

Modern English Usage

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why literally shouldn't be taken literally why americans think home in on something is a mistake and brits think hone in is is it ok to spell ok okay what's wrong with hence why was alanis morissette ever ironic fowler's dictionary of modern english usage is the world famous guide to english usage loved and used by writers editors and anyone who values correct english since it first appeared in 1926 fowler's gives comprehensive and practical advice on complex points of grammar syntax punctuation style and word choice now enlarged and completely revised to reflect english usage in the 21st century it provides a crystal clear authoritative picture of the english we use while illuminating scores of usage questions old and new international in scope it gives in depth coverage of both british and american english usage issues with reference also to the english of australia canada india new zealand and south africa the thousands of authentic examples in the book vividly demonstrate

revised edition of an english language dictionary comprising up to date definitions and guidelines as an aid in the correct use in writing and speaking of frequently misused words

what grammarians say should be has perhaps less influence on what shall be than even the more modest of them realize no book had more influence on twentieth century attitudes to the english language in britain than henry fowler s dictionary of modern english usage it rapidly became the standard work of reference for the correct use of english in terms of choice of words grammar and style much loved for his firm opinions passion and dry humour fowler has stood the test of time and is still considered the best arbiter of good practice in this new edition of the original dictionary david crystal goes beyond the popular mythology surrounding fowler s reputation to retrace his method and arrive at a fresh evaluation of his place in the history of linguistic thought with a wealth of entertaining examples he looks at fowler s stated principles and the tensions between his prescriptive and descriptive temperaments he shows that the dictionary does a great more than make normative recommendations and express private opinion in addition he offers a modern perspective on some 300 entries in which he shows how english has changed since the 1920s about the series for over 100 years oxford world s classics has made available the widest range of literature from around the globe each affordable volume reflects oxford s commitment to scholarship providing the most accurate text plus a wealth of other valuable features including expert introductions by leading authorities helpful notes to clarify the text up to date bibliographies for further study and much more

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renowned for its authority and wit this is the standard work on the correct but natural use of english completely revised and expanded it provides guidance on grammar syntax and style

the authority on grammar usage and style

for over seventy years modern english usage has been the standard work on the correct but natural use of english renowned for its authority and wit fowler has become a household name in all english speaking countries this edition published in 1927 sold over 60 000 copies in its first year and quickly became the benchmark for all points of grammar syntax and style its influence has extended even to the battlefield churchill wrote to the director of

military intelligence about the plans for the invasion of normandy why must you write intensive here intense is the right word you should read fowler s modern english usage on the use of the two words the early reviews attest to its on going success as a practical and clear arbiter of what is best practice in the written language it was and is heralded as brilliant comprehensive thoughtful thorough fresh and pungent wise witty vigorous absorbing back cover

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a guide to proper american english word usage grammar pronunciation and style features examples of good and bad usage from the media

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