



The Columbia Guide to Standard American English

By Kenneth G. Wilson

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In the most reliable and readable guide to effective writing for the Americans of today, Wilson answers questions of meaning, grammar, pronunciation, punctuation, and spelling in thousands of clear, concise entries. His guide is unique in presenting a systematic, comprehensive view of language as determined by context. Wilson provides a simple chart of contexts?from oratorical speech to intimate, from formal writing to informal?and explains in which contexts a particular usage is appropriate, and in which it is not.

The Columbia Guide to Standard American English provides the answers to questions about American English the way no other guide can with:

- * an A–Z format for quick reference;
- * over five thousand entries, more than any other usage book;
- * sensible and useful advice based on the most current linguistic research;
- * a convenient chart of levels of speech and writing geared to context;
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- * guidelines for nonsexist usage;
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Editorial Review

From Library Journal

An advocate of "linguistic good manners," Wilson (a consultant for The Standard College Dictionary) has produced a guide of more than 6500 entries, arranged alphabetically, focusing on American (as opposed to British or Canadian) English. Since many appropriate uses of language depend on the context, Wilson diagrams five levels of speech and three levels of writing, ranging from most informal to most formal, and refers to them in many of his explications. He clearly explains the fine distinctions in words often used interchangeably, such as flout and flaunt or infer and imply. Additionally, Wilson suggests what to do about sexist language, what is construed as an ethnic slur, and when a split infinitive is acceptable. Recommended for writers, speakers, editors, and all language lovers.

- *Cathy Sabol, Northern Virginia Community Coll., Manassas*

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Review

The most reliable and entertaining guide to effective writing and speaking for Americans today.

(The Christian Science Monitor)

American English at long last has Fowler's equal.

(Wilson Library Bulletin)

Will act as a handy desk companion to anyone preparing a speech, paper, or presentation, and might be of particular value for nonnative English speakers.

(Choice)

Recommended for writers, speakers, editors, and all language lovers.

(Library Journal)

Will act as a handy desk companion to anyone preparing a speech, paper, or presentation.

(Choice)

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Steve Duran:

Book is to be different for each grade. Book for children right up until adult are different content. As it is

known to us that book is very important for people. The book The Columbia Guide to Standard American English ended up being making you to know about other knowledge and of course you can take more information. It is quite advantages for you. The guide The Columbia Guide to Standard American English is not only giving you much more new information but also being your friend when you experience bored. You can spend your spend time to read your e-book. Try to make relationship while using book The Columbia Guide to Standard American English. You never feel lose out for everything when you read some books.

Chad Jones:

Spent a free time for you to be fun activity to try and do! A lot of people spent their free time with their family, or all their friends. Usually they undertaking activity like watching television, planning to beach, or picnic inside the park. They actually doing same task every week. Do you feel it? Do you need to something different to fill your free time/ holiday? May be reading a book is usually option to fill your no cost time/ holiday. The first thing that you ask may be what kinds of e-book that you should read. If you want to test look for book, may be the e-book untitled The Columbia Guide to Standard American English can be excellent book to read. May be it is usually best activity to you.

Carl Melton:

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