Contents

Acknowledgements xiii
Preface to the second edition xv

Introduction 1
  Beginning 1
  Postcolonialism? 2
  A note on terminology: or, on not using the hyphen 5

1 From ‘Commonwealth’ to ‘postcolonial’ 7
  Introduction 7
  Colonialism and decolonisation 7
  The emergence of ‘Commonwealth literature’ 12
  Theories of colonial discourses: Frantz Fanon and Edward Said 19
  The turn to ‘theory’ in the 1980s 26
  The Empire ‘writes back’ 28
  Into the twenty-first century 32
  ‘Postcolonialism’: definitions and dangers 38
  Selected reading 41

2 Reading colonial discourses 44
  Ideology, interpellation, discourse 44
  Reading Orientalism 47
  The shape of Orientalism 49
    1. Orientalism constructs binary oppositions 49
    2. Orientalism is a Western fantasy 50
3. Orientalism is institutional 50
4. Orientalism is literary and creative 51
5. Orientalism is legitimating and self-perpetuating 51
6. There is a distinction between ‘latent’ and ‘manifest’ Orientalism 51

3. Stereotypes of the Orient and Orientals 52
1. The Orient is timeless 52
2. The Orient is strange 53
3. Orientalism makes assumptions about people 53
4. Orientalism makes assumptions about gender 53
5. The Orient is feminine 54
6. The Oriental is degenerate 55

3. Criticisms of Orientalism 55
1. Orientalism is ahistorical 56
2. Said ignores resistance by the colonised 57
3. Said ignores resistance within the West 58
4. Said neglects the significance of gender 59

3. ‘Ambivalence’ and ‘mimicry’ in colonial discourses 61
Stop and think 67

Colonial discourses and Rudyard Kipling: reading 69
‘The Overland Mail’ 69
Selected reading 77

3 Nationalist representations 80
Introduction 80
Imagining the nation: forging tradition and history 81
Stop and think 86
Language, space, time 86
National liberation vs. imperialist domination 90
Negritude 93
Stop and think 99
Frantz Fanon, national culture and national consciousness 101
Nationalist discourses, national culture 109
Constructing national consciousness: Ngugi’s 111
A Grain of Wheat 111
Selected reading 120
Contents

4 The nation in question
   The disenchantment with nationalism 122
   Nationalism: a derivative discourse? 125
      Stop and think 128
   Nationalism, representation and the elite 129
   Nationalism, ‘race’ and ethnicity 131
      Stop and think 135
   Nationalism, gender and sexuality 135
   The nation and its margins 139
      Stop and think 143
   English in the colonies: a national language? 144
      English in the settler nations 144
      ‘Third World’ Englishes: elite discourses or nation language? 147
      Stop and think 152
   The nation in question: Chinua Achebe’s *Anthills of the Savannah* 152
      Stop and think 158
   Selected reading 159

5 Re-reading and re-writing English literature 162
   Interrogating the text 162
   Colonialism and the teaching of English literature 163
   Colonial contexts 168
      Stop and think 169
   Reading literature ‘contrapuntally’ 169
      Stop and think 172
   Re-reading Charlotte Brontë’s *Jane Eyre* 173
      Stop and think 181
   *Jane Eyre*: a postcolonial text? 181
      Stop and think 185
   Postcolonial re-writings: Jean Rhys, *Wide Sargasso Sea* 185
   ‘Re-writing’: possibilities and problems 193
      Stop and think 194
   Selected reading 194
6 Postcolonialism and feminism
Some definitions
The ‘double colonisation’ of women
Stop and think
Postcolonial critiques of ‘First World’ feminism
Feminism and ‘race’
Learning the limits of ‘First World’ feminism
‘Third World’ women
Stop and think
Can the subaltern speak?
‘Going a piece of the way’: creative dialogues in postcolonial feminism
Representing women in Sally Morgan’s My Place
Selected reading

7 Diaspora identities
Migration, colonialism and decolonisation
What is a ‘diaspora’?
‘Of, and not of, this place’: home and displacement
Living ‘in-between’: from roots to routes
Hybrid identities at the ‘in-between’
Stop and think
New ethnicities
Stop and think
Cultural diversity, cultural difference and the ‘Black Atlantic’
Moving pictures: Beryl Gilroy’s Boy-Sandwich
Selected reading

8 The limits of postcolonialism?
The habit of self-critique
Postcolonial times? The limits of temporality
New maps (f)or old? The limits of geography
The problem of ‘Western’ theory
The new ‘ghetto’ of postcolonialism
Postcolonialism, or the logic of capitalist modernity?
Postcolonialism or tricontinentalism? The limits of materialist critique
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contents</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Globalisation and 'postcoloniality': the new imperium?</td>
<td>303</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Where do we go from here?</td>
<td>313</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix: 'The Overland Mail (foot-service to the hills)'</td>
<td>315</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Rudyard Kipling)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Further reading</td>
<td>317</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Index</td>
<td>327</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>