

A spiral-bound notebook with a light-colored, textured cover. The spiral binding is on the left side. The text is centered on the cover.

Introduction to
American Patriotism—Studying
History Through Literature

Two-Column Notes

Introduction

- History is a subject not only for textbooks and nonfiction but for fiction, poetry, and drama.
- Informative nonfiction provides factual accounts of past events, places, and people.
- Historical fiction combines fact and fiction in a story set in the past.
- Poetry and drama also tell a historical event in a fictional story.
- Using these genres, writers present a new perspective on an event or person.

Informative Nonfiction

- About history: presents factual information about past events, places, and people
- Writer may have lived at that time or may live in the present and is explaining a past event or era.
- Essays, articles, reference books, autobiographies, biographies

Fiction, Poetry, and Drama

- May use both real and fictional characters, dialogue, and events
- Historical event may be the focus
- Setting is important because it gives clues about when and where the story takes place
- Historical fiction & drama: include elements of fiction
- Author researches the historical period to ensure accurate details
- Narrative poetry tells a story and includes a setting, plot, and characters
- Narrative poetry describes a historic event or deeds of a hero

Sources

- Writers use sources to research the era, events, and people.
- Primary source: a first-hand account of an event
 - > Diaries, autobiographies, interviews, letters
- Secondary source: account of an event based on other sources
 - > Biographies, textbooks, historical fiction

Paraphrasing

- Restating the writer's ideas in your own words
- Include most important ideas
- Generally about the same length as the original
- Rewriting helps you understand what you've read and may provide ideas for further research

How to Apply the Skill

- Paraphrasing
 - > Question the main idea and supporting details
 - > Clarify the information
 - > Restate ideas in his or her own words
 - > Look for supporting evidence