

Contents

Acknowledgements	page xiii
Preface to the second edition	xv
Introduction	1
Beginning	1
Postcolonialism?	2
A note on terminology: or, on not using the hyphen	5
1 From 'Commonwealth' to 'postcolonial'	7
Introduction	7
Colonialism and decolonisation	7
The emergence of 'Commonwealth literature'	12
Theories of colonial discourses: Frantz Fanon and Edward Said	19
The turn to 'theory' in the 1980s	26
The Empire 'writes back'	28
Into the twenty-first century	32
'Postcolonialism': definitions and dangers	38
Selected reading	41
2 Reading colonial discourses	44
Ideology, interpellation, discourse	44
Reading <i>Orientalism</i>	47
The shape of Orientalism	49
1. Orientalism constructs binary oppositions	49
2. Orientalism is a Western fantasy	50

3. Orientalism is institutional	50
4. Orientalism is literary and creative	51
5. Orientalism is legitimating and self-perpetuating	51
6. There is a distinction between 'latent' and 'manifest' Orientalism	51
Stereotypes of the Orient and Orientals	52
1. The Orient is timeless	52
2. The Orient is strange	53
3. Orientalism makes assumptions about people	53
4. Orientalism makes assumptions about gender	53
5. The Orient is feminine	54
6. The Oriental is degenerate	55
Criticisms of <i>Orientalism</i>	55
1. <i>Orientalism</i> is ahistorical	56
2. Said ignores resistance by the colonised	57
3. Said ignores resistance within the West	58
4. Said neglects the significance of gender	59
'Ambivalence' and 'mimicry' in colonial discourses	61
<i>Stop and think</i>	67
Colonial discourses and Rudyard Kipling: reading 'The Overland Mail'	69
Selected reading	77
3 Nationalist representations	80
Introduction	80
Imagining the nation: forging tradition and history	81
<i>Stop and think</i>	86
Language, space, time	86
National liberation vs. imperialist domination	90
Negritude	93
<i>Stop and think</i>	99
Frantz Fanon, national culture and national consciousness	101
Nationalist discourses, national culture	109
Constructing national consciousness: Ngugi's <i>A Grain of Wheat</i>	111
Selected reading	120

4	The nation in question	122
	The disenchantment with nationalism	122
	Nationalism: a derivative discourse?	125
	<i>Stop and think</i>	128
	Nationalism, representation and the elite	129
	Nationalism, 'race' and ethnicity	131
	<i>Stop and think</i>	135
	Nationalism, gender and sexuality	135
	The nation and its margins	139
	<i>Stop and think</i>	143
	English in the colonies: a national language?	144
	English in the settler nations	144
	'Third World' Englishes: elite discourses or nation language?	147
	<i>Stop and think</i>	152
	The nation in question: Chinua Achebe's <i>Anthills of the Savannah</i>	152
	<i>Stop and think</i>	158
	Selected reading	159
5	Re-reading and re-writing English literature	162
	Interrogating the text	162
	Colonialism and the teaching of English literature	163
	Colonial contexts	168
	<i>Stop and think</i>	169
	Reading literature 'contrapuntally'	169
	<i>Stop and think</i>	172
	Re-reading Charlotte Brontë's <i>Jane Eyre</i>	173
	<i>Stop and think</i>	181
	<i>Jane Eyre</i> : a postcolonial text?	181
	<i>Stop and think</i>	185
	Postcolonial re-writings: Jean Rhys, <i>Wide Sargasso Sea</i>	185
	'Re-writing': possibilities and problems	193
	<i>Stop and think</i>	194
	Selected reading	194

6 Postcolonialism and feminism	197
Some definitions	197
The 'double colonisation' of women	201
<i>Stop and think</i>	206
Postcolonial critiques of 'First World' feminism	206
Feminism and 'race'	207
Learning the limits of 'First World' feminism	209
'Third World' women	213
<i>Stop and think</i>	216
Can the subaltern speak?	217
'Going a piece of the way': creative dialogues in postcolonial feminism	225
Representing women in Sally Morgan's <i>My Place</i>	228
Selected reading	232
7 Diaspora identities	234
Migration, colonialism and decolonisation	234
What is a 'diaspora'?	236
'Of, and not of, this place': home and displacement	240
Living 'in-between': from <i>roots</i> to <i>routes</i>	247
Hybrid identities at the 'in-between'	251
<i>Stop and think</i>	256
New ethnicities	257
<i>Stop and think</i>	261
Cultural diversity, cultural difference and the 'Black Atlantic'	261
Moving pictures: Beryl Gilroy's <i>Boy-Sandwich</i>	269
Selected reading	273
8 The limits of postcolonialism?	276
The habit of self-critique	276
Postcolonial times? The limits of temporality	277
New maps (f)or old? The limits of geography	280
The problem of 'Western' theory	287
The new 'ghetto' of postcolonialism	291
Postcolonialism, or the logic of capitalist modernity?	293
Postcolonialism or tricontinentalism? The limits of materialist critique	299

Globalisation and 'postcoloniality': the new imperium?	303
Where do we go from here?	313
Appendix: 'The Overland Mail (foot-service to the hills)' (Rudyard Kipling)	315
Further reading	317
Index	327