

SAMPLE of Database Record:

Arthur Conan Doyle

1859-1930

Nationality: English

Entry Updated : 09/21/2004

Place of Birth: Edinburgh, Scotland

Genre(s): Mystery/Crime/Suspense fiction, Romance/Historical fiction, Short Stories, Plays; Theology/Religion; Poetry, Essays; Travel/Exploration; History, Fiction; Novels

Award(s):

Knighthed, 1902.

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Special Note: The *Sidelights* section provides a bio-critical essay reviewing the life and works of author.

Personal Information: Family: Born May 22, 1859, in Edinburgh, Scotland; died of a heart attack, July 7, 1930, in Crowborough, Sussex, England; son of Charles Altamont (a civil servant and artist) and Mary (Foley) Doyle; married Louise Hawkins, August 6, 1885 (died, 1906); married Jean Leckie, September 18, 1907; children: (first marriage) Mary Louise, Kingsley, (second marriage) Denis, Adrian Malcolm, Lena Jean. Education: Edinburgh University, B.M., 1881, M.D., 1885. Memberships: British Society for Psychical Research.

Career: Novelist and physician. Assistant to physician in Birmingham, England, 1879; ship's surgeon on whaling voyage to Arctic, 1880; ship's surgeon on voyage to west coast of Africa, 1881-82; physician in Southsea, Portsmouth, England, 1882-90; ophthalmologist in London, England, 1891; writer. Lectured on spiritualism in Europe, Australia, the United States, and Canada, 1917-25, South Africa, 1928, and Sweden, 1929. Wartime service: Served during the Boer War as chief surgeon of a field hospital in Bloemfontein, South Africa, 1900.



City of Westminster

LIBRARIES

A Guide to the Contemporary Authors Database

www.westminster.gov.uk/libraries/ict/online


Contemporary Authors
Gale *Literary* Databases

From the Westminster Libraries: Online Services page located at <http://www.westminster.gov.uk/libraries/ict/online/> select the 'Contemporary Authors' button from the right side of the webpage.



If you are logging on from your home computer, you will be prompted to enter your library card number.

A separate browser window will open, allowing you to select the correct database.

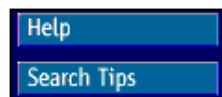


Contemporary Authors
Provides complete biographical and bibliographical information and references on more than 120,000 U.S. and international authors.
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Click on either the [Contemporary Authors](#) link or [Start Searching](#) link. You will then be taken to the search screen below.

The most common fields for searching are 'Author Name' or 'Title of Work' but as you can see you have many options including 'Nationality', 'Subject/Genre' or even 'Media Adaptations' if you scroll further down the webpage.

Type in search criteria into a field. In general, try to use two or three search terms. By using more search terms you will narrow your search. When you have selected criteria for your search, in this case, English author Arthur Conan Doyle, click on either grey 'Search' button.



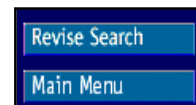
For more information about what each field name means or for more detailed search tips click on the 'Help' and 'Search Tips' buttons to the left of the searching fields.

After you have clicked on the search button, a new screen will display a summary of search results. Click on the link or links you think are most relevant to you.

Your search: (author arthur conan doyle) AND (nationality "English") AND (uz CA) AND (DT Criticism or Biography or Topic)
Found 1 Documents
Document(s) 1-1 of 1
Tip: To reorder these documents, click on the appropriate heading below.

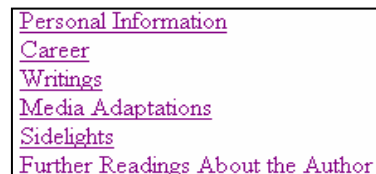
Score	Document Title	Source	Type
	Doyle, Arthur Conan "Arthur Conan Doyle," in Contemporary Authors. (A profile of the author's life and works)	Contemporary Authors	Biography

In this case, because we used the author's full name and nationality, the database returned one concise result. If you do not know the full name of the author you are looking for you may have to choose from many more results.



If you decide to enter more search criteria, you can return to the first search screen and add it without having to re-type information by clicking on the 'Revise Search' button on the left of your results. Or, you can do a new search by clicking on the 'Main Menu' button.

Clicking the 'Document Title' link will give you a full database report about the author. See sample on the back of this guide.



Please note that more information is available by clicking on links listed under *Table of Contents*. These links allow you to jump directly further down the webpage to listed topics.

Please close the database by closing the web browser window when you are done so that other library users will be able to log on to the system after you.