

OED) and as not native speaker, using Shea book I managed to learn a lot about many mistakes in English I didn't know earlier, which now became more or less accepted as correct. On the book pages author tries to give a background on history of English language, describing the ways how the language slowly developed, using numerous sources and constantly changing through the long times of its usage. Reading it, it is possible to learn about many modern and common English words these days that you would never say that they were treated as a misspelling or considered indecent, but due to the author style who provided his story in an interesting way, offering numerous examples, these three hundred pages will fly. Therefore all recommendations to this funny but also educational work with which certainly will not be bored.

Kurzbeschreibung 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*, *Aint*, *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. *Pressestimmen* "Language is funny, and so is Ammon Shea. His excellent new book tours our irrational prejudices about language, showing that an appreciation for the quirks and ironies of language history can put our understanding on a firmer basis and restore our sense of humor." David Skinner, author of *The Story of Ain't* "On the playground of language, there is no more mischievous laddie than Ammon Shea. I plan to use his new book to split the lip of the next insufferable language prig who saunters into my office to accuse me of bad English." Roy Peter Clark, author of *The Glamour of Grammar and How to Write Short* In *Bad English*, Ammon Shea wastes no time challenging widely held beliefs about just what English is bad. His subtitle, *A History of Linguistic Aggravation*, gets in an opening jab at sticklers like me, who know that irritate means annoy while aggravate means make worse. Shea, having read the OED to write *Reading the OED*, is well qualified to tell us we probably don't know as much as we think we do. *Washington Post* Praise for *Reading the OED*: "Oddly inspiring...Shea has walked the wildwood of our gnarled, ancient speech and returned singing incomprehensible sounds in a language that turns out to be our own." Nicholson Baker, *New York Times Book* "Delicious...a lively lexicon." O, *The Oprah Magazine* "Readworthy." William Safire, *The New York Times Magazine* Shea, an avid collector of words, displays an assortment for our pleasure as he wends his way through the alphabet. **Kurzbeschreibung** 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*, *Aint*, *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.