

SENIOR SECONDARY RESOURCE GUIDE

RESOURCES IN ENGLISH, LITERATURE AND DRAMA

DIGITAL RESOURCES

Joondalup Libraries subscribe to three databases (collections of articles from sources such as journals, newspapers or conference proceedings), an online journal and an encyclopaedia in the subject areas of English, Literature and Drama.

The resources are:

Informit (database)

An Australian database, with extensive material on a wide range of Australian authors, poets and playwrights.

ProQuest Research Library (database)

An international database, with information across all fields of knowledge. Ideal for secondary students. Limited Australian-specific content in the humanities, but some relevant content on well-known Australian writers.

ProQuest Central – Literature collection (database)

One of a range of ProQuest subject-specific databases. A great place to look if ProQuest Research Library has little relevant material, and easily accessed from the Research Library.

Australian Literary Studies (journal)

The library also subscribes to the online journal *Australian Literary Studies*. This journal provides full-text articles on many aspects of Australian literature and many Australian writers.

Britannica Library (encyclopaedia)

Journal articles can also be found on Britannica Library online.

ACCESSING DIGITAL RESOURCES

You will need a library membership and an account password to access each of these resources. If you are not a library member you can [join online](#).

All digital resources are accessed through the [Library Catalogue](#). From the Catalogue:

1. Select [All online resources](#)
2. Sign in to your library account, and then select Home
3. Browse until you find the resource you need, or use the Subject Category to refine the list of resources.

SEARCH TECHNIQUES

Searching the digital resources is easy. All databases default to a simple search – enter terms that are of interest and see what is found. For example, enter the name of a writer, the name of a literary movement or the name of a work.

If you find too many or too few articles you will need to narrow or broaden your search.

Narrowing your search will usually require you to add something to your search, for example an additional search term, or use a method of further filtering your results. Ways of narrowing your search include:

- Filter your results by date, for example you may be interested in an older work which recently has been studied through a different lens, so after searching for the work you could then restrict your results to the last 10 years.
- Add more information to your search, for example adding a writer's given name if their family name returns too many false hits.
- Remove article types that aren't of interest, for example removing 'reviews' of an author's work.
- Add an extra search facet, such as adding "feminist" to a search on King Lear, "Australia" to a search on post-colonialism or "onomatopoeia" to search for articles which discuss its use in a poet's works.

Ways of broadening your search include:

- Use synonyms or different forms of language – often the easiest way of doing this is to use the Advanced search feature, list synonyms in a search box and set it to search for 'any' of the listed terms. For example, postcolonial, postcolonialism, post-colonialist are some ways in which similar terms might be referenced.
- Remove the name of a specific work and search only on the author. Many articles discuss multiple works and sometimes they may not all be listed in the indexing information of an article.
- Remove the author's name, for example search for "woman poet" in Informit as well as for a poet by name. This will increase your chance of finding articles which discuss more than one poet.

WEBSITE LINKS

Access to a variety of content-rich, free Internet resources is available through the City of Joondalup website. Pages of links to selected resources in a variety of subject areas can be accessed [here](#).

PRINT RESOURCES

ATAR REVISION AND EXAM PREPARATION GUIDES

The Joondalup Reference Library holds copies of:

- Good Answers - Literature

- Good Answers – English
- Academic Associates’ Study Guide for Drama

These are all relevant to the current ATAR curriculum and are available for use in the Reference Library.

BOOKS

The Joondalup Reference Library collects works about authors and works that form part of the Literature and English syllabuses. Works purchased are prioritised according to the SCSA’s advice to us about the most popular authors of the preceding few years’ exams and any trends they identify.

In recent years the Library has purchased works about modernism, postmodernism and post-colonial literature, as well as works on the most popular international and Australian authors from the literature and English exams.

REFERENCE SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

All of Joondalup Libraries’ branches have study spaces for students, and scanning, printing and copying services. Joondalup Library’s Reference section also has two study rooms available.

CONTACT US

For further information about the contents of this leaflet, research presentations for senior school students, or assistance using the online resources or library catalogue please contact the Reference Library on 9400 4740.