Contents

1.	Openings Changing the cognitive environment Conversation Ecologies of the imagination Recognizing life	1 1 2 6 7
2.	Cognitive Conversations Literary studies: a cognitive discipline Bridging the cultures: literature and science Reflective and pre-reflective cognition A model of communication Modes of embodied cognition Towards a cognitive criticism	12 12 15 21 24 28 31
3.	The Balloon of the Mind A micro-example: the balloon and the shed Close reading the cognitive way Thinking with Pooh: the balloon and the bees	32 32 40 42
4.	Literary Affordances How to sit on a chaise longue What is an affordance? Language as affordance Literary affordances: conventions, genres Form as affordance Cultural improvisation: agency and purpose	46 46 47 52 54 59 61
	Literary Imaginations Imitate the action Flights of the imagination Learning to imagine Cognitive fluidity and epistemic vigilance Imagination and memory Competing hemispheres Images, pale and vivid	63 63 67 69 73 75 76

Contents

xvi

6. Cognitive Figures	83
What counts as a metaphor?	83
The cognitive fluidity of the metaphorical spectrum	84
An array of implicatures	88
Ad hoc concepts and emergent properties	92
One thing leads to another	94
The limits of what is communicated	102
7. Cognitive Mimesis	106
Gloucester's imagined fall	106
Mind-reading on the edge	110
How to step over a chair	114
Mimesis, kinesis, and empathy	120
8. The Posture of Reading	123
The veranda: a cognitive vantage point	123
A narrative frame for cognitive dissonance	125
Towards a reflective consonance	135
9. Literary Values in a Cognitive Perspective	138
Fungible images	138
What is literature for?	139
Downstream conversations	145
Literature as a cognitive affordance	150
A sense of wonder: Eeyore's birthday presents	151
Virtual Manifesto for a Cognitive Approach to	
Literary Studies	155
Notes	159
Select Bibliography	
Index of Names	
Index of Sourcepts and Terms	
much of Comeps and Iems	196