Contents

Works are arranged chronologically, and chapters may have contrastive pieces from different periods. Bold print indicates the main readings in the chapter; regular print indicates contrastive readings.

For the Student xvii

1. Prelude to the Journey: Understanding Literature 1
   Robert Frost “Acquainted with the Night” (1928) 1
   Denise Levertov “On the Eve” (1964) 6
      “Arrived” (1964) 6
   Hamlin Garland From Main-Travelled Roads (1899) 11

2. Nineteenth-Century American Prose: The Short Story 27
   Nathaniel Hawthorne “The Canterbury Pilgrims” (1835) 28
   Maya Angelou “Is Love” (1990) 43
   Edgar Allan Poe “The Cask of Amontillado” (1846) 43
      “Alone” (1829) 56
   Kate Chopin “Madame Célestin’s Divorce” (1893) 57
   Anne Bradstreet “To My Dear and Loving Husband” (1678) 64
   Stephen Crane “A Mystery of Heroism” (1898) 66
      From War Is Kind (1899) 79

   Washington Irving From The Sketch Book (1819–20) 83
   Richard Henry Dana, Jr. From Two Years Before the Mast (1840) 96
   Arna Bontemps “Nocturne of the Wharves” (1931) 105
Contents

Henry David Thoreau
From Walden (1854) 106
From Journals (1856) 112

Harriet Jacobs
From Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl (1861) 116

Phillis Wheatley
From “To . . . William, Earl of Dartmouth” (1773) 124

Frances Harper
“The Slave Auction” (1857) 124

Harriet Beecher Stowe
From “Sojourner Truth: The Libyan Sibyl” (1863) 125

W. E. B. Du Bois
From The Souls of Black Folk (1903) 135

Langston Hughes
“The Negro Speaks of Rivers” (1921) 146

Frederick Douglass
From Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass (1845) 147

Appendix A: Glossary of Literary Terms 151

Appendix B: Writing a Critical Analysis 161
   Poetry Analysis Outline 161
   Prose Analysis Outline 161
   Example of a Critical Analysis 162

Appendix C: Writing a Summary 165
   Example of a Summary 167

Appendix D: Writing an Essay 169
   Example of an Essay 171

Appendix E: Writing a Synthesis 173
   Example of a Synthesis 175

Appendix F: Outline Worksheet 177
   Example of an Outline Worksheet 179

Appendix G: Writing a Poem 181

Index 183