



Key Authors



Bapsi Sidhwa



Sidhwa was born in Karachi, Bombay presidency and later moved with her family to Lahore , Punjab Province. She was two years old when she contracted polio (which has affected her throughout her life) She was nine in 1947 at the time of Partition (facts which would shape the character Lenny in her novel *Cracking India* as well as the background for her novel). She married at the age of 19 and moved to Bombay city for five years before she divorced. She remarried in Lahore with her present husband Noshir who is also a Zoroastrian. She had three children before beginning her career as an author.

John Steinbeck



Steinbeck was born 27th February, 1902 in California and died 20th December 1968 in New York. He came from Salinas, California. He was the most recognisable and widely read American author of the 20th century and winner of the **Nobel Prize** for Literature in 1962 Wrote many books including: *Of Mice and Men*, *Cup of Gold* (first book), *The Pearl*, *East of Eden* and *The Grapes of Wrath* (Pulitzer Prize award winning novel) He published the book 'Of Mice and Men' in 1937. Like 'Of Mice and Men' many of his books deal with the lives and problems of working people. Many of his characters in his books are immigrants who went to California looking for work or a better life. Steinbeck worked on a ranch when he was 19, and used his experiences in 'Of Mice and Men'. Some of his books became successful Hollywood films.

Yann Martel



Martel was born in Salamanca, Spain, in 1963 to French-Canadians Émile Martel and Nicole Perron who were studying at the University of Salamanca. The family moved to Coimbra, Portugal, soon after his birth, then to Madrid, Spain, then to Fairbanks, Alaska, and finally to Victoria, British Columbia. His parents joined the Canadian foreign service, and he was raised in San José, Costa Rica, Paris, France, and Madrid, Spain. Martel worked at odd jobs as an adult, including as a parking lot attendant in Ottawa, a dishwasher in a tree-planting camp in northern Ontario, and a security guard at the Canadian embassy in Paris. He also travelled through Mexico, South America, Iran, Turkey, and India. He started writing while he was at university, writing plays and short stories that were "blighted by immaturity and dreadful", as he describes them.

Amy Tan



Tan was born in California. She is the second of three children born to Chinese immigrants John and Daisy Tan. Her father was an electrical engineer and Baptist minister who travelled to the United States in order to escape the Chinese Civil War. When she was fifteen years old, her father and older brother Peter both died of brain tumours within six months of each other. Daisy subsequently moved Amy and her younger brother, John Jr., to Switzerland. During this period, Amy learned about her mother's previous marriage in China, of her four children (a son who died and three daughters), and how her mother left these children behind in Shanghai. This incident was the basis for Tan's first novel *The Joy Luck Club*. Tan had a difficult relationship with her mother. Her mother wanted Tan to be independent, stressing that Tan needed to make sure she was self-sufficient. Tan and her mother did not speak for six months after Tan dropped out of the Baptist college her mother had selected for her.



World Literature: Look-Cover-Write-Check



Key Words:	Definition
Context	the circumstances that form the setting for an event, statement, or idea, and in terms of which it can be fully understood
Immigration	The action of coming to live permanently in a foreign country
Culture	The ideas, customs, and social behaviour of a particular people or society.
Racism	prejudice, discrimination, or antagonism by an individual, community, or institution against a person or people on the basis of their membership of a particular racial or ethnic group, typically one that is a minority or marginalized.
Segregation	the action or state of setting someone or something apart from others.
Derogative	Disparaging; tending or intending to be belittling.
Marginalisation	treatment of a person, group, or concept as insignificant or peripheral.

Text	Key Knowledge
Cracking India	Rhetorical question, Adjective, Figurative language, Ellipsis, Short sentences
Of Mice and Men	Adjectives, Long sentences, Sibilance, Short sentences, Dialogue
Life of Pi	Verbs, Alliteration, Rhetorical question
Two Kinds	Adjective, Verb, First person perspective, Simile, Metaphor

Key Terms Glossary	
Adjective	A word that describes a noun, E.G. Happy
Alliteration	When words start with the same sound to create effect, E.G. Snail Slime
Dialogue	Conversation between two or more characters
Figurative Language	words or phrases that are meaningful, but not literally true.
First person perspective	The point of view of a character involved in the action of a story, using 'I'.
Long sentences	A sentence, in which the writer delays the core to the middle of the sentence or in which the core is broken up so readers have to remember how the sentence started, is more difficult to read.
Metaphor	When one thing is described as being another to create an image, E.G. 'the sea was an ogre, wild and enraged.'
Short Sentence	Short sentences provide a direct path to your main point.
Sibilance	a hissing sound that's created as a result of the letter "s" or other letter combinations. Sibilance is often used as an alliteration device in poetry and literature, E.G. And let us once again assail your ears,
Simile	When one thing is compared to another using 'as' or 'like', 'the fish darted from the under the rock like silver bullets'.
Rhetorical Question	A question asked for dramatic effect where the answer is not required