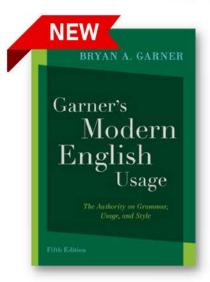


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Garner's Modern English Usage, 5th edition Bryan A. Garner

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From the (lost) battle between self-deprecating and self-depreciating to the misuse of it's for its, from the variant spelling patty-cake taking over pat-a-cake in American English to the singular uses of they, Garner explains the nuances of grammar and vocabulary and the linguistic blunders to which modern writers and speakers are prone, whether in word choice, syntax, phrasing, punctuation, or pronunciation. His empirical approach liberates English from two extremes: from the "purists" who maintain that split infinitives and sentence-ending prepositions are malfeasances and from the linguistic relativists who believe that whatever people say or write must necessarily be accepted.

The purpose of Garner's dictionary is to help writers, editors, and speakers use the language effectively. And it does so in a playful and persuasive way that will help you sound "grammatical but relaxed, refined but natural, correct but unpedantic."

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Bryan A. Garner's work has been recognized as pioneering across a wide range of fields, including English usage, grammar, legislative drafting, and legal lexicography. He has written more than 25 books, many of them award-winning, including *The Chicago Guide to Grammar, Usage, and Punctuation; Garner on Language and Writing; Reading Law: The Interpretation of Legal Texts and Making Your Case: The Art of Persuading Judges* (both with Justice Antonin Scalia); *Garner's Dictionary of Legal Usage; Legal Writing in Plain English; The Elements of Legal Style; The Winning Brief*; and *Ethical Communications for Lawyers*. As editor in chief of *Black's Law Dictionary* and author of the grammar and usage chapter in *The Chicago Manual of Style*, he has become one of the most authoritative and widely cited English lexicographers. He is Distinguished Research Professor of Law at Southern Methodist University and president of LawProse Inc.

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