George Orwell is regarded as the greatest political writer in English of the twentieth century. The massive critical literature on Orwell has not only become extremely specialised, and therefore somewhat inaccessible to the non-scholar, but it has also contributed to and even created misconceptions about the man, the writer, and his literary legacy. For these reasons, an overview of Orwell's writing and influence is an indispensable resource. Chapters concentrate on the fiction and documentary writings, and also cover Orwell's prose style and such topics and issues of keen interest to readers as his literary style, patriotism, his positions on war and pacifism, and his anti-Communism.

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