



The McGraw-Hill Handbook of English Grammar and Usage

Mark Lester , Larry Beason

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As opposed to a style guide, which helps readers and speakers polish their English, a usage guide says what you can or can't do in the language and why. 'The McGraw-Hill Handbook of English Grammar and Usage' does so in an entertaining way.

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From Reader Review The McGraw-Hill Handbook of English Grammar and Usage for online ebook

Zuzana says

I was not at all enthusiastic at first (seriously? since when do we call everything from numerals to articles to demonstratives "adjectives"?!?!?). However, once I got over the authors' classifications (which made me feel like I must have studied linguistics on another planet, or in another time period, or both), I really appreciated the simplicity with which they were able to communicate stuff that must often seem really difficult to non-linguists (and maybe even linguists). They have some useful shortcut-type tips and in general manage to pack a lot of useful topics into a very brief and surprisingly easy-to-read volume. Plus, it was the first grammar book I have read in a loooooong time. So - fun! :)

Mary says

Clear concise book that's great when you're looking for a refresher on grammar.

Minkpro says

This book help me learn English grammar and some writing rules.

Elijah Hanson says

Refreshing! Hadn't read any grammar book in a while; it was good to pick one that wasn't written to go over my head. I'd definitely pick it up again.

Anna B says

This is my go-to reference book for any questions related to grammar. It's *indispensable*.

Finally, a grammar book that breaks down the rules of grammar in ways that I can understand. It separates the grammar from usage, and it provides a thorough explanation so that you can better understand the rules, exceptions, and methods. If you understand the important aspects of grammar, you will know how to avoid problems so that you won't need to refer to grammar books later on. And isn't that the point? It is designed for you to learn from it and become proficient, with many examples that show the correct usage.

I can't say enough about it; it's the best one I've read so far (from cover to cover). Yes, it's that interesting. It has a nontechnical, no-nonsense approach that appeals to editors and readers like me.

Jaeme says

Still a timely and easy to use reference for writers of every type.

Kazia says

*American English

It was alright. It was fairly easy enough to get through. I found some of the concepts a tad more simplified than they needed to be.

Alisha says

I read this for a class I took. The book is very accessible, easy to understand. It covers both the basics of grammar as well as the problem areas that are most commonly seen in certain writing situations. I will definitely keep a copy of this book on hand for reference.

I enjoyed the touch of wryness that could be found here and there. It kept the book from the dreaded "dryness" and reminded me that there were actual living, breathing, *witty* people behind the book. :o) However, this in no way detracted from the dissemination and quality of the information.

Heck, I'd recommend this book to any ole' body. ESPECIALLY those who write on a regular basis.

Margot says

Excellent guide to English usage. My only complaints are that some sections from the later chapters seem to be essentially copy/pasted from the earlier.

T.W. Brown says

This is a must for the grammarian. Not only does it have all the rules you need to be a better editor, but it also has a plethora of examples to help clarify when the words all seem to turn to mush on the page.

Natalie says

This was the textbook for my grammar class, the first class on the way to obtaining certification in copyediting. It broke down concepts fairly well and was easy enough to understand, but as I discovered when using supplementary resources, did not go as in depth as it could have or left out what I thought was pretty important information. I'd still recommend it as a grammar refresher or for language nerds who like to nitpick.

Edit: THIS is my 1000th "read" book on Goodreads? How very. :/

Beth says

This primer is very straightforward and clear in its explanations of what is correct and incorrect. It builds a great basic framework in Part I and then explores nuisances and complications in Part II. One of the better grammar books I've read. (Using this for an online editing course.)

Bridger Cummings says

A pretty solid book. As a native English speaker, this still helped me catch some mistakes I was making and has improved my writing.
