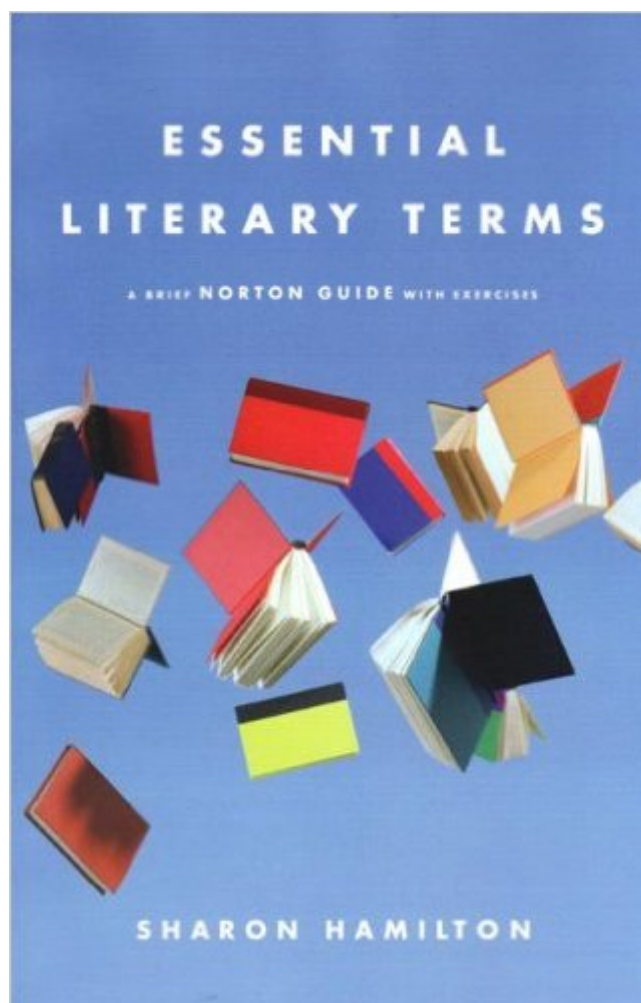


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# Essential Literary Terms: A Brief Norton Guide With Exercises



## Synopsis

Essential Literary Terms offers clear, concise definitions over 220 must-know literary terms for introductory students. Drawing on her extensive teaching experience, Sharon Hamilton uses classroom-tested examples and exercises to reinforce students' understanding and help them apply what they learn in their own writing.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The book is filled with exercises for students to learn how to recognize and work with the literary terms the book covers, but the book does not provide the answers to those exercises. The book's cover says that the answers are available online for instructors, but that is misleading. I'm an English teacher trying to use this book with my students, but because I haven't bought a set of the books, I cannot access the answers. At the very least, the book and its description should make that clear before someone wastes money buying it. Without the answers, this book will have very little value to a teacher.

The author categorizes and provides exceedingly clear definitions of many literary terms. For example, she clears up the ambiguity between "synechdoche" and "metonymy" that other authors avoid. After her explanations, she provides exercises for many of the definitions. The quality of the material is far better than similar books. Although the number of definitions is not as great as other books covering literary terms, the clarity and depth of explanations make the book a necessity for today's Advance Placement or college student. My book was dated 2007.

Friendly and approachable this book may be, but it does not have all the "essentials" that students and teachers may want to use the minute they encounter such terms as "romanticism," "naturalism," "realism," "magical realism," and other aspects of literary studies that are often mentioned in anthologies and histories. A truly essential guide would be briefer in some of its explanations in order to cover some more ground and thus truly be suitable as a text to accompany introductory literary studies courses.

I am using this book for the close reading section of this class. I have found it very helpful in doing my papers and the exercises are good practice for identifying certain aspects of literary pieces. While many students would sell this book back at the end of the semester, I will not because with being an English major, I believe that this book will still be as helpful in upper level classes as it was in a 200 level class.

it is essential to go back to the basic of understanding literary terms. This book also covers understanding poetry literary terms as well..a good read.

Very informational; I reference it often for many other classes. There were one or two things wrong in there, but my professor pointed them out. Really good book.

For teaching English composition and literature, it helps me considerably. I will use it repeatedly in my classes to make worksheets.

thorough, in-depth, and filled with examples; a valuable resource

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