



# The Poetry Handbook

By John Lennard

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This volume is a lucid and entertaining guide to the poet's craft, and an invaluable introduction to practical criticism for students. Chapters on each element of poetry offer a wide-ranging general account and end by looking at different poems, to build up sustained analytical readings.

The second edition--fully revised, expanded, updated, and supported by a new companion website--confirm *The Poetry Handbook* as the best guide to poetry available in English.

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### Editorial Review

#### Amazon.com Review

John Lennard subtitled his *Poetry Handbook*, "A Guide to Reading Poetry for Pleasure and Practical Criticism," and it's an apt description. The book covers meter and layout, rhyme and syntax, with poetic examples that whet the appetite for verse. Written with evident love for and knowledge of the subject, the handbook is a requisite reference for students of poetry and an inspirational refresher for anyone who's ever thrilled to the cadences of trochaic tetrameter, duples, and rising rhythms.

#### Review

Lennard succeeds in being as exhaustive as he can possibly be... Caroline Bertoneche, Universite de Provence Very readable... gives and excellent overview of poetry in English and will explain rhythm, metre and style. The Observer, February 2006

#### About the Author

John Lennard has taught at the universities of London and Cambridge, and for the Open University. He has published three books: *But I Digress* (1991), the best-selling *Poetry Handbook* (1996) and *The Drama Handbook* (2002). He is presently Dean of the Shakespeare Programme at the British-American Drama Academy in London; on the Global Virtual Faculty of Fairleigh Dickinson University; and teaches for the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge.

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