

The English Language A Guided Tour Of David Crystal

essay from the year 2008 in the subject didactics for the subject english discussion and essays grade 1 3 uni jena de course writing ii language english abstract david crystal who currently holds a position as honorary professor and part time lecturer of linguistics at the university of wales bangor is a renowned author and editor whose works are mainly in the field of english language studies he worked under randolph quirk as a researcher in the early 1960s and received an order of the british empire obe for his services to the english language in 1995 crystal is the patron of the international association of teachers of english as a foreign language iatefl and the association for language learning all but is according to his website1 best known for his two encyclopedias for cambridge university press the cambridge encyclopedia of language and the cambridge encyclopedia of the english language in his article emerging englishes which was published in the educational magazine spotlight april 2000 54 58 as a reworked version titled english which way now crystal lobbies for an international standard english as a possible solution for the increasing number of english variants throughout the world

a history of the english language draws on the diversity of dialects and regional accents around the world as well as the dialects that appear in a variety of literary classics to explain the significance of the language

this is the definitive survey of the english language in all its forms crystal writes accessibly about the structure of the language the uses of english throughout the world and finally he gives a brief history of english the book has been fully revised and there is a fascinating new chapter on the effect of technology on the english language illuminating guided tour of our common treasure by one of its most lucid and sensible professionals the times a splendid blend of erudition and entertainment the

lynne truss *s eats shoots and leaves* injected new life into the long standing arguments over rights and wrongs in english usage now david crystal brings together his own distinctive style and unique expertise to provide the first thorough going assessment of the ongoing debate with a lively humorous and accessible approach crystal charts the battles past and present illustrating the characters and attitudes involved from a wide range of written sources he combines a chronological survey of key influences in the area of usage with discussion of particular themes such as punctuation spelling and pronunciation and he looks ahead to the future in the context of recent education policy shifts a positive and compelling case is made for variation in usage of english based on appropriateness of situation arguing that zero tolerance in relation to language is a profoundly flawed approach crystal offers an original and authoritative counter argument to the prescriptivist agenda that has been expounded in many accounts of english usage over the years the fight for english is the book that everyone concerned with english usage has been eagerly awaiting

words words words is all about the wonder of words drawing on a lifetime's experience david crystal explores language in all its rich varieties through words the very building blocks of our communication language has no life of its own it only exists in the mouths and ears hands eyes and brains of its users as we are guided expertly and passionately through the mysteries and delights of word origins histories spellings regional and social variations taboo words jargon and wordplay the contribution we all play in shaping the linguistic world around us becomes evident words words words is a celebration of what we say and how we say it it invites us to engage linguistically with who we are to understand what words tell us about where we come from and what we do and as they continually shape our lives it suggests ways that we can look at words anew and get involved with collecting and coining words ourselves

the world's greatest authority on language explains the secrets and subtleties of the grammar of english david crystal explores its history and varieties explains its rules and irregularities and shows how to navigate its snares and pitfalls he gives practical guidance on how grammar is used in different ways for different purposes and in different social settings in a series of revealing illustrations he also considers what learned and prominent people have said about english grammar over the centuries like its three companion volumes making sense will appeal to everyone interested in the english language and how to use it

history of the english language its grammar vocabulary and stylistic variations

this new edition of david crystal's classic book is the definitive survey of english in all its global variations despite the astonishingly widespread use of english each speaker makes it their own whenever we write or speak we give away a great deal about ourselves by our choices in pronunciation dialect vocabulary and grammar this fascinating book explores the way the language has developed and examines the factors that unify it and the variations that divide it both nationwide and worldwide now completely revised the english language takes into account the phenomenal influence of the internet as well as social and political changes recent neologisms developments in the media and shifting preferences in accent and dialect there is also a new chapter on the effect of technology on english and a final discussion of the future of the language book jacket

we are living through the consequences of a linguistic revolution dramatic linguistic change has left us at the beginning of a new era in the evolution of human language with repercussions for many individual languages in this book david crystal one of the world's authorities on language brings together for the first time the three major trends which he argues have fundamentally altered the world's linguistic ecology first the emergence of english as the world's first truly global language second the crisis facing huge numbers of languages which are currently endangered or dying and third the radical effect on language of the arrival of internet technology examining the interrelationships between these topics crystal encounters a vision of a linguistic future which is radically different from what has existed in the past and which will make us revise many cherished concepts relating to the way we think about and work with languages everyone is affected by this linguistic revolution the language revolution will be essential reading for anyone interested in language and communication in the twenty first century

featuring latinate and celtic words weasel words and nonce words ancient words loaf to cutting edge twittersphere and spanning the indispensable words that shape our tongue and what to the more fanciful fopdoodle crystal takes us along the winding byways of language via the rude the obscure and the downright surprising in this unique new history of the world's most ubiquitous language linguistics expert david crystal draws on words that best illustrate the huge variety of sources influences and events that have helped to shape our vernacular since the first definitively english word was written down in the fifth century roe in case you are wondering

the internet is now an integral part of contemporary life and linguists are increasingly studying its influence on language in this student friendly guidebook leading language authority professor david crystal follows on from his landmark bestseller language and the internet and presents the area as a new field internet linguistics in his engaging trademark style crystal addresses the online linguistic issues that affect us on a daily basis incorporating real life examples drawn from his own studies and personal involvement with internet companies he provides new linguistic analyses of twitter internet security and online advertising explores the evolving multilingual character of the internet and offers illuminating observations about a wide range of online behaviour from spam to exclamation marks including many activities and suggestions for further research this is the essential introduction to a critical new field for students of all levels of english language linguistics and new media

summary english is spoken or written today by a third of the world's population an unprecedented achievement for a language

how has this situation come about and what happens to a language when it is used by so many in this illustrated history david crystal charts the development of the language from the earliest runic inscriptions in old english through the emergence of a standard variety of english between 1400 and 1800 to the most modern forms of the language in concrete and text poetry in telling the story he draws on examples from english in its various guises and uses from our everyday english to english in the workplace and english used as a medium of playful and literary expression the regional and international varieties of english are also considered this book shows us where language is now where it has been and perhaps most important of all where it is heading for the new varieties of the language appearing in world literature and on the internet show that this is a story which is by no means over

in this concise user friendly book david crystal draws on his extensive knowledge and experience to answer questions from english language teachers and learners from around the world the book covers topics ranging from general enquiries about the language as a whole to specific points of grammar pronunciation orthography vocabulary idiom and style the author s responses are illustrated by personal anecdotes placed within historical and literary context and supported by research and corpus data to provide unique authentic insights

david crystal ends his triumphant trilogy about the english language by looking at the way we punctuate and why

in this fascinating survey of everything from how sounds become speech to how names work david crystal answers every question you might ever have had about the nuts and bolts of language in his usual highly illuminating way along the way we find out about eyebrow flashes whistling languages how parents teach their children to speak how politeness travels across languages and how the way we talk show not just how old we are but where we re from and even who we want to be

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