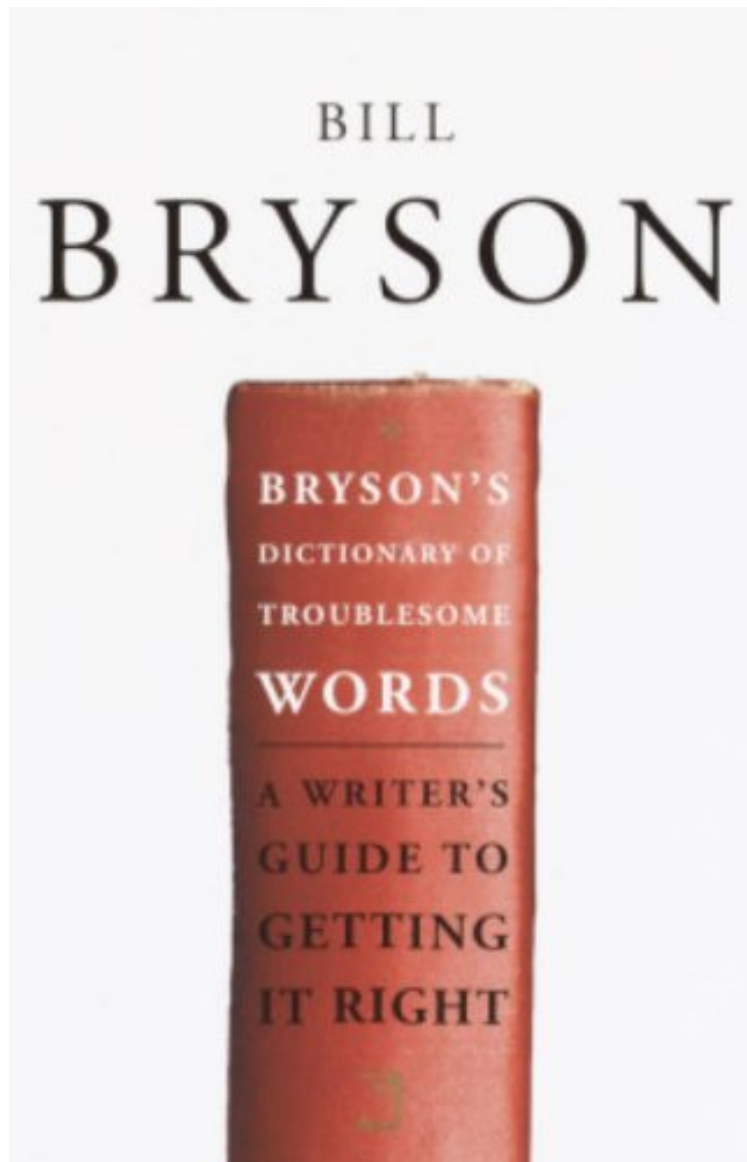


(Read free ebook) Bryson's Dictionary of Troublesome Words

Bryson's Dictionary of Troublesome Words

Von Bill Bryson

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Von Bill Bryson : Bryson's Dictionary of Troublesome Words before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Bryson's Dictionary of Troublesome Words:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A rather boring alphabetical list of words you should/shouldn't use in well written EnglishVon PhilippeHI have read several of Bill Bryson's books and have always enjoyed the way he can write interesting history books while focusing on

everyday items. I had expected "Troublesome Words" to be a similar book: historic anecdotes and insights based upon words we use everyday without realising they happen to have a history. Instead you get a rather boring alphabetical list of words you should/shouldn't use in well written English, of words that are often spelled wrongly. The book is concerned with issues like: should you write "the United States are" or "the United States is", what kind of interpunction should you use with abbreviations (NATO, Nato or N.A.T.O. or still something else). This book might help people who are looking for a style guide, but it has little or nothing to do with the more historical und infinitely more readable history books by the same author. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Stolpersteine der englischen Sprache Von Helmut Mhlig Eine Zusammenstellung schwieriger Wrter, die zur weiterfhrenden Erlernung der englischen Sprache wichtig ist. Habe es fr meine Tochter, die Englischlehrerin ist besorgt. 39 von 42 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. very interesting and helpfull Von A. Hofmann English is not my native language, so it is often troublesome for me to see the difference between two words that have the same meaning in german. The book helps to better understand and use words that are easy to put in a wrong place. It gives you, for example, the information if a word, such as data, is actually singular or plural or how to use words as "admit" correctly. I love the book, as it shows false examples and corrects them giving a very good explanation. Reading the examples it can be interesting for native speaker as well. So, from my point of view it is very recommendable.

Kurzbeschreibung One of the English languages most skilled and beloved writers guides us all toward precise, mistake-free usage. As usual Bill Bryson says it best: English is a dazzlingly idiosyncratic tongue, full of quirks and irregularities that often seem willfully at odds with logic and common sense. This is a language where cleave can mean to cut in half or to hold two halves together; where the simple word set has 126 different meanings as a verb, 58 as a noun, and 10 as a participial adjective; where if you can run fast you are moving swiftly, but if you are stuck fast you are not moving at all; [and] where colonel, freight, once, and ache are strikingly at odds with their spellings. As a copy editor for the London Times in the early 1980s, Bill Bryson felt keenly the lack of an easy-to-consult, authoritative guide to avoiding the traps and snares in English, and so he brashly suggested to a publisher that he should write one. Surprisingly, the proposition was accepted, and for a sum of money carefully gauged not to cause embarrassment or feelings of overworth, he proceeded to write that book his first, inaugurating his stellar career. Now, a decade and a half later, revised, updated, and thoroughly (but not overly) Americanized, it has become Bryson's Dictionary of Troublesome Words, more than ever an essential guide to the wonderfully disordered thing that is the English language. With some one thousand entries, from a, an to zoom, that feature real-world examples of questionable usage from an international array of publications, and with a helpful glossary and guide to pronunciation, this precise, prescriptive, and because it is written by Bill Bryson often witty book belongs on the desk of every person who cares enough about the language not to maul or misuse or distort it. From the Hardcover edition. .de It is nearly 20 years since Bill Bryson first penned his deliciously witty paeon to precision Troublesome Words. Now he has revised it and 60 per cent of the content is new so it's well worth another browse and a place on the desk corner of anyone who likes words and who wants to get things right. Once a sub-editor at The Times, Bryson is irresistibly drawn to knowing that "to flaunt" means to display ostentatiously but "to flout" means to treat with contempt. Or that a straitjacket may be straight but its name means that its occupant is confined and restricted--in straitened circumstances, perhaps. And can you explain the difference between a Creole and a Pidgin or between egoism and egotism? If not consult Bryson. Then you'll be able to. There's no pedantry or pomposity in Bryson's writing. But he argues: "Just as we all agree that clarity is better served if 'cup' represents a drinking vessel and 'cap' something you put on your head, so too I think the world is a fractionally better place if we agree to preserve a distinction between 'its' and 'it's', between 'I lay down the law' and 'I lie down to sleep', between 'imply' and 'infer' and countless others." Bryson modestly jokes that this alphabetically arranged book could be subtitled "Even More Things in English Usage That the Author Wasn't Entirely Clear about Until Quite Recently". If only most of us were sure about a fraction of the things Bryson clearly understands very well we might all be more effective writers and speakers. --Susan Elkin Pressestimmen Combines the virtues of a first class work of reference with the pleasure of a good read (The Times)