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INVENTION IN RHETORIC AND COMPOSITION

JANICE M. LAUER

Invention in Rhetoric and Composition

Janice M. Lauer

INVENTION IN RHETORIC AND COMPOSITION examines issues that have surrounded historical and contemporary theories and pedagogies of rhetorical invention, citing a wide array of positions on these issues in both primary rhetorical texts and secondary interpretations. It presents theoretical disagreements over the nature, purpose, and epistemology of invention and pedagogical debates over such issues as the relative importance of art, talent, imitation, and practice in teaching discourse. After a discussion of treatments of invention from the Sophists to the nineteenth century, Invention in Rhetoric and Composition introduces a range of early twentiethcentury multidisciplinary theories and calls for invention's awakening in the field of English Studies. It then showcases inventional theories and pedagogies that have emerged in the field of Rhetoric and Composition over the last four decades, including the ensuing research, critiques, and implementations of this inventional work. As a reference guide, the text offers a glossary, an annotated bibliography of selected texts, and an extensive bibliography.

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