

OA.1077

Wang, Zuoliang, 'The Twentieth Century' (part 2), chapter 8 of *Yingguo sanwen de liubian* [*The Development of the English Essay*], 2nd ed. (Beijing, 2011: Shangwu Yinshuguan [The Commercial Press]), 307–11

Summary

Analyses IB's jargon-free essayistic style, using his letter to the *The Times Literary Supplement* replying to Gabriel Josipovici (16–22 February 1990, 171) as a text. Quotes (311) Wilson's letter about IB (6 June 1949 to Mamaine Koestler): 'we spent the whole time talking brilliantly, covering rapidly, but with astonishing knowledge, sure intelligence, and breathtaking wit, an incredible variety of subjects'. Wang (1916–95) was one of the best Chinese humanists of the twentieth century – a famous poet and an admired scholar of English literature who translated many English poems into Chinese, and wrote a number of books on English literature. He was a student of William Empson when Empson taught in China during the Sino-Japanese war. After the war, from 1947 to 1949, he studied at Merton College, Oxford.