature in the back end papers?

*Writing Resources (front), Index of [literary] terms (back)*

Who is the editor of the text? What is his affiliation?

*Michael Meyer, University of Connecticut*

What edition of the book is this one? When was it published? by what company, and where?

*Eighth. 2008, by Bedford St. Martin's in Boston*

The title page is the first of the three pieces of the front matter. What are the two others?

*Preface for Instructors, Table of Contents*

What are the four pieces of the back matter?

*(1) Glossary of literary terms (2) Index of first liens (3) Index of authors and titles (4) Index of terms*

**Table of contents:**

Why are there two tables of contents? *One is for fast reference; the other*

*includes the titles of all the works in the anthology.*

What are the four major sections of the text? *Fiction, Poetry, Drama, and Critical Thinking and writing*

Special sections treat individual authors in depth.

How many fiction writers have an "A Study of..." section and who are they?

*Two: Nathaniel Hawthorne and Flannery O'Conner*

How many poets, and who are they?

*Four: Emily Dickinson, Robert Frost, Langston Hughes, Julia Alvarez*

How many dramatists, and who are they?

*Two: Sophocles and Shakespeare*

What makes up a "Critical Case Study"?

*A work or set of works by one author and a collection of critical perspectives on them.*

What work of fiction is singled out for a critical case study?

*Faulkner's "Barn Burning"*

What poem? *Eliot's "The Lovesong of J. Alfred Prufrock"*

What play? *Ibsen's "A Doll House"*

What, in this text, is a "cultural case study"?

*A work with an extended analysis of its cultural background and import*

What work of fiction has one? *Joyce's "Eveline"*

What, in this text, is a "thematic case study"?

*A "cross-cultural" group of works exploring the same theme*

What themes are used in the fiction section? *Humor and Satire / The nature of storytelling*

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in the poetry section? *Humor and Satire*

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in the drama section? *Contemporary Humor and Satire*

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Which three of the schools of criticism in chapter 51 sound most interesting?

*Formalist, Biographical, Psychological, Historical, Gender, Mythological, Reader-Response, Deconstructionist*

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The text includes dozens of “Perspectives” pieces. What are those?

*Various “lenses” through which to view a work: interviews, journals, reactions...*

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Each of the three generic sections has a “Writing About —” chapter. What are the other two chapters dedicated to writing about literature?

*“Reading and Writing” and “The Literary Research Paper,” “Taking Essay Exams”*

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What on-line resources accompany the textbook?

*VirtuaLit Interactive Tutorials / The “Lit Links” / quizzes on each work, / Authors in Depth / a glossary of literary terms*

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NOW... two questions (or are they the same question for you?)

Which of the book’s features would you predict will help you most to do well in this course?

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Which of the book’s features sounds most exciting to you?

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and a last one:

Have you run across any titles in the textbook you are anxious to read?

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