

American Authors Research Project

As an independent learner, you must discover where to find educational material. You will summarize the material necessary to meet the requirements of the assignment. Finally, you must revise and proofread. You will cite your sources with the M.L.A. documentation style.

Choosing eight authors, playwrights, or poets, write at least one typed page about each. Your goal is to discover six elements about each one:

This assignment meets California Standard Literary Analysis 3.0: Analyze recognized works of American literature.

After researching the list of possible American Authors Mrs. Johnson gives you, identify writers of interest to you.

1. What view of life do their themes represent?
2. How do they represent an aspect of the “American Dream” theme?
3. Which genre do they write in?
4. How do they represent development in American history? (what part of American History do you learn about?)
5. Describe what culture they represent.
6. Evaluate their philosophy, politics, religious, and/or social influence.

List of American Authors

Ambrose Bierce (1842-1914?)	John Dos Passos (1896-1970)
Amy Tan	John Steinbeck
Anne Bradstreet (1612-72)	Jonathan Edwards (1703-58)
Benjamin Franklin (1706-90)	Kate Chopin (1851-1904)
Christopher Isherwood (1904-86)	Leslie Marmon Silko
Cleanth Brooks	Lorraine Hansberry
Clifford Odets	Louisa May Alcott (1832-88)
Dorothy Parker (1893-1967)	Mark Twain (1835-1910)
Edgar Allan Poe (1809-49)	Moss Hart (1904-61)
Edith Wharton (1862-1937)	Nathaniel Hawthorne (1804-64)
Edwin Arlington Robinson (1869-1935)	O. Henry [(1862-1910)
Emily Dickinson (1830-86)	Paul Laurence Dunbar (1872-1906)
Ernest Hemingway (1899-1961)	Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-82)
Eudora Welty	Richard Rodriguez
Francis Bret(t) Harte (1836-1902)	Richard Wright
Francis Scott Fitzgerald (1896-1940)	Ring Lardner (1885-1933)
Henry David Thoreau (1817-62)	Robert Frost (1874-1963)
Henry James (1843-1916)	Robert Penn Warren
Henry Louis Mencken (1880-1956)	Rudolfo Anya
Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807-82)	Sinclair Lewis (1885-1951)
Herman Melville (1819-91)	Stephen Crane (1871-1900)
Issac Bashevis Singer (1904-)	Sarah Orne Jewett (1849-1909)
Jack London (1876-1916)	Theodore Dreiser
James Fenimore Cooper (1789-1851)	Thomas Paine (1732-1809)
Jean Nathan Eugene Toomer (1894-1967)	Truman Capote
	Victor Villasenor
	Vladimir Nabokov (1899-1977)

Walt(er) Whitman (1819-92)
Washington Irving (1783-1859)
Willa Cather (1873-1947)
William Bradford (1590-1657)
Zora Neale Hurston (1903-60)

William Carlos Williams (1883-1963)
William Cullen Bryant (1794-1878)
William Faulkner (1897-1962)
William James (1842-1910)