



Bryson s Dictionary (Paperback)

By Bill Bryson

Random House USA Inc, United States, 2004. Paperback. Condition: New. Reprint. Language: English . Brand New Book. One of the English language s most skilled and beloved writers guides us all toward precise, mistake-free usage. As usual Bill Bryson says it best: -English is a dazzlingly idiosyncratic tongue, full of quirks and irregularities that often seem willfully at odds with logic and common sense. This is a language where cleave can mean to cut in half or to hold two halves together; where the simple word set has 126 different meanings as a verb, 58 as a noun, and 10 as a participial adjective; where if you can run fast you are moving swiftly, but if you are stuck fast you are not moving at all; [and] where colonel, freight, once, and ache are strikingly at odds with their spellings.- As a copy editor for the London Times in the early 1980s, Bill Bryson felt keenly the lack of an easy-to-consult, authoritative guide to avoiding the traps and snares in English, and so he brashly suggested to a publisher that he should write one. Surprisingly, the proposition was accepted, and for -a sum of money carefully gauged not to cause...



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