Aristotle is himself the best introduction to what Aristotle thought and meant. Reading and rereading is, indeed, the only introduction to the writings of a philosopher, or a poet, or a scientist, whose influence on the vision, thought, and comprehension of mankind has been long and complex. In attentive reading, each line, each argument, and each structured part serves in turn as introduction to what is read next, and each reconsideration deepens and enriches the conception and interpretation of what is successively or recurrently encountered and fitted into place. Aristotle's influence on men's thought has been variegated. There have been many interpretations of his philosophy in the past, and many are current today. This introduction to Aristotle is not an interpretation. It is a selection from the writings of Aristotle, in which Aristotle speaks for himself about philosophical problems and basic ideas, methods, and distinctions used in treating them. It is left to the reader to judge for himself whether Aristotle has made use of what he has said about methods to relate the various parts of his work to each other. The reader is given the means and the matter to form his own interpretation and the opportunity to use that interpretation as a basis for speculating and for inquiring further into philosophic problems and into Aristotle's influence on their formulation and treatment.