

Merit Badge for the Research Paper about significant Authors

As an *independent learner*, you must discover where to find educational material. Next you will summarize the material necessary to meet the requirements of the assignment. Finally, you must revise and proofread.

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

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

After researching the list of possible authors your English teacher gives you, identify which authors represent *someone of interest to you*.

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

- 1. What view of life do their themes represent?**
- 2. Which genre do they write in?**
- 3. How do they represent development in history? (what part of history do you learn about?)**
- 4. Describe what culture they represent.**
- 5. Evaluate their philosophy, politics, religious, and/or social influence.**

Possible choices include:

D.H. Lawrence
James Joyce
Chinua Achebe
Elizabeth Bowen
Virginia Woolf
Muriel Spark
Nadine Gordimer
Doris Lessing
Margery Kempe
Sir Francis Bacon
Thomas Hardy
William Wordsworth
Matthew Arnold
Alexander Pope
T.S. Eliot

W. Somerset Maugham
Voltaire
Katherine Mansfield
William Trevor
Giovanni Boccaccio
Jonathan Swift
Leo Tolstoy
Daniel Defoe
Percy Bysshe Shelley
Jean de La Fontaine
John Keats
Dylan Thomas
Seigfried Sassoon
William Blake
A.E. Houseman