

# Table of Contents

	Preface .....	xi
1	Introduction ..... Statement of purpose and plan. Human evolution and language. Urban civilization. History of writ- ing systems.	1
2	Mesopotamian Civilizations..... Cuneiform writing. Scribal schools. Bilingualism. Development of mathematics, astronomy, law, lit- erature.	15
3	The Aegean Bronze Age..... Cretan Civilization. Seapower. Wine, oil, and palaces. Linear A script. Mycenaean Greek and Linear B tablets.	29
4	The Greek Dark Age and Rebirth..... Loss of literacy. Mycenaean survivals in oral po- etry. The Greek Alphabet. Greek trade and col- onization. Spread of literacy. Law-codes, poetry and philosophy.	51
5	Classical Greece - The 5th Century..... The intellectual revolution. From mythical to logical thought. Literacy, the catalyst. Man's self- discovery. General functional literacy as basis of democracy.	75

6	The 4th Century - Plato and Aristotle.....	101
	Standardization of letters and spelling. Universal literacy. Plato's philosophy. Aristotle and Alexander. Aristotle's scientific method and philosophy.	
7	The Hellenistic Period.....	127
	Alexander's empire. Hellenization. The successors. The Alexandrian Library and Museum. Philosophic schools. Greek literacy conquers the East.	
8	Hellenism and the Jews .....	143
	Hellenization of the Jews. Reaction and revolt. Jewish independence. Religious and class conflict. Christianity and Roman occupation. Diaspora and the bond of literacy.	
9	Hellenism and Roman Literacy.....	163
	Hellenization of the Roman elite. Bilingual education and literacy. Latin literature. Hellenistic science: The great textbooks.	
10	Christianity and the Late Empire.....	179
	Pressure from without and internal conflict. The Eastern religions, Sol Invictus. Christianity - from persecuted to dominant. From Diocletian to Justinian. Collapse of the Western Empire.	
11	The Renaissance: Humanism .....	197
	Italian origins. Collection and restoration of manuscripts. The impact of printing. The European community of learning. Reformation. Classicism.	

12	The Renaissance: Science .....	215
	From printed classical texts to new beginnings. The revival of medical science. The Copernican revolution.	
13	From Copernicus to Newton .....	241
	Tycho Brahe, Johannes Kepler, Galileo.	
14	The 18th Century. ....	269
	Experimental science. The Age of Reason and American literacy. The American Revolution and its ancient models.	
15	The 19th Century .....	285
	The Industrial Revolution. Compulsory education and universal literacy. The golden age of the printed word.	
	Epilogue.....	295
	Present and future. The historic correlation be- tween literacy and intellectual advance. Cultural benefits. Literacy, rationality and logic. Dissenting voices. Effects of literate education on brain de- velopment. Clinical findings. Recent literature. Literacy in the electronic age.	
	Appendix .....	321
	The transmission of the great Hellenistic text- books to Renaissance Europe.	
	Bibliography.....	337
	Index.....	365