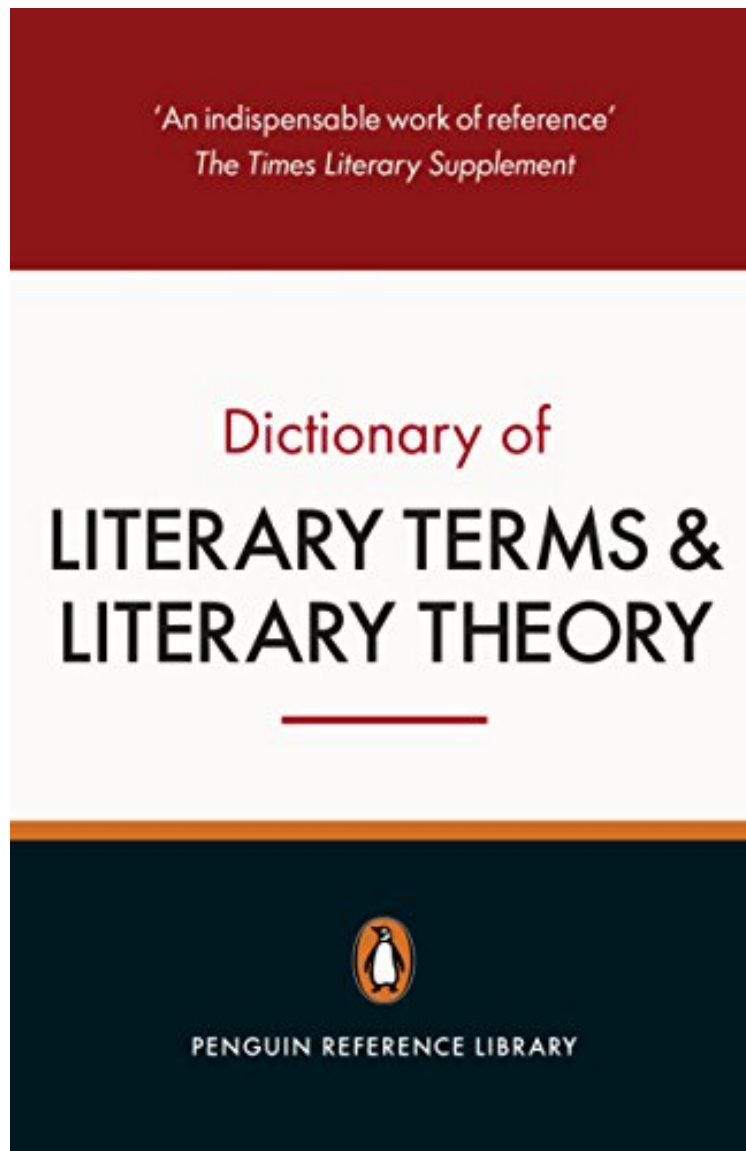


# The Penguin Dictionary of Literary Terms and Literary Theory: Fifth Edition

*J. A. Cuddon, M. A. R. Habib*

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**J. A. Cuddon, M. A. R. Habib : The Penguin Dictionary of Literary Terms and Literary Theory: Fifth Edition** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Penguin Dictionary of Literary Terms and Literary Theory: Fifth Edition:

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dictionary can be (and frequently is, I believe) read from cover to cover. Hundreds of fascinating poetic forms, genres and movements are covered, the definitions are informative and often ironically detached (note the studiously lapidary comments on Welsh poetry), virtually all major European literatures are taken into account, plus there are comments on Slavonic folklore, Korean poetry, Welsh prosody, and ancient Greek literary theory. The wiring and plumbing of the book, its cross-referencing system, is admirably done and very helpful, luring the reader into a rollercoaster ride across centuries. Another notable quality is the rich number of examples, especially of the titles of a legion of important / interesting / fascinating / demented literary works often buried in the sands of time. Unfortunately, however, many metric and strophic forms must go without illustration for reasons of space: a fact deplored by Cuddon himself in the preface. But this does not detract from the book's worth: its logical structure and lucid explanations, combined with its author's awesome erudition, make this a priceless reference work. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I love this book By Deanna Stanwood I love this book. LOVE IT. There are great descriptions of all things literature in here. The book is larger than I expected it to be (which is a good thing) and I think it's going to be very useful for my classes... yes, I'm an English major. I purchased the book from thebookguys, and while I did receive the correct book on time, when I opened the package I noticed some things that were wrong with this seller: the book itself smells bad, there are marks on the outside of the pages, it looks like a sticker was ripped off the back cover, and overall looks like it has been used - however briefly. I did purchase a new copy of this book. 5 stars = book 3 stars = seller 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. much like the OED does By Renee I'm using this book for a poetics class and we use it many times a week. Provides all the information I need for class plus some. It looks into historical context of the word, much like the OED does, so it's more well-rounded than a regular dictionary would be when considering the terms in class. I'm going to be hanging on to this one instead of selling it like most folks do when the semester is done.

'An indispensable work of reference' Times Literary Supplement The Penguin Dictionary of Literary Terms and Literary Theory is firmly established as a key work of reference in the complex and varied field of literary criticism. Now in its fifth edition, it remains the most comprehensive and accessible work of its kind, and is invaluable for students, teachers and general readers alike. - Gives definitions of technical terms (hamartia, iamb, zeugma) and critical jargon (aporia, binary opposition, intertextuality) - Explores literary movements (neoclassicism, romanticism, vorticism) and schools of literary theory - Covers genres (elegy, fabliau, pastoral) and literary forms (haiku, ottava rima, sonnet)

Accomplishes cameo wonders of literary history ... generously and urbanely compiled \* New York Times \* Scholarly, succinct, comprehensive and entertaining ... an indispensable work of reference \* Times Literary Supplement \* About the Author J. A. Cuddon was a writer, school teacher and academic. Best known for his Dictionary of Literary Terms, he also produced the large Dictionary of Sport and Games, as well as several novels, plays and travel books. He also edited two anthologies of supernatural fiction. He died in 1996. M.A.R. Habib received his doctorate from the University of Oxford, and is Professor of English at Rutgers University. He is the author of seven books, including A History Of Literary Criticism: From Plato to the Present (2005), and editor of the Cambridge History of Literary Criticism, Vol. VI (2013). He is currently writing a book entitled Hegel and the Foundations of Modern Literary Theory.