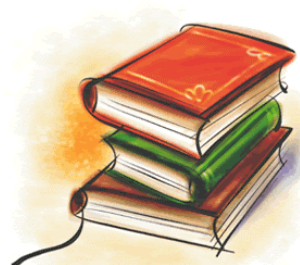


## Quotations about Literature

Great literature is simply language charged with meaning to the utmost possible degree. ~ Ezra Pound

We know too much and are convinced of too little. Our literature is a substitute for religion... ~ T.S. Eliot

In its conception the literature prize belongs to the days when a writer could still be thought of as, by virtue of his or her occupation, a sage, someone with no institutional affiliations who could offer an authoritative word on our times as well as on our moral life. ~ J.M. Coetzee



Literature adds to reality, it does not simply describe it. It enriches the necessary competencies that daily life requires and provides; and in this respect, it irrigates the deserts that our lives have already become. ~ C.S. Lewis

Literature could be said to be a sort of disciplined technique for arousing certain emotions. ~ Iris Murdoch

Literature is the expression of a feeling of deprivation, a recourse against a sense of something missing. ~ Octavio Paz

I hold that a writer who does not passionately believe in the perfectibility of man has no dedication nor any membership in literature. ~ John Steinbeck

Literature is strewn with the wreckage of men who have minded beyond reason the opinion of others. ~ Virginia Woolf

Observing humans and observing oneself yields a clear-minded starting point for literature. ~ Gao Xingjian

What is wonderful about great literature is that it transforms the man who reads it towards the condition of the man who wrote. ~ E.M. Forster

A classic is a book that has never finished saying what it has to say. ~ Italo Calvino