
neoclassical and contemporary theories of metaphor the book's entries complicate received ideas about locke's blank slate question m h abrams claims about mirrors and lamps and chart changing frequencies of metal metaphors in a moment of industrial revolution the book also responds to current anxieties about reading and the mass digitization of literature touching on recent discussions of distant reading shallow reading and surface reading promoting critical and creative anachronism metaphors of mind redefines the notion of an archive in the age of amazon and google books for centuries writers have used participatory experience as a lens through which to better see the world at large and as a means of exploring the self considering various types of participatory writing as different strains of one style immersion writing robin hemley offers new perspectives and practical advice for writers of this nonfiction genre immersion writing can be broken down into the broad categories of travel writing immersion memoir and immersion journalism using the work of such authors as barbara ehrenreich hunter s thompson ted conover a j jacobs nellie bly julio cortazar and james agee hemley examines these three major types of immersion writing and further identifies the subcategories of the quest the experiment the investigation the infiltration and the reenactment included in the book are helpful exercises models for immersion writing and a chapter on one of the most fraught subjects for nonfiction writers the ethics and legalities of writing about other people a field guide for immersion writing recalibrates and redefines the way writers approach their relationship to their subjects suitable for beginners and advanced writers the book provides an enlightening provocative and often amusing look at the ways in which nonfiction writers engage with the world around them a friend's fund publication ammon shea was ten when he first discovered the joy of reading a dictionary rather than using it to look a word up little did he imagine that one day he would spend over 1 000 and sacrifice an entire bookcase and a whole year to the twenty volumes that make up the king of all reference books the oxford english dictionary it was a year that changed his life not least when he fell in love with a lexicographer in this hilarious personal and fascinating book with a chapter for each letter of the alphabet shea introduces us to hundreds of words he discovered that deserve to see the light of day again and explains why want to know the word for the area on your back that you can't reach to scratch acnestis or the term for the smell of earth just after a rainstorm petrichor or perhaps you're just looking for the word to describe that feeling of saying enough satisfaction this book is all you need the english poet w h auden was once asked to teach a poetry class 200 students applied but he only had space for 20 when asked how he chose his students he said he picked only those who truly loved words wordcatcher is a book for just such people people who are fascinated by words their origins history and meaning who would ever have thought the country of canada was named after a mistake or that all the adventures of ancient greek sailors rest on the word nostalgia cousineau's delightful and fascinating book is the perfect gift for anyone with a love of words there's this boy let's say he's somewhere between nine and thirteen years old or so you'd like to see this kid get creative you'd like to see him get some exercise you'd like to see him get out from in front of the television and you'd love for him to be motivated enough to find some stuff to do on his own this boy needs the big book of boy stuff what do i do if i get a bean stuck up my nose how can i make lightning without killing myself where can i find new practical jokes to play on my friends and family how can i make a rocket what is the best way to poop outside how do i tell a girl i like her why would i tell a girl i like her how many mosquitoes does it take to suck all the blood out of a person what's that smell and many many more this big thick durable book includes fascinating chapters on gross stuff magic emergencies fireworks games experiments jokes activities insults pets flying things and of course duct tape no boyhood is complete without a copy a collection of essays that offer a methodological framework for the history of reading focusing on a specific historical moment it gathers statistics about such issues as literacy rates library subscriptions publication and sales figures and print runs to answer questions about what was being read and by whom in a particular place and time the first regional dictionary devoted to the island's linguistic and cultural history the dictionary of cape breton english is a fascinating record of the island's rich vocabulary a history of english from the age of beowulf to the rap of eminem written with real authority enthusiasm and love for our unruly and exquisite language the washington post many have written about the evolution of grammar pronunciation and vocabulary but only seth lerer situates these developments within the larger history of english america and literature this edition of his remarkable linguistic investigation booklist features a new chapter on the influence of biblical translation and an epilogue on the relationship of english speech to writing a unique blend of historical and personal narrative both erudite and accessible the globe and mail inventing english is the surprising tale of a language that is as dynamic as the people to whom it belongs lerer is not just a scholar he's also a fan of english his passion is evident on every page of this examination of how our language came to sound and look as it does and how words came to have their current meanings the book percolates with creative energy and will please anyone intrigued by how our richly variegated language came to be publishers weekly starred review this book is designed to help readers punctuate confidently and effectively through enjoyable and illuminating lessons that draw on the words of great writers celebrities and historical figures chapters begin with quotes that exemplify good punctuation so that readers build proper punctuation skills from context the quotations themselves are instructive and interesting coming from notable or amusing historical and cultural figures brief essays illuminate the history of each punctuation mark and its rules of usage knowledge is of two kinds said samuel johnson in 1775 we know a subject ourselves or we know where we can find information upon it today we think of wikipedia as the source of all information the ultimate reference yet it is just the latest in a long line of aggregated knowledge reference works that have shaped the way we've seen the world for centuries you could look it up chronicles the captivating stories behind these great works and their contents and the way they have influenced each other from the code of hammurabi the earliest known compendium of laws in ancient babylon almost two millennia before christ to pliny's natural history from the 11th century domesday book recording land holdings in england to abraham ortelius's first atlas of the world from samuel johnson's a dictionary of the english language to the whole earth catalog to google jack lynch illuminates the human stories and accomplishment behind each as well as its enduring impact on civilization in the process he offers new insight into the value of knowledge alex horne loves words he loves them so much in fact that he's gone on a mental safari and invented some of his own all he needs to do now is get them into the dictionary but as alex discovers gaining entry into the official lexicon takes more than just a gentle word in the ear of the editor evidence is required alex needs what the dictionary authorities call a corpus of examples hard data showing that his new words are in widespread and long term usage by people other than just him and his mum so a corpus he resolves to create no matter what obstacles he might meet on the way this is the ridiculous story of one man's struggle to break into the dictionary from covert word dropping on countdown to wilfully misinforming young schoolchildren alex tries it all in his quest for word based stardom does he succeed exactly what is a mental safari and are you already using one of alex's words without realising it you won't regret spending your hard earned honk on this hugely entertaining book containing up to the minute research and providing many moments of dog

behavior recognition this lively and absorbing book helps dog owners to see their best friend s behavior in a different and revealing light

o

Reading the OED 2008-07-02

an obsessive word lover s account of reading the entire oxford english dictionary hailed as the super size me of lexicography i m reading the oed so you don t have to says ammon shea on his slightly masochistic journey to scale the word lover s mount everest the oxford english dictionary in 26 chapters filled with sharp wit sheer delight and a documentarian s keen eye shea shares his year inside the oed delivering a hair pulling eye crossing account of reading every word

Reading the Oxford English Dictionary 2008-10-02

if you are interested in vocabulary that is both spectacularly useful and beautifully useless read on i have read the oed so you don t have to weighing in at 137 pounds the oxford english dictionary is the word lover s everest and the world s most exhaustive and exhausting dictionary for instance there are over 60 000 words on the various meanings of set and un goes on for 451 pages like a lexicographical edmund hillary ammon shea set out to boldly read where no reader has gone before from cover to cover reading the oed gives a very funny account of his coffee fuelled twelve months lost inside its 20 volumes divided into 26 chapters one per letter of the alphabet this book is part personal narrative exploring everything from love to glasses to the superiority of books over computers and part a collection of shea s favourite discoveries these span from the oddly useful parabore a defence against bores to the downright bizarre natiform shaped like buttocks and takes in nashe s eight different kinds of drunkenness and all kinds of other strangely memorable information along the way filled with curiosities delights and surprises reading the oed is a feast for language obsessives from a man who loves words perhaps a little too much

Bad English 2014-06-03

the author of reading the oed presents an eye opening look at language mistakes and how they came to be accepted as correct or not english is a glorious mess of a language cobbled together from a wide variety of sources and syntaxes and changing over time with popular usage many of the words and usages we embrace as standard and correct today were at first considered slang impolite or just plain wrong whether you consider yourself a stickler a nitpicker or a rule breaker in the know bad english is sure to enlighten enrage and perhaps even inspire filled with historic and contemporary examples the book chronicles the long and entertaining history of language mistakes and features some of our most common words and phrases including decimate hopefully enormity that which enervate energize bemuse amuse literally figuratively ain t irregardless socialist omg stupider lively surprising funny and delightfully readable this is a book that will settle arguments among word lovers and it s sure to start a few too

The Phone Book 2010-10-05

read ammon shea s blogs and other content on the penguin community a surprising lively and rich history of that ubiquitous doorstep that most of us take for granted ammon shea is not your typical thirtysomething book enthusiast after reading the oxford english dictionary from cover to cover and living to write about it in reading the oed what classic familiar but little read book would he turn to next yes the phone book with his signature combination of humor curiosity and passion for combing the dustbins of history shea offers readers a guided tour into the surprising strange and often hilarious history of the humble phone book from the first printed version in 1878 it had fifty listings and no numbers to the phone book s role in presidential elections supreme court rulings senate filibusters abstract art subversive poetry circus sideshows criminal investigations mental health diagnoses and much more this surprising volume reveals a rich and colorful story that has never been told until now

2004-08

41

2010-11

oed

OED 2021-06-22

2016-10-25

sns

The Word Detective 2015-07-01

can you drink a glass of balderdash what do you call the part of a dog s back it can t scratch and if serendipitously you find yourself in serendip then where exactly are you the answers to all of these questions and a great many more can be found in the pages of the oxford english dictionary the definitive record of the english language and there is no better guide to the dictionary s many wonderments than the former chief editor of the oed john simpson simpson spent almost four decades of his life immersed in the intricacies of our language and guides us through its history with charmingly laconic wit in the word detective an intensely personal memoir and a joyful celebration of english he weaves a story of how words come into being and sometimes disappear how culture shapes the language we use and how technology has transformed not only the way we speak and write but also how words are made throughout he enlivens his narrative with lively excavations and investigations of individual words from deadline to online and back to 101 yes it s a word all the while reminding us that the seemingly mundane words can you name the four different meanings of ma are often the most interesting ones but simpson also reminds us of the limitations of language spending his days in the oed s house of words his family at home is forced to confront the challenges of wordlessness a brilliant and deeply humane expedition through the world of words the word detective will delight and inspire any lover of language

Metaphors of Mind 2010

a pathbreaking introduction to eighteenth century metaphors of the mind that recasts the grand narrative of the enlightenment in terms of its tropes and figures an encyclopedic dictionary along the lines of voltaire s classic dictionnaire philosophique metaphors of mind provides an in depth look at the myriad ways in which enlightenment writers used figures of speech to characterize the mind drawn from brad pasanek s massive online archive metaphorized net this volume constitutes a veritable treasury of mental metaphors dividing the book into eleven broad metaphorical categories animals coinage court empire fetters impressions inhabitants metal mirror rooms and writing pasanek maps out constellations of metaphors he frames his collection of literary excerpts in each section with a more descriptive and theoretical discussion of what he calls desultory reading a form of unsystematic perusal of writing frequently employed by enlightenment thinkers by surveying the printed past alongside the digital present the book treats eighteenth century writing as its topic while essentially exemplifying its rhetorical approach more than an exercise in quotation this intellectual history offers illuminating readings of fragmentary literary works and confrontations with neoclassical and contemporary theories of metaphor the book s entries complicate received ideas about locke s blank slate question m h abrams claims about mirrors and lamps and chart changing frequencies of metal metaphors in a moment of industrial revolution the book also responds to current anxieties about reading and the mass digitization of literature touching on recent discussions of distant reading shallow reading and surface reading promoting critical and creative anachronism metaphors of mind redefines the notion of an archive in the age of amazon and google books

The Missouri Review 2012

for centuries writers have used participatory experience as a lens through which to better see the world at large and as a means of exploring the self considering various types of participatory writing as different strains of one style immersion writing robin hemley offers new perspectives and practical advice for writers of this nonfiction genre immersion writing can be broken down into the broad categories of travel writing immersion memoir and immersion journalism using the work of such authors as barbara ehrenreich hunter s thompson ted conover a j jacobs nellie bly julio cortazar and james agee hemley examines these three major types of immersion writing and further identifies the subcategories of the quest the experiment the investigation the infiltration and the reenactment included in the book are helpful exercises models for immersion writing and a chapter on one of the most fraught subjects for nonfiction writers the ethics and legalities of writing about other people a field guide for immersion writing recalibrates and redefines the way writers approach their relationship to their subjects suitable for beginners and advanced writers the book provides an enlightening provocative and often amusing look at the ways in which nonfiction writers engage with the world around them a friends fund publication

A Field Guide for Immersion Writing 2010-05-06

ammon shea was ten when he first discovered the joy of reading a dictionary rather than using it to look a word up little did he imagine that one day he would spend over 1 000 and sacrifice an entire bookcase and a whole year to the twenty volumes that make up the king of all reference books the oxford english dictionary it was a year that changed his life not least when he fell in love with a lexicographer in this hilarious personal and fascinating book with a chapter for each letter of the alphabet shea introduces us to hundreds of words he discovered that deserve to see the light of day again and explains why want to know the word for the area on your back that you can t reach to scratch acnestis or the term for the smell of earth just after a rainstorm petrichor or perhaps you re just looking for the word to describe that feeling of saying enough satsidiction this book is all you need

Satsidiction 2010-04-13

the english poet w h auden was once asked to teach a poetry class 200 students applied but he only had space for 20 when asked how he chose his students he said he picked only those who truly loved words wordcatcher is a book for just such people people who are fascinated by words their origins history and meaning who would ever have thought the country of canada was named after a mistake or that all the adventures of ancient greek sailors rest on the word nostalgia cousineau s delightful and fascinating book is the perfect gift for anyone with a love of words

Wordcatcher 2004-07-15

there s this boy let s say he s somewhere between nine and thirteen years old or so you d like to see this kid get creative you d like to see him get some exercise you d like to see him get out from in front of the television and you d love for him to be motivated enough to find some stuff to do on his own this boy needs the big book of boy stuff what do i do if i get a bean stuck up my nose how can i make lightning without killing myself where can i find new practical jokes to play on my friends and family how can i make a rocket what is the best way to poop outside how do i tell a girl i like her why would i tell a girl i like her how many mosquitoes does it take to suck all the blood out of a person what s that smell and many many more this big thick durable book includes fascinating chapters on gross stuff magic emergencies fireworks games experiments jokes activities insults pets flying things and of course duct tape no boyhood is complete without a copy

The Big Book of Boy Stuff 2010

a collection of essays that offer a methodological framework for the history of reading focusing on a specific historical moment it gathers statistics about such issues as literacy rates library subscriptions publication and sales figures and print runs to answer questions about what was being read and by whom in a particular place and time

Braille Book Review 2009

the first regional dictionary devoted to the island s linguistic and cultural history the dictionary of cape breton english is a fascinating record of the island s rich vocabulary

The New York Times Magazine 2015-10-06

a history of english from the age of beowulf to the rap of eminem written with real authority enthusiasm and love for our unruly and exquisite language the washington post many have written about the evolution of grammar pronunciation and vocabulary but only seth lerer situates these developments within the larger history of english america and literature this edition of his remarkable linguistic investigation booklist features a new chapter on the influence of biblical translation and an epilogue on the relationship of english speech to writing a unique blend of historical and personal narrative both erudite and accessible the globe and mail inventing english is the surprising tale of a language that is as dynamic as the people to whom it belongs lerer is not just a scholar he s also a fan of english his passion is evident on every page of this examination of how our language came to sound and look as it does and how words came to have their current meanings the book percolates with creative energy and will please anyone intrigued by how our richly variegated language came to be publishers weekly starred review

Reading in History 2016-01-01

this book is designed to help readers punctuate confidently and effectively through enjoyable and illuminating lessons that draw on the words of great writers celebrities and historical figures chapters begin with quotes that exemplify good punctuation so that readers build proper punctuation skills from context the quotations themselves are instructive and interesting coming from notable or amusing historical and cultural figures brief essays illuminate the history of each punctuation mark and its rules of usage

Dictionary of Cape Breton English 2010

knowledge is of two kinds said samuel johnson in 1775 we know a subject ourselves or we know where we can find information upon it today we think of wikipedia as the source of all information the ultimate reference yet it is just the latest in a long line of aggregated knowledge reference works that have shaped the way we ve seen the world for centuries you could look it up chronicles the captivating stories behind these great works and their contents and the way they have influenced each other from the code of hammurabi the earliest known compendium of laws in ancient babylon almost two millennia before christ to pliny s natural history from the 11th century domesday book recording land holdings in england to abraham ortelius s first atlas of the world from samuel johnson s a dictionary of the english language to the whole earth catalog to google jack lynch illuminates the human stories and accomplishment behind each as well as its enduring impact on civilization in the process he offers new insight into the value of knowledge

Humanities 2015-08-25

alex horne loves words he loves them so much in fact that he s gone on a mental safari and invented some of his own all he needs to do now is get them into the dictionary but as alex discovers gaining entry into the official lexicon takes more than just a gentle word in the ear of the editor evidence is required alex needs what the dictionary authorities call a corpus of examples hard data showing that his new words are in widespread and long term usage by people other than just him and his mum so a corpus he resolves to create no matter what obstacles he might meet on the way this is the ridiculous story of one man s struggle to break into the dictionary from covert word dropping on countdown to wilfully misinforming young schoolchildren alex tries it all in his quest for word based stardom does he succeed exactly what is a mental safari and are you already using one of alex s words without realising it you won t regret spending your hard earned honk on this hugely entertaining book

Inventing English 2017

containing up to the minute research and providing many moments of dog behavior recognition this lively and absorbing book helps dog owners to see their best friend s behavior in a different and revealing light

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