* Contents *

Preface vii

Chapter 1 Introduction 1

Chapter 2 New Criticism 11

Before New Criticism 13

How to Interpret: Key Concepts for New Critical
Interpretation 16

Historicizing the New Criticism: Rethinking Literary Unity 23

The Intentional Fallacy and the Affective Fallacy 30

How to Interpret: A New Critical Example 38

The Influence of New Criticism 39

Further Reading 42

Chapter 3 Structuralism 43

Key Concepts in Structuralism 44
How to Interpret: Structuralism in Cultural and Literary
Studies 51
The Death of the Author 56
How to Interpret: The Detective Novel 57
Structuralism, Formalism, and Literary History 62
The Structuralist Study of Narrative: Narratology 65
How to Interpret: Focalization and Free Indirect Discourse 74
Narrative Syntax, and Metaphor and Metonymy 77
Further Reading 83

Chapter 4 Deconstruction 85

Key Concepts in Deconstruction 86
How to Interpret: A Deconstructionist Example 92
Writing, Speech, and Différance 94
Deconstruction beyond Derrida 98
Deconstruction, Essentialism, and Identity 102
How to Interpret: Further Deconstructionist Examples 108
Further Reading 110

Chapter 5 Psychoanalysis 111

Clinical Psychoanalysis 112
Key Concepts in Psychoanalysis: The Psychoanalytic
Understanding of the Mind 114
Sigmund Freud 117
How to Interpret: Models of Psychoanalytic Interpretation
From the Interpretation of Dreams to the Interpretation
of Literature 127
How to Interpret: Further Psychoanalytic Examples 130
Jacques Lacan 137
How to Interpret: A Lacanian Example 145
Further Reading 146

Chapter 6 Feminism 148

What Is Feminism? 149
Early Feminist Criticism 151
Sex and Gender 159
Feminisms 161
How to Interpret: Feminist Examples 165
Feminism and Visual Pleasure 169
Intersectionality and the Interdisciplinary Ethos
of Contemporary Feminism 178
Further Reading 183

Chapter 7 Queer Studies 185

Key Concepts in Queer Studies 186
How to Interpret: A Queer Studies Example 193
Queer Studies and History 195
Outing: Writers, Characters, and the Literary Closet 200
Homosociality and Homosexual Panic 205

Contents

Queer of Color Cr	itique 211 my and and and angle	
How to Interpret:	Another Queer Studies Example	213
Questions That Queer Studies Critics Ask 216		
Further Reading	217	

Chapter 8 Marxism 220

Key Concepts in Marxism 221
Lukács, Gramsci, and Marxist Interpretations of Culture 225
Contemporary Marxism, Ideology, and Agency 230
How to Interpret: An Example from Popular Culture 239
Variations in Marxist Criticism 241
How to Interpret: Further Marxist Examples 248
Further Reading 257

Chapter 9 Historicism and Cultural Studies 259

New Historicism 259
How to Interpret: Historicist Examples 265
Michel Foucault 270
Cultural Studies 274
How to Interpret: A Cultural Studies Example 277
Cultural Studies, Historicism, and Literature 280
Further Reading 283

Chapter 10 Postcolonial and Race Studies 285

Postcolonialism 286
From Orientalism to Deconstruction: Edward Said,
Homi Bhabha, and Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak 293
How to Interpret: A Postcolonial Studies Example 308
Race Studies 311
How to Interpret: Postcolonial and Race Studies Examples 323
Postcolonial and Race Studies and Literary Studies 326
Further Reading 327

Chapter 11 Reader Response 330

Ideal, Implied, and Actual Readers 333
Structuralist Models of Reading and Communication 335
Aesthetic Judgment, Interpretive Communities,
and Resisting Readers 340
Reception Theory and Reception History 344

Paranoid, Suspicious, and Symptomatic Reading versus
Surface Reading 346
Readers and the New Technologies 349
Further Reading 351

Chapter 12 Recent and Emerging Developments: Ecocriticism and Disability Studies 354

Ecocriticism and Environmental Criticism 355
Disability Studies 367
A Future for Critical Theory 379
Further Reading 380

Works Cited 381
Photographic Credits 385
Index 387