

The English Language A Guided Tour Of David Crystal

An essential teacher's companion to an innovative, uniquely visual English-language course, this e-guide helps English teachers--including those for whom English is not their native language--create clear, focused lesson plans, explain difficult concepts in a simple and concise way, and make language learning exciting, intuitive, and incredibly easy. This teacher's e-guide is designed to accompany English for Everyone, a comprehensive course in English as a foreign language for adults. English for Everyone combines innovative and systematic visual teaching methods with the best of DK design to make the English language easy to understand and learn. Key language skills, grammar rules, and vocabulary are reinforced with listening, speaking, reading, and writing exercises, available in print and digital formats. The English for Everyone Teacher's Guide helps busy classroom teachers or one-on-one tutors get the most out of using the course with their students. Its step-by-step guide to the crystal-clear, tightly structured teaching method shows teachers how to explain even the trickiest points of English in an engaging, easy-to-follow way. It also includes instructions for the series' highly versatile exercises, which are primarily suitable for homework, independent study, or one-on-one tutoring, but are readily adapted for classroom or group activities.

Updated and expanded from one of the most popular grammar sites on the web, this book provides a modern guide to English usage for the 21st century. With topics arranged alphabetically and written in an enjoyable and readable tone, The English Language: A User's Guide will help students and writers understand the nature of the language, explaining the 'why' of the rules as well as what constitutes good grammar and style. Going beyond the prescriptive wrong /right examples, Jack Lynch includes examples of weak/strong, good/better, disputed/preferred, and informal/formal usage. Literacy Instruction for English Language Learners turns hundreds of ELL studies into dozens of strategies for regular classroom instruction. Nancy Cloud, Fred Genesee, and Else Hamayan have examined the research evidence to determine what works for ELLs. They recommend best practices for teaching English learners to read and write from emergent literacy to primary school and on through middle school and include helpful features that make the research directly accessible to all teachers.

Rarely has a book so packed with accurate and well researched factual information been so widely read and popularly acclaimed. This Second Edition of The Cambridge Encyclopedia of the English Language has been fully revised for a new generation of language-lovers. The book is longer and includes extensive new material on world English and Internet English, in addition to completely updated statistics, further reading suggestions and other references. First Edition Hb (1995): 0-521-40179-8 First Edition Pb (1997): 0-521-59655-6 David Crystal is a leading authority on language, and author of many books, including most recently Shakespeare's Words (Penguin, 2002), Language and the Internet (Cambridge, 2001) and Language Death (Cambridge, 2000). An internationally renowned writer, journal editor, lecturer and broadcaster, he received an Order of the British Empire in 1995 for his services to the English language. Despite a history of hundreds of years of research analysing aspects of English grammar, there are still open problems which continue to baffle language researchers today. Such 'grammar mysteries' arise for a number of reasons: because the language is changing; because different speakers of the language adhere to distinct norms and thus introduce and maintain variation in the system; because there are differences between the grammar of spoken and written English. This book illuminates some of the complexities of the subject, the areas where new discoveries await and why it matters. Through a series of accessible and engaging case studies on various aspects of grammar, from multiple negation to possession, the authors present grammar as an intellectual challenge. This book brings out into the open questions about language usage to which we still do not have good answers in a bid to make variation overt and to revel in the mystery of the English language. Both aimed at the interested general reader and the beginning student of English language and linguistics, this is a fresh take on grammar.

This FULLY UPDATED second edition is a comprehensive exam guide that provides students with a variety of practice questions for all sections of the 2012 VCE English Language exam.

Wordsmiths and Warriors explores the heritage of English through the places in Britain that shaped it. It unites the warriors, whose invasions transformed the language, with the poets, scholars, reformers, and others who helped create its character. The book relates a real journey. David and Hilary Crystal drove thousands of miles to produce this fascinating combination of English-language history and travelogue, from locations in south-east Kent to the Scottish lowlands, and from south-west Wales to the East Anglian coast. David provides the descriptions and linguistic associations, Hilary the full-colour photographs. They include a guide for anyone wanting to follow in their footsteps but arrange the book to reflect the chronology of the language. This starts with the Anglo-Saxon arrivals in Kent and in the places that show the earliest evidence of English. It ends in London with the latest apps for grammar. In between are intimate encounters with the places associated with such writers as Chaucer, Shakespeare, and Wordsworth; the biblical Wycliffe and Tyndale; the dictionary compilers Cawdrey, Johnson, and Murray; dialect writers, elocutionists, and grammarians, and a host of other personalities. Among the book's many joys are the diverse places that allow warriors such as Byrhtnoth and King Alfred to share pages with wordsmiths like Robert Burns and Tim Bobbin, and the unexpected discoveries that enliven every stage of the authors' epic journey.

This unique guide to teaching English Language empowers teachers to lead a successful course that will encourage students to be independent and analytical linguists. Covering all areas of linguistic investigation across different exam board specifications and rooted in theoretical perspectives, this accessible text is underpinned by years of teaching experience and is full of practical ideas for classroom activities. Now in its second edition, this bestselling title has been fully updated to consider changes to English Language A level, including a new chapter on unseen texts and writing for the exams. Additional material includes a greater focus on accent and dialect, language acquisition, and language and

the media, including discussions of 'post-truth' and 'alternative facts'. The authors outline frameworks of linguistic analysis and provide clear guidance on how to approach different topics. Chapters are full of interesting extracts for textual analysis and ideas to give students a varied diet of written and spoken texts in different genres. Teaching English Language 16-19 will be invaluable reading for trainee teachers and practising teachers new to the teaching of English Language, as well as more experienced teachers wishing to refresh their knowledge and practice.

Of the approximately 7,000 languages in the world, at least half may no longer be spoken by the end of the twenty-first century. Languages are endangered by a number of factors, including globalization, education policies, and the political, economic and cultural marginalization of minority groups. This guidebook provides ideas and strategies, as well as some background, to help with the effective revitalization of endangered languages. It covers a broad scope of themes including effective planning, benefits, wellbeing, economic aspects, attitudes and ideologies. The chapter authors have hands-on experience of language revitalization in many countries around the world, and each chapter includes a wealth of examples, such as case studies from specific languages and language areas. Clearly and accessibly written, it is suitable for non-specialists as well as academic researchers and students interested in language revitalization. This book is also available as Open Access on Cambridge Core.

Doing English Language provides a concise, lively and accessible introduction to the field of English Language studies for readers who are interested in taking courses at university level. This book addresses the fundamental questions about studying English Language, including: How is English Language studied and researched? Which subject areas does English Language draw on? How are different topics approached? How is the study of English Language relevant to real world contexts? What careers can English Language lead to? Written by an experienced teacher, researcher, and examiner, Doing English Language is both an essential guide for students at pre-university stage and a course companion for undergraduates choosing options within a degree programme.

This volume provides an up-to-date and comprehensive coverage of second language learning. The focus throughout the book is primarily on language learning, but each chapter also discusses the implications for teaching and assessment, thus informing both understanding and practice. The book contains nine sections, which aim to organise and reflect different dimensions of the diverse and complex scope of learning English as a second or additional language. Four themes which permeate the chapters are: learning and learners; learning and language; learning and language development; learning and learning context. The 36 chapters are up-to-date and authoritative, written by experts in the field. The content is accessibly written, with questions for discussion and follow-up reading suggestions provided.

Did you know that the English language has over 150 words for the adjective 'drunk' developed over 1,000 years? Be prepared to learn words you have never heard before, find out fascinating facts behind everyday words, and be surprised at how lively and varied the English language can be. Published to critical acclaim in 2009, the Historical Thesaurus of the Oxford English Dictionary is the first comprehensive thesaurus in the world to arrange words by meaning in order of first recorded use. Using its unique perspective on how the English language has developed, Words in Time and Place takes 15 themes and explores the language in these areas over time - explaining when new words appeared, where they came from, and what such changes say about times in which they emerged. The themes chosen are varied, universal topics and show the semantic range of the thesaurus and what it can tell us about the words used in areas of everyday life. Learn about the different words for dying and money, or types of pop music, as well as words for a privy, oaths, and words for being drunk. Written by the world's leading expert on the English language, David Crystal, the book carries his trademark style of engaging yet authoritative writing. Each chapter features an introduction to the language of that topic, followed by a timeline of vocabulary taken from the historical thesaurus showing all the synonyms arranged in chronological order. The timelines are annotated with additional quotations, facts, and social and historical context to give a clear sense of how words entered the English language, when, and in which context they were used. Words in Time and Place showcases the unique and excellent resource that is the Historical Thesaurus and reveals the linguistic treasures to be found within. This fascinating book will appeal to anyone with an interest in words and in the development of the English language.

How to give English language learners every opportunity for success This practical guide equips school leaders to help English language learners succeed. The authors show how school leaders and staff members can serve as student advocates and apply successful instructional practices that increase student learning. Written in straightforward language with quick reference charts and summaries, the text provides: Strategies for creating a culture of ELL advocacy and achievement Case studies from school leaders who have created positive change for ELLs Professional development tools that build teachers' knowledge of second language acquisition Tips for strengthening home-school-community connections

We may all speak the same language, but getting to grips with grammar is the ultimate challenge. You could be puzzled by prepositions, confused by comparatives, or muddled over modals. Thankfully, this complete visual aid to everything in the English language sets you straight with a clear and concise format for easy understanding. The rules of English grammar are beautifully presented with eye-catching illustrations, step-by-step graphics, and straightforward explanations to help you learn. Suitable for English language learners at all levels, including experienced English speakers looking for a recap of key language points, English for Everyone: English Grammar Guide covers basic, intermediate, and advanced grammar. There is no stone left unturned when it comes to the English language. All kinds of problems are solved, including tenses, verbs, adverbs, clauses, superlatives, and questions. You are encouraged to spot patterns and sequences in language to see the similarities and develop greater understanding. After an intensive review, test yourself with a range of speaking, reading, and writing exercises to see how far you have come. This essential grammar e-guide is part of DK's English for Everyone series, an exciting and educational self-study course to build up confidence and

fluency. Whether you want to improve your grammar for school, study, exams (including TOEFL and IELTS), work, or travel, this is the perfect reading companion. Series Overview: English for Everyone series teaches all levels of English, from beginner to advanced, to speakers of English as a second language. Innovative visual learning methods introduce key language skills, grammar, and vocabulary, which are reinforced with a variety of speaking, reading, and writing exercises to make the English language easier to understand and learn. Visit www.dkefe.com to find out more.

REA's Celebrate the American Way: A Fun ESL Guide to English Language and Culture with Audio CD + MP3 The emphasis is on fun in this lighthearted guide to language and culture in the United States! The warm and witty authors of English the American Way: A Fun ESL Guide to Language and Culture in the U.S., are back with the second book in the series, Celebrate the American Way, another fun ESL guide to English language and culture. This friendly guide takes you on a year-long journey through American culture, highlighting the meanings behind the U.S. holidays and special events celebrated in each season. You will learn why Americans celebrate Independence Day, discover the history of Thanksgiving, get tips on wedding etiquette, find out how to carve a Jack O' Lantern, and more! Our ESL author experts give English language learners all the must-know vocabulary, common expressions, and wacky idioms that help explain the major celebrations and social customs in the United States. You'll have fun improving your English language and grammar skills. Along the way, quiz yourself with fill-in and matching exercises as you learn about commonly confused words, adjectives, and synonyms. Practice until you're perfect! Improve your listening and speaking skills with the dialogues included on our audio CD and Mp3 download. No matter what the season, Celebrate the American Way is an excellent resource for ESL students and teachers, English language learners, and professionals of all ages and all nationalities. Whether you want to improve your understanding of American culture or just expand your everyday vocabulary, this fun and friendly guide will help you build your skills and communicate with precision - and success!

It's the revolutionary English language arts study guide just for middle school students from the brains behind Brain Quest. Everything You Need to Ace English Language Arts . . . takes students from grammar to reading comprehension to writing with ease, including parts of speech, active and passive verbs, Greek and Latin roots and affixes; nuances in word meanings; textual analysis, authorship, structure, and other skills for reading fiction and nonfiction; and writing arguments, informative texts, and narratives. The BIG FAT NOTEBOOK™ series is built on a simple and irresistible conceit—borrowing the notes from the smartest kid in class. There are five books in all, and each is the only book you need for each main subject taught in middle school: Math, Science, American History, English Language Arts, and World History. Inside the reader will find every subject's key concepts, easily digested and summarized: Critical ideas highlighted in neon colors. Definitions explained. Doodles that illuminate tricky concepts in marker. Mnemonics for memorable shortcuts. And quizzes to recap it all. The BIG FAT NOTEBOOKS meet Common Core State Standards, Next Generation Science Standards, and state history standards, and are vetted by National and State Teacher of the Year Award-winning teachers. They make learning fun, and are the perfect next step for every kid who grew up on Brain Quest.

A handy reference guide for anyone who feels unsure about English grammar.

This guide to the language differences between the United States and United Kingdom is “a fascinating collection full of all kinds of surprises” (Minneapolis Star Tribune). Taxi rank . . . toad in the hole . . . dustman . . . fancy dress . . . American visitors to London (or viewers of British TV shows) might be confused by these terms. But most Britons would be equally puzzled by words like caboose, bleachers, and busboy. In *Divided by a Common Language*, Christopher Davies explains these expressions and discusses the many differences in pronunciation, spelling, and vocabulary between British and American English. He compares the customs, manners, and practical details of daily life in the United Kingdom and the United States, and American readers will enjoy his account of American culture as seen through an Englishman's eyes. Davies tops it off with an amusing list of expressions that sound innocent enough in one country but make quite the opposite impression in the other. Two large glossaries help travelers translate from one variety of English to the other, and additional lists explain the distinctive words of Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa. This delightful book is the ideal companion for travelers—or anyone who enjoys the many nuances of language.

This engaging, succinct text is an introduction to both phonetics and phonology as applied to the teaching of pronunciation to English language learners. Section 1 selectively covers the main areas of phonetics and phonology, without going into any area in more depth than the average English language teacher requires or that the average English language teacher trainee can handle. Section 2 focuses on practical issues related to learners and how they learn languages, and what represents good practice in terms of classroom activities for pronunciation—including aspects such as targets, motivation and priorities. The chapters end with activities to help the reader understand concepts. Section 3 provides innovative sample activities which put into practice the theoretical points covered in the first two sections, answers to the various exercises, recommended further reading (both print and non-print), a glossary of technical phonetic terms, and a bibliography of works on pronunciation teaching. The text is accompanied by a Companion Website with audio recordings of model pronunciations and audio material relating to the activities.

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • A sharp, funny grammar guide they'll actually want to read, from Random House's longtime copy chief and one of Twitter's leading language gurus **NAMED ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY O: The Oprah Magazine • Paste • Shelf Awareness** “Essential (and delightful!)”—People We all write, all the time: books, blogs, emails. Lots and lots of emails. And we all want to write better. Benjamin Dreyer is here to help. As Random House's copy chief, Dreyer has upheld the standards of the legendary publisher for more than two decades. He is beloved by authors and editors alike—not to mention his followers on social media—for deconstructing the English language with playful erudition. Now he distills everything he has learned from the myriad books he has copyedited and overseen into a useful guide not just for writers but for everyone who wants to put their best prose foot forward. As

authoritative as it is amusing, Dreyer's English offers lessons on punctuation, from the underloved semicolon to the enigmatic en dash; the rules and nonrules of grammar, including why it's OK to begin a sentence with "And" or "But" and to confidently split an infinitive; and why it's best to avoid the doldrums of the Wan Intensifiers and Throat Clearers, including "very," "rather," "of course," and the dreaded "actually." Dreyer will let you know whether "alright" is all right (sometimes) and even help you brush up on your spelling—though, as he notes, "The problem with mnemonic devices is that I can never remember them." And yes: "Only godless savages eschew the series comma." Chockful of advice, insider wisdom, and fun facts, this book will prove to be invaluable to everyone who wants to shore up their writing skills, mandatory for people who spend their time editing and shaping other people's prose, and—perhaps best of all—an utter treat for anyone who simply revels in language. Praise for Dreyer's English "Playful, smart, self-conscious, and personal . . . One encounters wisdom and good sense on nearly every page of Dreyer's English."—The Wall Street Journal "Destined to become a classic."—The Millions "Dreyer can help you . . . with tips on punctuation and spelling. . . . Even better: He'll entertain you while he's at it."—Newsday

Without the shadow of a doubt, English is the Lingua Franca. This is how Wikipedia defines a Lingua Franca - also known as a bridge language, common language, trade language, auxiliary language, vehicular language, or link language, is a language or dialect systematically used to make communication possible between groups of people who do not share a native language or dialect, particularly when it is a third language that is distinct from both of the speakers' native languages. This precisely is what the English Language is in our global family. As a consequence, people of all nationalities, languages, and cultures most eager not only to know, but to master this very important language. With this in view, Graham Miranda, is offering this excellent book very aptly UNLOCK THE POWER OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE - A comprehensive guide for those seeking proficiency through the Master of the English Language. It can conveniently be used either as a text book in a classroom or as a handy reference to the busy worker. Being so very compact and inexpensive, this resourceful book can be carried and effectively used whenever the need arises. It is the author's earnest hope that each and every reader is able to draw the maximum benefit in a concerted attempt to both understand and master the English language.

This book aims to help students with little linguistic experience develop an articulate awareness of language.

Written as a guide for people who already have a basic understanding of English and want to improve their ability to speak it the way it is spoken in the United States.

This is the definitive survey of the English language - in all its forms. Crystal writes accessibly about the structure of the language, the uses of English throughout the world and finally he gives a brief history of English. The book has been fully revised and there is a fascinating new chapter on 'The effect of technology' on the English language. 'Illuminating guided tour of our common treasure by one of its most lucid and sensible professionals' The Times 'A splendid blend of erudition and entertainment' THES

Includes a free subscription to a companion website. This book is not returnable if the shrink wrap is damaged or removed.

Presents information for classroom teachers on working effectively with students with limited English-language proficiency.

From Singapore to Scotland, Canada to the Channel Islands, Namibia to New Zealand and beyond, International English takes you on a fascinating journey through the varieties of English spoken around the world. Comparisons across the varieties provide a comprehensive guide to differences in phonetics, phonology, grammar and vocabulary, making this a useful resource for teachers of English as a foreign language and linguistics students alike. This sixth edition has been thoroughly updated to include the following: new sections on the Death of RP, Estuary English, Multicultural London English, the Dublin accent and Fijian English; updated material on RP phonology, New Zealand English phonology, Australian English lexis, North American English lexis and the Northern Cities Chain Shift; revised and updated references and bibliography. This textbook comes with free-to-download MP3 files at www.routledge.com/9781138233690, which demonstrate the different varieties featured in the book – ideal for use in class, at home or on the move. International English remains a key and indispensable resource for teachers and students, and is essential reading for anyone studying varieties of English in a global context.

A brash, enlightening, and wildly entertaining feminist look at gendered language and the way it shapes us, written with humor and playfulness that challenges words and phrases and how we use them. "I get so jazzed about the future of feminism knowing that Amanda Montell's brilliance is rising up and about to explode worldwide."—Jill Soloway The word bitch conjures many images for many people, but it is most often meant to describe an unpleasant woman. Even before its usage to mean a female canine, bitch didn't refer to gender at all—it originated as a gender-neutral word meaning genitalia. A perfectly innocuous word devolving into a female insult is the case for tons more terms, including hussy—which simply meant housewife—or slut, which meant an untidy person and was also used to describe men. These words are just a few among history's many English slurs hurled at women. Amanda Montell, reporter and feminist linguist, deconstructs language—from insults and cursing, gossip, and catcalling to grammar and pronunciation patterns—to reveal the ways it has been used for centuries to keep women and other marginalized genders from power. Ever wonder why so many people are annoyed when women talk with vocal fry or use the word like as a filler? Or why certain gender-neutral terms stick and others don't? Or where stereotypes of how women and men speak come from in the first place? Montell effortlessly moves between history, science, and popular culture to explore these questions and more—and how we can use the answers to effect real social change. Montell's irresistible humor shines through, making linguistics not only approachable but both downright hilarious and profound, demonstrated in chapters such as: Slutty Skanks and Nasty Dykes: A Comprehensive List of Gendered Insults How to Embarrass the Shit Out of People Who Try

to Correct Your Grammar Fuck it: An Ode to Cursing While Female Cyclops, Panty Puppet, Bald Headed Bastard and 100+ Other Things to Call Your Genitalia Montell effortlessly moves between history and popular culture to explore these questions and more. Wordslut gets to the heart of our language, marvels at its elasticity, and sheds much-needed light into the biases that shadow women in our culture and our consciousness.

This resource offers practical methods for helping ELLs succeed in reading, with strategies to increase fluency and comprehension, teach vocabulary and text structure, and more.

The world's only complete catalogue of so-called "occult recipes" for use during ceremonial practice and in everyday life. Formulas include incenses, oils, sachet powders, perfumes and many others, as well as preparation instruction and guidance. A strong influence on 20th century hoodoo practices, The Ancient Book of Formulas by Lewis de Claremont integrates European and African-American traditions. Included is basic information gleaned from a variety of ancient and modern sources on dressing oils in antiquity and in the contemporary traditions, Medieval philtres and potions, incense in Hebrew and Egyptian history and in modern times, ancient and modern magical uses of dozens of illustrated herbs and roots, how to use sachet powders for magical ends, how to use baths and washes, and a series of philosophical and mystical illustrations revealing the author's Hermetic-style conceptions of the relationship between the material and spiritual worlds. For historical usage only.

PLEASE NOTE - this is a replica of the print book and you will need paper and a pencil to complete the exercises.

Puzzled by past tenses? Confused by comparatives? This clearly structured and beautifully presented workbook is packed with grammar practice activities that make learning English grammar incredibly easy. The English for Everyone Grammar Guide Practice Book is an essential companion to the English for Everyone Grammar Guide, a comprehensive reference book that makes even the trickiest grammar rules clear and simple. The Practice Book mirrors the unit-by-unit structure of the Grammar Guide. Each Practice Book unit is full of carefully graded grammar exercises to drill and reinforce the grammar you have learned in the corresponding Grammar Guide unit. These exercises will help you build up your confidence and become more fluent, giving you the chance to practice using the most important English grammar constructions again and again. Ideal for students at all levels, the English for Everyone Grammar Guide Practice Book covers basic, intermediate, and advanced English grammar in one easy-to-navigate book. Like all books in the innovative English for Everyone series, it uses a visual learning method: many of the exercises are accompanied by attractive illustrations that put grammar practice points into context and give you visual cues to help you understand the exercises. Whether you want to improve your grammar for work, study, travel, or exams, the English for Everyone Grammar Guide Practice Book offers you a simple way to learn English grammar, remember it, and use it with confidence.

David Crystal's classic English as a Global Language considers the history, present status and future of the English language, focusing on its role as the leading international language. English has been deemed the most 'successful' language ever, with 1500 million speakers internationally, presenting a difficult task to those who wish to investigate it in its entirety. However, Crystal explores the subject in a measured but engaging way, always backing up observations with facts and figures. Written in a detailed and fascinating manner, this is a book written by an expert both for specialists in the subject and for general readers interested in the English language.

For many teachers of English language learners, the field of assessment is foreign territory. Assessment has its own culture, traditions, and terminology. This training guide is intended to help classroom teachers become more comfortable creating and using assessments. A Practical Guide to Assessing English Language Learners provides helpful insights into the practice and terminology of assessment. The text focuses on providing the cornerstones of good assessments--usefulness, validity, reliability, practicality, washback, authenticity, transparency, and security--and techniques for testing. It devotes a chapter to the assessment of each of the four main skill areas (reading, writing, listening, and speaking), and also covers placement testing, such as using TOEFL® and MELAB, diagnostic testing, evaluation, and instructional decision-making with regard to testing. Tips to improve students' test-taking strategies are offered, and each chapter ends with a helpful list of Ten Things to Remember, as well as informative case studies featuring two teachers and their assessment decisions. Incorporating its own principles, A Practical Guide to Assessing English Language Learners opens with a short quiz for the reader called Are You Testwise? that quickly determines how each teacher will benefit from this indispensable guide.

This book answers your key questions about educating English Language Learners (ELLs) and offers detailed guidance and concrete applications for your classroom. Designed as a one-stop-shop for classroom teachers of all grade levels and content areas, this book is chock full of essential information, delivered in a practical, concise format. In each chapter, you will find checklists, instructional strategies, tables, tools and ideas for next steps. The resources and examples provided are easy to implement and can be used the next day in your teaching. Topics addressed include: Getting to know your ELLs Considering how culture, language and academic background impact learning Bridging the home/school connection Pairing content and language objectives Gauging learner progress Collaborating with ELL staff Much more!

The English language is now accepted as the global lingua franca of the modern age, spoken or written in by over a quarter of the human race. But how did it evolve? How did a language spoken originally by a few thousand Anglo-Saxons become one used by more than 1,500 million? What developments can be seen as we move from Beowulf to Chaucer to Shakespeare to Dickens and the present day? A host of fascinating questions are answered in The Stories of English, a groundbreaking history of the language by David Crystal, the world-renowned writer and commentator on English. Many books have been written about English, but they have all focused on a single variety: the educated, printed language called "standard" English. David Crystal turns the history of English on its head and instead provides a startlingly

