

# Download Literature As Art: A Reader

Literature: Literature, a body of written works. The name has traditionally been applied to those imaginative works of poetry and prose distinguished by the intentions of their authors and the perceived aesthetic excellence of their execution. It may be classified according to a variety of systems, including language and genre. Literature, most generically, is any body of written works. More restrictively, literature refers to writing considered to be an art form or any single writing deemed to have artistic or intellectual value, often due to deploying language in ways that differ from ordinary usage. The Art of Literature (Encyclopaedia Britannica article) Definitions of the word literature tend to be circular. The Concise Oxford Dictionary says it is “writings whose value lies in the beauty of form or emotional effect.” English 205: Masterworks of English Literature HANDOUTS Critical Approaches to Literature Plain text version of this document. Described below are nine common critical approaches to the literature.