

Literature in Context: A Finding Guide to Literary Analyses Contained in the Library's Reference Sets

The Library has numerous multi-volume reference sets containing extended essays that provide in-depth analyses of the cultural, historical, and social backgrounds of individual literary works. These are the kinds of critical interpretations that are frequently most helpful to students as they write papers for their literature courses.

These reference sets come from many different publishers and currently number approximately 125 volumes. The publishers are continually adding new volumes to their sets, and from time to time we purchase newly-issued sets. As valuable as these sets are, there is no satisfactory way to find the analyses of specific literary works that may be buried in all of their separate volumes. This finding guide, which is updated three times a year, is intended to remedy that problem.

The **Finding Guide** is maintained in three volumes: an **Author Listing**, which indicates all of the works of a given author that are included in the various sets; a **Title Listing**, which allows lookups by specific title; and a **Nationality/Ethnic Listing**, which provides an author listing sub-arranged by national or ethnic groups.

Where to Find

The **Literature in Context** finding guides are kept in three large binders on the top shelf of the **PN** section of the **Reference Area**, directly across from the **Circulation Desk**. Look for the **Literature in Context** sign.

Sample Entries:

Abe, Kobo (Japanese)	Author's name
Man Who Turned into a Stick, The (Drama), 1967	Nationality
Drama for Students, Vol. 14, p. 206 (Ref PN 1601 .D595 1998)	Title of work
Abrahams, Peter (South African)	Genre
Mine Boy (Novel), 1946	Date of publication
World Literature and Its Times, Vol. 2, p. 269 (Ref PN 50 .W674)	Name of reference set
Achebe, Chinua (Nigerian)	Call number
Anthills of the Savannah (Novel), 1987	
Literature and Its Times, Supplement 1, Vol. 2, p. 39 (Ref PN 50 .L5)	
Literature of Africa, Vol. 1, p. 31 (Ref PL 8010 .K53 2004)	
Literature of Developing Nations for Students, Vol. 1, p. 82 (Ref PN)	
Arrow of God (Novel), 1964	
Literature of Africa, Vol. 1, p. 27 (Ref PL 8010 .K53 2004)	
Civil Peace (Short Story), 1971	
Short Stories for Students, Vol. 13, p. 16 (Ref PN 3326 .S56 1997)	
No Longer at Ease (Novel), 1960	
Literature of Africa, Vol. 1, p. 24 (Ref PL 8010 .K53 2004)	