

CONTENTS

Preface 7

CHAPTER 1 – INTRODUCTION

1. Quotation	9
2. American Culture	9
3. American	9
4. History	10
5. Timeline	10
6. Songs	10
7. England or America?	12
8. Ellis Island	12
9. Map	15
10. Native Americans	15
11. Homework	16

CHAPTER 2 – FROM THE BEGINNING OF THE 20th CENTURY TO THE 1920s

1. Turn of the Century	17
2. Period Photographs	18
3. History	19
4. Uncle Sam	19
5. Jazz, Cars and Movies	20
6. Silent Movie Stars	21
7. James Agee	22
8. Music: The Entertainer	23
9. E. L. Doctorow	24
10. Gertrude Stein	27
11. Food	27
12. Cubist Painting and Poem	28
13. Homework	28

CHAPTER 3 – THE 1920s

1. Music of the 1920s	29
2. The Roaring Twenties	30
3. Joseph Stella	31
4. Flapper	31
5. Edna St. Vincent Millay	32
6. Francis Scott Fitzgerald	32
7. Hemingway in Photographs	34
8. Ernest Hemingway	35
9. Hemingway's Style	37
10. Raymond Chandler	38
11. Homework: Edward Hopper	39

CHAPTER 4 – THE 1930s

1. Jack London	40
2. Quiz	42
3. Wall Street	42
4. Economic Terms	43

5. Music: This Land is Your Land	43
6. John Steinbeck	43
7. James Thurber	45
8. Quotations and Proverbs	51
9. Homework	51

CHAPTER 5 – THE SOUTH

1. Characteristics	52
2. The Slave Trade	52
3. Quotation	52
4. Life as a Slave	53
5. North and South	53
6. Liberia	54
7. Harper Lee	55
8. Billie Holiday: Strange Fruit	56
9. William Faulkner	57
10. Faulkner's Style of Writing	59
11. Homework	59

CHAPTER 6 – TRADITION, CONFESSION AND PLAYFULNESS

1. Poetry and Prose	60
2. Two Poems	61
3. Robert Frost	61
4. Sylvia Plath	65
5. William Carlos Williams	66
6. Man Ray	67
7. e.e. cummings	68
8. Homework	70

CHAPTER 7 – WORLD WAR II

1. Lindbergh's Argument	71
2. Terms	71
3. Pearl Harbor	72
4. David Guterson	72
5. Joseph Heller	72
6. Kurt Vonnegut, Jr.	76
7. Art Spiegelman	78
8. Homework	81

CHAPTER 8 – THE BEAT GENERATION

1. Beat	82
2. Jack Kerouac	82
3. Gregory Corso	85
4. Lawrence Ferlinghetti	87
5. Allen Ginsberg	88
6. Tomato Soup Cans	89
7. Homework	89

CHAPTER 9 – YOUNG HEROES

1. William Saroyan	90
2. Alexander Calder	92
3. Truman Capote	93
4. J(erome) D(avid) Salinger	94
5. Philip Roth	95
6. Raymond Carver	98
7. Lorrie Moore	99
8. Homework	100

CHAPTER 10 – THE THEATRE

1. Broadway Associations	101
2. History	101
3. Shakespeare in Parks	102
4. Musicals	103
5. Arthur Miller	104
6. Tennessee Williams	105
7. Edward Albee	107
8. Contemporary Playwrights: Sam Shepard	109
9. Frank Lloyd Wright	109
10. Homework	110

CHAPTER 11 – JEWISH-AMERICAN WRITERS

1. Terms	111
2. Chart	111
3. Chaim Potok	111
4. Mark Rothko	112
5. Bernard Malamud	112
6. Saul Bellow	115
7. Cynthia Ozick	115
8. Homework	116

CHAPTER 12 – DIFFERENT VOICES: INTRODUCTION

1. Literature on the Move	117
2. Race and How to Define It	118

NATIVE AMERICAN WRITERS

1. Myth or Fact?	118
2. Leslie Marmon Silko	118
3. Sherman Alexie	119
4. George Catlin	122
5. Homework	122

CHAPTER 13 – AFRICAN-AMERICAN WRITERS

1. Blues and Bessie Smith	123
2. Harlem Renaissance	123
3. Langston Hughes	124
4. Ralph Ellison	126
5. Maya Angelou	127
6. Toni Morrison	129
7. Alice Walker	130
8. Other Black Writers: Jamaica Kincaid	132
9. Homework	133

CHAPTER 14 – RECENT VOICES: HISPANIC-AMERICAN WRITERS

1. Terms	134
2. Stereotypes	134
3. Rudolpho Anaya	134
4. Sandra Cisneros	135
5. Salsa	137

ASIAN-AMERICAN WRITERS

1. A Model Minority, Yes or No?	138
2. Maxine Hong Kingston	138
3. Jhumpa Lahiri	139
4. Nam June Paik	141
5. Homework	142

CHAPTER 15 – MORE VOICES OF TODAY

1. Variety	143
2. John Updike	143
3. Cormac McCarthy	144
4. Joyce Carol Oates	146
5. Jeffrey Eugenides	146
6. Music: Philip Glass	148
7. Homework	148

20th Century American Writers

Literary Map 160

Pulitzer Prize for Fiction Winners 162

US Nobel Prize for Literature Winners 164

Films Based on the Literary Works 165

Chronology – US Historical Events,
US Literary Events 166