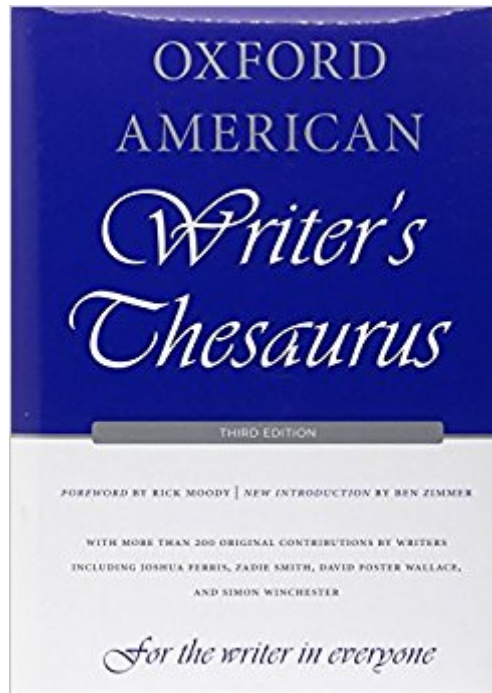


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Oxford American Writer's Thesaurus



Synopsis

Much more than a word list, the Oxford American Writer's Thesaurus is a browsable source of inspiration as well as an authoritative guide to selecting and using vocabulary. This essential guide for writers provides real-life example sentences and a careful selection of the most relevant synonyms, as well as new usage notes, hints for choosing between similar words, a Word Finder section organized by subject, and a comprehensive language guide. The text is also peppered with thought-provoking reflections on favorite (and not-so-favorite) words by noted contemporary writers, including Joshua Ferris, Francine Prose, David Foster Wallace, Zadie Smith, and Simon Winchester, many newly commissioned for this edition. The third edition revises and updates this innovative reference, adding hundreds of new words, senses, and phrases to its more than 300,000 synonyms and 10,000 antonyms. New features in this edition include over 200 literary and humorous quotations highlighting notable usages of words, and a revised graphical word toolkit feature showing common word combinations based on evidence in the Oxford Corpus. There is also a new introduction by noted language commentator Ben Zimmer.

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Customer Reviews

Christine L. Lindberg is Staff Project Editor in the U.S. Dictionaries Program of Oxford University Press, in Connecticut.

I just picked this up to replace my grossly out of date thesaurus and am really pleased. It's in

alphabetical order! That in itself was enough to sell me on it. No more spending five minutes trying to track a word down, like I did with my old one. This also offers examples of how to use words in a sentence (another thing my old one did not have) along with some interesting histories and facts about certain words and their usage. In the center of the book are several pages of thematic lists including: Animals, colors, drinks, food and so on, each broken into separate categories. The Literary Words and Latin Phrases are a nice addition as well. The Language Guide is also a plus as now I don't have to use a separate book when I need to double check myself. This is quite a goldmine of information. It's much more than just a thesaurus. I've only had it for two days and it has already served me well.

This is an outstanding thesaurus in just about every respect. I have several different versions on my shelf, but this is the one I reach for every time. I have yet to look up a word and not find it (as has happened with the other versions). It's formatted like a dictionary, meaning there are synonyms listed for each meaning/definition of the word, making it easy to find the *right* synonym for how you intended to use it. In addition, each definition includes a sentence (in italics) to demonstrate how the word is typically used. Personally, I find that really helpful. It's also very comprehensive, often listing words AND phrases that I don't find in other references or from an online thesaurus (which I also frequently use, simply for convenience). I've also found that the suggested synonyms are more closely related to one another, unlike the online version which seems to cast a really wide net when it comes to synonyms. I get more accurate and more descriptive words with this book than I do with any other source. The thesaurus also includes "extras" that ordinarily I would probably never even glance at, but in this case actually find helpful. The thematic lists are limited, but if you just need a random example (like a specific breed of dog or butterfly) then it's easier than wading through google. And, if you want to pepper your work with spiffy latin phrases or archaic words, then those lists makes it really easy to sound far more intelligent than you actually are. And yes, I'll admit it - I've even skimmed the grammar section at the back. Damned commas. A note on the "stories" - yes, there are lots of "notes" and "quotes" interspersed throughout the book. Personally, I enjoy them and find them informative. Most of them are just odds & ends - funky "word links" you've never heard of or clever quotes, but they're entertaining in a Trivial Pursuit kind of way and don't get in the way of looking something up. Honestly, if you take the time to read them you actually learn something and it does add to your overall understanding of whatever you just looked up - at least it does for me. Overall, I'm more than satisfied with this thesaurus. Well worth the expensive price tag IMO.

This is a BIG book, but essential for the serious writer. It has 300,000 synonyms, 10,000 antonyms, notes on usage and correct choice of words, word toolkits, as well as delightful quotations and reflections from notable writers. I can lie in bed and read it for hours. A beautiful book, should be in everyone's bookcase and is an invaluable reference for authors.

I am so glad I bought this Thesaurus based on a recommendation by another customer. I already had Roget's 21st Century Thesaurus and this is a wonderful addition to my collection. Large book, but worth it. It is a treat to use and fun just to thumb through. A great thesaurus for college students and for writers in general.

Great for a high school kid! I use this all the time for my Honors and IB classes! My teachers want us to use more advanced vocabulary, but they don't want us to use a thesaurus because they say we won't know how to use any of the words????? REALLY?!?! SO HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO IMPROVE MY VOCABULARY?!?! Lol! This solved my problem! It has great explanations for how to use words in the proper context!

This is a perfect resource for writers. Love it. Use it constantly when writing.

Tired of it all? Fed up with the daily nonsense? Feel like you can't take it anymore? Here's a suggestion: Take a deep breath, slowly count to ten, grab your favorite beverage and sitting down in a comfortable chair randomly open your copy of the newly released Oxford American Writer's Thesaurus. Pick a word, any word, and start to read randomly. (A word of warning, you may want to set an alarm if you have something to do like dinner to make that absolutely must be done) Let your eyes roam across the page and you will be reminded that, as a reader, you are holding in your hands one of the most cleverly conceived escape mechanisms of the 21st century. And then, if you, like me, find fascination in words as entities unto themselves with a family tree of cousins, weird uncles, dusty smelling old aunts and/or grandparent's who annoy the hell out of you, you will be transported. This word leads to that which leads to the other and by then, fuddled, you note that the road leads inexorably to being absolutely discombobulated and who wouldn't want to go there? And as an added bonus, I can all but guarantee you that you will finally put the book to rest with a smile in your brain.

Totally worth the buy. I know it is pricey, and in all actuality you could look the words up online, but to be able to flip to the synonyms in the middle of writing a thesis is worth the money. Very well made, and comprehensive.

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