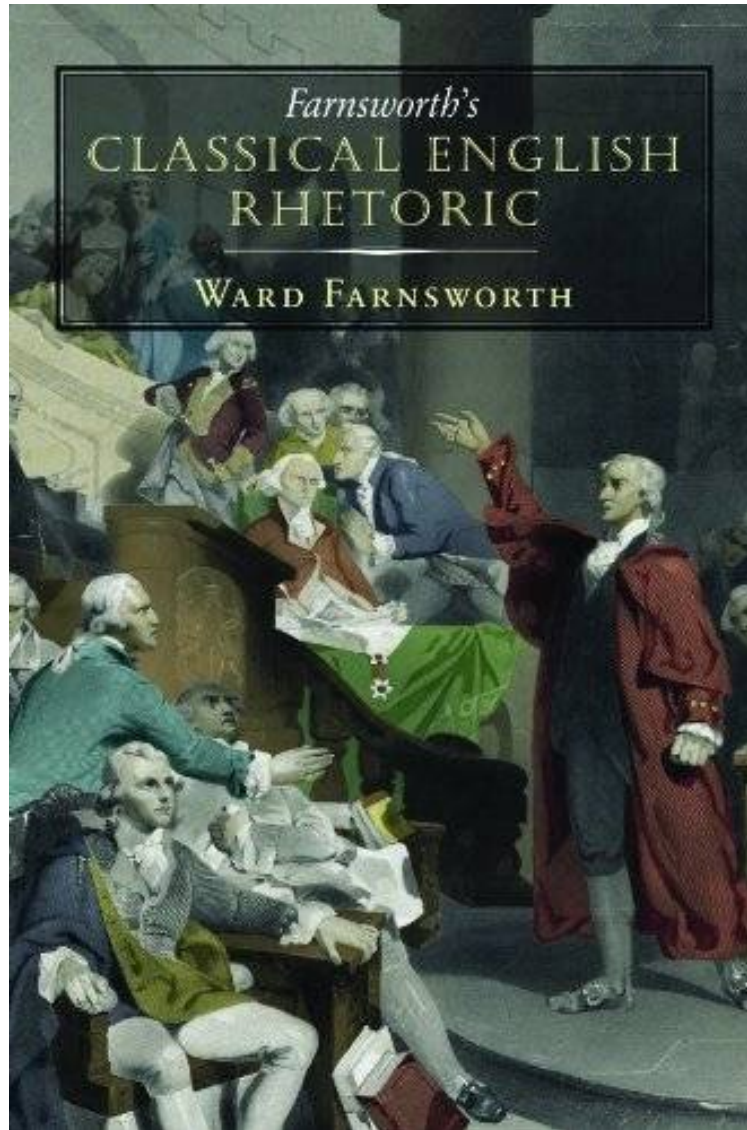


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Farnsworth's Classical English Rhetoric

Ward Farnsworth

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Ward Farnsworth : Farnsworth's Classical English Rhetoric before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Farnsworth's Classical English Rhetoric:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Appreciate rhetoric and the English languageBy D.H. GonzalezFor those who enjoy the aesthetic possibilities of written and spoken English, "Farnsworth's Classic English Rhetoric" must be in their library.Farnsworth's compilation of choice examples is comprehensive;it is not easily rivaled.He reviews 22 rhetorical figures (chapter 1 reviews 3 figures; chapter 7 considers antithesis with isocolon). All 22 figures

were selected for their practicality: all can be readily employed. A reviewer, Rhetorician (July 15, 2011), criticized this book for its incomprehensive treatment of rhetoric. That complaint can be dismissed. But Rhetorician is right, I think, to criticize Farnsworth's lack of specification. Farnsworth could at least have explicitly stated that he covers only rhetorical schemes; rhetorical tropes are important too and deserve treatment (Farnsworth, in the preface, agrees; hopefully he will compile a book of tropes). The distinction would have helped those less familiar with the various aspects of rhetoric. This does not affect my rating, however. This is a great book.----For those interested in tropes: I recommend looking at "Style and Statement" by Edward P. Corbett--though it is not as comprehensive as Farnsworth. Also worth looking at is "Power Writing, Power Speaking," an older book. The book is listed in the bibliography; it is not as comprehensive as Farnsworth either. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Buy this book if you intend to persuade with your writing. By J Wilson A splendid compendium of rhetorical devices used in English composition (presumably they would work for other languages, too). Arranged well, Farnsworth uses illustrations that perfectly express the device being discussed. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Mark E. Rhodes Collection of quotes from great (English) writers demonstrating rhetorical devices. Informative and inspirational.

Masters of language can turn unassuming words into phrases that are convincing, effective, and memorably beautiful. Lincoln and Churchill had this power: having heard their words once, one can scarcely imagine the world without them. What are the secrets of this alchemy? The answer lies in rhetoric, among the most ancient of academic disciplines. This book contains a lively set of lessons on the subject, a tutorial on eloquence conducted by virtuoso faculty: not just Lincoln and Churchill, but Dickens and Melville, Edmund Burke and Thomas Paine. The result is an indispensable book for the writer and the speaker, a highly useful reference tool, and a rewarding source of instruction for all lovers and users of the English language.

The most immediate pleasure of this book is that it heightens one's appreciation of the craft of great writers and speakers. Mr. Farnsworth includes numerous examples from Shakespeare and Dickens, Thoreau and Emerson, Winston Churchill and Abraham Lincoln. He also seems keen to rehabilitate writers and speakers whose rhetorical artistry is undervalued; besides his liking for Chesterton, he shows deep admiration for the Irish statesman Henry Grattan (1746-1820), whose studied repetition of a word (No lawyer can say so; because no lawyer could say so without forfeiting his character as a lawyer) is an instance, we are told, of *conduplicatio*. But more than anything Mr. Farnsworth wants to restore the reputation of rhetorical artistry per se, and the result is a handsome work of reference. --Henry Hitchings, Wall Street Journal So, dear reader, I say it even if I say it myself -- get this book! No, really, get this book! Read clever Farnsworth, and read him again, and you may become more clever yourself. --Carlin Romano, The Chronicle of Higher Education Many things, from dictators to advertising, have made modern people suspicious of and cynical about language mobilized to move us. Fortunately, Ward Farnsworth's delightful swim in a sea of well-chosen words should help to rehabilitate the reputation of rhetoric. --George F. Will, syndicated columnist From the Back Cover Advance Praise for Farnsworth's Classical English Rhetoric: Not only educational but delightful. - David Mamet I must refrain from shouting what a brilliant work this is (*prteritio*). Farnsworth has written the book as he ought to have written it - and as only he could have written it (*symploce*). Buy it and read it - buy it and read it (*epimone*). - Bryan A. Garner, author of The Elements of Legal Style Many things, from dictators to advertising, have made modern people suspicious of and cynical about language mobilized to move us. Fortunately, Ward Farnsworth's delightful swim in a sea of well-chosen words should help to rehabilitate the reputation of rhetoric. - George F. Will, syndicated columnist Every writer should have this book. - Erin McKean, editor of Verbatim: The Language Quarterly Ward Farnsworth's invaluable review of classical English rhetoric is not only a vital tool for aiding clear expression, but a timely reminder that, despite the confusion of the present technological age, human nature, and our ability to communicate in clear and often beautiful ways, are unchanging. - Victor Davis Hanson, co-author of Who Killed Homer?: The Demise of Classical Education the Recovery of Greek Wisdom About the Author Ward Farnsworth-lawyer, dean, teacher, and polymath-has produced another indispensable book for the writer. Classical English Metaphor will be a constant source of learning and enjoyment for anyone who appreciates the art of observation and the pleasure of well-chosen words.