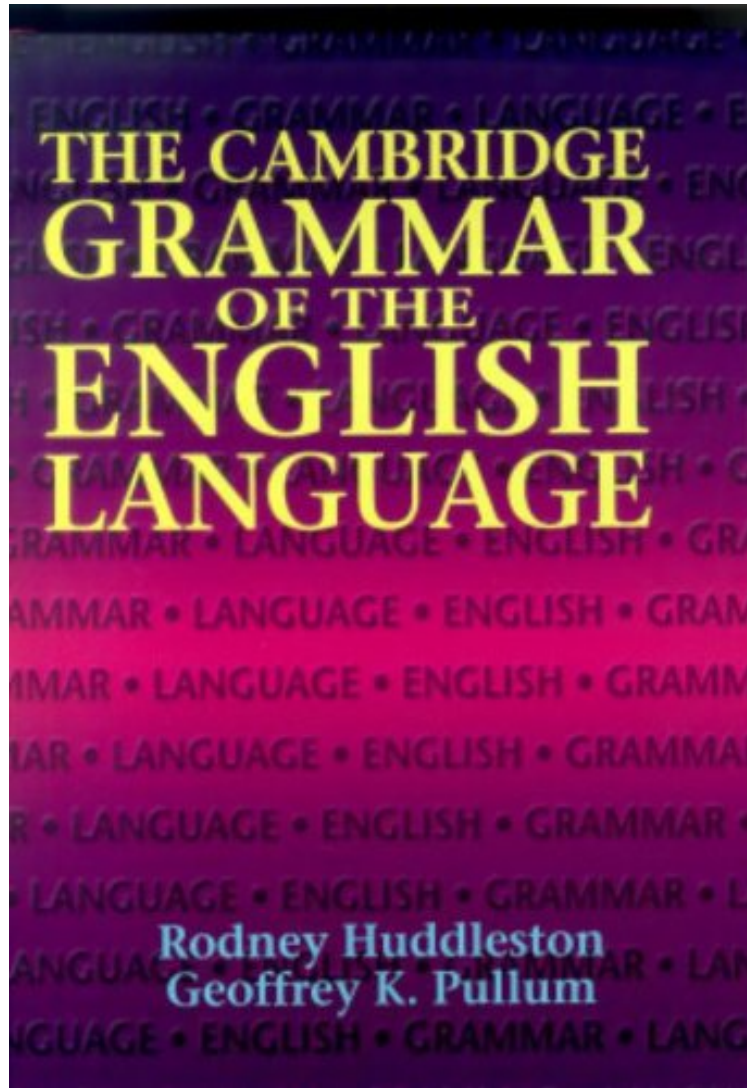


The Cambridge Grammar of the English Language

Rodney Huddleston, Geoffrey K. Pullum
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Rodney Huddleston, Geoffrey K. Pullum : The Cambridge Grammar of the English Language before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Cambridge Grammar of the English Language:

11 of 11 people found the following review helpful. I'd recommend it for any graduate students who enjoy passing the ...By SDAThis is not a grammar text for the faint of heart. I keep mine at the office as a research reference next to my copy of the Longman Grammar by Biber et al. In addition to being a handy improvised murder weapon, this text serves as a grammar reference for linguists. While not exclusively "for us by us," one has to consider the perspectives involved, and descriptive linguists are very much at the helm. Strunk White would turn over in their respective graves.

I'd recommend it for any graduate students who enjoy passing the time arguing over increased specificity of negation or the scope of ellipsis. In all seriousness, this is the grammar reference book I'd recommend. Not everyone needs a \$200+ grammar reference book. For those who do (or at least believe that they do), This text is it. Huddleston and Pullum include whatever approaches necessary to get the job done, though they lean towards the theoretical. One needn't be a grammar expert to use this text, though being familiar with the metalanguage would be helpful in negotiating this comprehensive (read: huge) text. 5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Very Approachable By Anthony Patino Excellent Book. The first eight chapters span nouns, adjectives, adverbs, propositions, and a couple chapters about sentence structure - complements and adjuncts and other syntax. The book is wonderful, for example, in the preposition chapters or the adjective chapters, he compares these parts of speech with other parts of speech. It really helps ensure you fully understand by that method alone. Who would compare a preposition to an adverb? And break it down in detail what is similar and what is different? It's a wonderfully approachable book. Perfect Hull of the Ship for a Self-Study of a Classical Education. And to improve reading comprehension and probably promotes clear thinking. I'm an accountant. This is part of my goals for improving my analytical skills. It's beyond that though. It's probably the cornerstone of a good education I missed when I branched right into the Business School. If this is important topic for you, you'll appreciate having this book! 6 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Grammar as it should be written, fused with modern linguistic analyses, for those tired of bogus prescriptivism. By eli I have been a student of English grammar all my life ever since 7th grade, when I was taught English for the first time. Being born a non-native speaker of English who gets better at the language every day through listening and reading, I can't say enough good things about this epoch-making book. (This sentence is meant as an unqualified praise, not as an ambiguous hedge. :-) I refer to it every day, and I often discover brilliant analyses and get the "a-ha!" moments. I wish this book had been available earlier when I was in school, for I, like many other students, have fallen victim to English grammar prescriptivism for too long. This book is not for the casual speaker who simply wants to be fed arbitrary, prescriptivist "rules" from language "pundits" (Strunk White, Patricia O'Conner, Lynne Truss and the like), but for those who are curious enough about the "why" of syntax, semantics, who are open to the thinking of modern linguistic theories. Its analyses are based on reality, the way the language is really used by living speakers, not invented in the minds of purists. Grammar as I was taught already felt so "arbitrary"; it finally began to make sense to me when I came to know this book. Steven Pinker is one of my favorite authors on language. His recent book, *The Sense of Style*, refers to the terminology and analyses of this Cambridge Grammar. That is a smart choice. That makes *The Sense of Style* current and practical. I also highly recommend the much gentler companion volume, *A Student's Introduction to English Grammar*, for anyone who wants to get a feel of the main tome. Excerpts of the entire first two chapters are freely available from the publisher's website. It is an informative overview of the approach taken in rest of the book. Read it and judge for yourself. You'll be delighted.

The Cambridge Grammar of the English Language is the first comprehensive descriptive grammar of English to appear for over fifteen years, a period which has seen immense developments in linguistic theory at all levels. The principal authors, Rodney Huddleston and Geoffrey Pullum, are among the world's leading scholars in this area, and they have benefited from the expertise of an international team of distinguished contributors in preparing what will be the definitive grammar for decades to come. Each chapter comprises core definitions, detailed analyses, notes explaining alternative interpretations of difficult or controversial points, and brief notes on usage and history. Numerous cross-references and an exhaustive index ensure ease of access to information. An introductory section offers guidance as to how best to use the book is provided. Rodney Huddleston was until recently Professor in the Linguistics section of the Department of English at the University of Queensland, Australia, and has been publishing important books and papers on English grammar for thirty years. Geoffrey K. Pullum is Professor of Linguistics at the University of California, Santa Cruz, and is the author of 200 articles and books on English grammar and a variety of other topics in theoretical and applied linguistics.

From Library Journal Although the title may suggest that this is a usage manual or style guide, it is actually a reference work that, in the authors' words, aims to "outline and illustrate the principles that govern the construction of words and sentences...without recommending or condemning particular usage choices." With help from an impressive group of international scholars, linguistics professors Huddleston (*English Grammar: An Outline*) and Pullum (*Phonetic Symbol Guide*) here provide a comprehensive and detailed look at the principles of the English language. Chapters are divided into several subsections, with ample examples and explanations for each concept; both a conceptual and a lexical index are included. Although the writers attempt to "bridge a gap...between traditional grammar and the partial descriptions of English grammar proposed by those working in the field of linguistics," the book leans heavily toward the field of linguistics. This makes it more accessible to the informed student of linguistics than to the simple lover of the English language. It is nevertheless an authoritative addition to the fields of both English grammar and linguistics. Recommended for all academic libraries. Manya S. Chylinski, Ernst Young Ctr. for Business, Boston Copyright 2002 Reed Business Information, Inc. "With help from an impressive group of international scholars, linguistics professors

Huddleston (English Grammar: An Outline) and Pullum (Phonetic Symbol Guide) here provide a comprehensive and detailed look at the principles of the English language...[A]n authoritative addition to the fields of both English grammar and linguistics. Recommended for all academic libraries." Library Journal"The Cambridge Grammar of English manages to be at once authoritative, sensible and readable. It provides what the standard usage and style manuals lack, and an understanding of how English grammar as a whole works, and of what the facts of usage really are." Terry Langendoen, Professor of Linguistics at the University of Arizona, past President of the Linguistic Society of America, and former Chair of the Linguistics and Language Sciences section of the American Association for the Advancement of Science"Everything about this book is a credit to the authors and the publishers. It is authoritative, interesting, reasonably priced (for a book of this size), beautifully designed, well proofread, and enjoyable to handle.... It is both a modern complement to existing descriptive grammars and an important resource for anyone interested in working with or finding out about English.... a very complete and convincing demonstration that the ideas of modern theoretical linguistics can be deployed in the detailed description of a particular language.... this book is as appropriate for the formally trained linguist wishing to broaden the range of data that a theory covers as for the software engineer wishing to augment NLP skills with a more serious understanding of how the language works." Computational Linguistics"[A]n authoritative addition to the fields of both English grammar and linguistics. Recommended for all academic libraries." Library Journal"Sets new standards, informed by the achievements of both traditional and formal grammatical studies." Bernard Comrie"In English grammar-writing it begins a new epoch." Aimo Seppanen, University of Gotenberg"A notable achievement. No other grammar of English is at once as comprehensive and as systematically and lucidly informed by present-day linguistic theory. I see it as an essential work of reference." Peter Matthews, Professor of Linguistics, University of Cambridge"The Cambridge Grammar of the English Language is one of the most superb works of academic scholarship ever to appear on the English linguistics scene. This was a magnificent team effort, spanning more than ten years. Together these linguists have produced a monumental work that offers easily the most comprehensive and thought-provoking treatment of English grammar to date. Nothing rivals this work, with respect to breadth, depth and consistency of coverage." Australian Book "The Cambridge Grammar of English is for the 21st century what Jespersen's A Modern English Grammar, and Quirk, Greenbaum, Leech and Svartvik's A Contemporary English Grammar were for the 20th." Terry Langendoen, Professor of Linguistics at the University of Arizona"One admires at once its great scope and the authors' scrupulous attention to detail.... Within its school, the prevailing one presently, this grammar is unquestionably the authoritative resource." ChoiceAbout the AuthorRodney Huddleston graduated from the University of Cambridge in Modern Medieval Languages in 1960, and earned his PhD in Applied Linguistics at the University of Edinburgh in 1963. He held lectureships at the University of Edinburgh, University College London and the University of Reading, before moving in 1969 to the Department of English at the University of Queensland, where he worked until formally retiring in 1998. He was the winner of one of three 'Excellence in Teaching' awards at the University of Queensland in 1988, and in 1990 was awarded a Personal Chair. He has written numerous articles and books on English grammar, including An Introduction to English Transformational Syntax (1976) and Introduction to the Grammar of English (1984), and was the founding editor of The Australian Journal of Linguistics (1980--1985).