



The Oxford English Dictionary (20 Volume Set)

John Andrew Simpson (Editor) , E.S.C. Weiner (Editor)

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The *Oxford English Dictionary* has long been considered the ultimate reference work in English lexicography. Compiled by the legendary editor James Murray and a staff of brilliant philologists and lexicographers (not to mention one homicidal maniac), the *OED* was originally conceived in 1857 as a four-volume set, but by the time the last volume was published in 1928, it had swelled to 10 volumes containing over 400,000 entries. In the years since, the staff of the *OED* has continued to keep pace with our ever-evolving language, and today the dictionary weighs in at a whopping 20 volumes. The great joy of this dictionary lies in its extensive cross-references and word etymologies, which can run a full page or more. These features not only make the *OED* the most comprehensive and authoritative dictionary of the English language, but a delight to browse.

Reprinted with corrections 1991.

The Oxford English Dictionary (20 Volume Set) Details

Date : Published March 30th 1989 by Clarendon Press (first published 1933)

ISBN : 9780198611868

Author : John Andrew Simpson (Editor) , E.S.C. Weiner (Editor)

Format : Hardcover 2000 pages

Genre : Reference, Humanities, Language, Nonfiction, Dictionaries, Linguistics

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Download and Read Free Online The Oxford English Dictionary (20 Volume Set) John Andrew Simpson (Editor) , E.S.C. Weiner (Editor)

From Reader Review The Oxford English Dictionary (20 Volume Set) for online ebook

Ayne Ray says

The most comprehensive dictionary of the English language (this second edition consists of over half a million words), its true beauty is the extensive etymology of over 2.5 million quotations. Not only a scholarly masterpiece, it's also a tremendous amount of fun to peruse. Read "The Professor and the Madman: A Tale of Murder, Insanity, and the Making of the Oxford English Dictionary" for the unusual story of Dr. W.C. Minor, one of the major contributors to the original edition, who was incarcerated for life in England's most notorious insane asylum while working on this project.

Jason Martin says

This was not as riveting a read as one might suspect and the ending was too predictable.

Susy says

Truly, if I were ever stranded on a deserted island, the bound version of the OED is all I would need. Well, a songbook with the lyrics to all my favorite Christmas songs would also be nice. I could probably last in isolation indefinitely if I only had those 2 books.

Anton Caldwell says

Simpson, John, Editor (1989) The Oxford English Dictionary
ISBN-10: 0198611862 \$924.31

Content/Scope: The entirety of the English Language, by definition. Literally.

Accuracy/Authority: The Oxford Dictionary is one of the most well-known and widely-accepted dictionaries in the world. It is arguably one of the most authoritative dictionaries in the English Speaking world.

Arrangement/Presentation: No visuals, words in alphabetical order

Rationale: Every reference collection needs a good dictionary, and this is one of the best

Professional Review: <http://www.cro2.org.libsrv.wku.edu/de...>

Rebecca says

I am torn. I haven't the shelf space for a personal copy (to heck with the miniature two volume with magnifying glass, I say) and have yet to receive a set, complete with bookcase, as a Valentine's day gift, but I am not luddite enough to stay away from the online subscription I have access to at work. Print vs.

electronic? I say yes to both.

Recent wordquisition: "long in the tooth" does refer to age, derived from estimating a horse's age based on its teeth.

I heart etymology!

Guru says

i read this kannada english wards jipuna

Mark says

Man this book is booooooooooring... It's just a bunch of definitions....

Jon says

Well, not "Read" like "Finished," but I dip into it a lot.

Aarron Kemp says

The perfect gift for a freshly minted MLIS graduate. :-) Every entry is a small story that allows for reflection upon how the word has played a role (or has yet to) in my life. Geeky, meditative, and profoundly satisfying.

Bob Peru says

i'm workin' my way straight through! really. my vocab is gonna be HUGE! and then maybe i can move away from all my "hick tawk". prolly not.

Adrian Colesberry says

I got this in 1987, so I'm not sure I have this edition. I might have the one before. In any case, this is my most prized book (are the most prized books) in my collection.

Badger says

Ever since I was a young boy I dreamed of owning the greatest dictionary in the world. One day my energy company told me I had been overcharged for several years and they owed me £350!

A couple of days later while browsing Amazon wondering how to spend it (as one does in times of good *or* ill fortune), I found the OED on special offer at £450!

One of my dreams has come true.

Now if only Tara would call me after all these years.

Nick says

The Oxford English Dictionary, or OED, is probably the best reference dictionary in the entire world. I have the 1989 20-volume set and so far have yet come up empty when looking something up, which I do at least once a week.

It is a prized centerpiece of my book collection and I cannot imagine that it - like airplane tickets, good running shoes and anything by Ross Thomas or Jim Thompson - is anything short of an investment in my future and that of my family.

Justin says

Too long.

Eoin says

Without doubt the greatest lexical achievement produced thus far and probably the best printed dictionary that will ever be (since it'll all be just internets from here on out). Beautifully made, cleanly written, and tremendously researched. Fun just to leaf through, definitive in settling disagreements this is a book more people should spend more time with, myself included.
