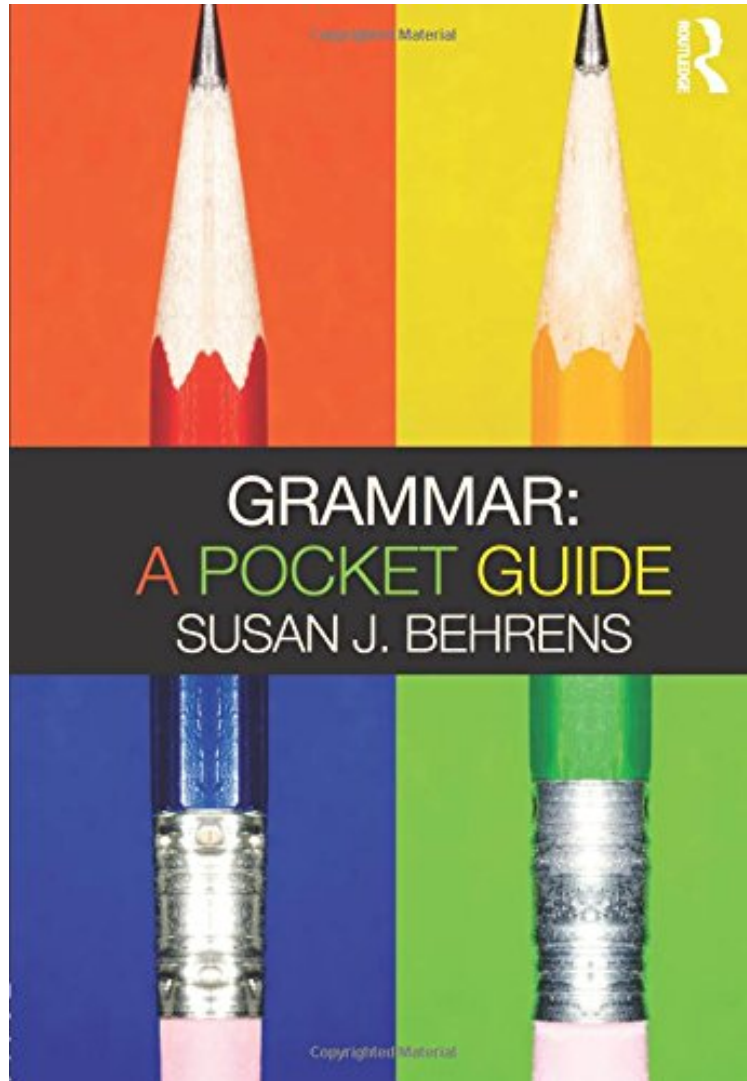


Grammar: A Pocket Guide

Susan J. Behrens

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Susan J. Behrens : Grammar: A Pocket Guide before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Grammar: A Pocket Guide:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Who knew? or Whom knew? or Now, I know!By MarilynI am old enough to be very annoyed by the incorrect grammar used by the talking heads who regularly appear on national televisionnews shows. It annoys me almost, but not quite, as much as their incorrect pronunciation of various names, places and just plain words. This book is right up my alley (idiomatic, so you can't judge me for that one). "Grammar" is easy to read and to understand.(Did I need that second "to"?) I really liked this book! I recommend it. Now then, can anyone tell me how we fix the current habit of saying "totally" when one means "completely". Grrrrr. Think I'll google

that one.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. The BestBy T. DreilingAlthough this says it's a pocket guide that must be referring to only the trim size. The book covers everything and in a clear straight forward manner avoiding lame attempts at humor as in Grammar for Dummies, I guess the name Eggbert is some how supposed to make learning grammar more fun. This is the one book that you need to have if you are interested in English grammar.7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. More than just a bunch of rulesBy tsaroThere are plenty of books around that tell you the "right" way to construct an English sentence. "Grammar: A Pocket Guide" certainly answered my questions about standard English usage, but it went beyond what I expected from a "pocket guide" by putting the whole issue of proper grammar into a broader context. The author comes at the subject from the perspective of her discipline, linguistics, which leads her to view various forms of usage as simply different from each other rather than "right" or "wrong." She clearly explains the standard forms of usage that are generally expected in a school or work setting, but at the same time, she provides fresh insight into the extraordinary flexibility and diversity of the English language. She also does an excellent job of demystifying the jargon of grammar (for a good example, take a look at Chapter 8 on the subjunctive). Add to that the author's approachable and personable voice, and you have a grammar book that is not just a valuable reference, but also a good read.

If you've ever wanted a quick and easy guide to verbs and adverbs, commas and apostrophes, clauses and prepositions, then this is a must-have book for you. Easing readers gently into the study of the structure of English, Grammar: A Pocket Guide covers common questions such as: Is it "10 items or less" or "10 items or fewer"? Should I say "If I were you" or "if I was you"? Can you start a sentence with "And" or "Because"? When do you use "whom"? What is the difference between "lie" and "lay"? Is it "I feel bad" or "I feel badly"? Using examples from everyday speech and writing, this handy book "cracks the code" of off-putting grammatical jargon so that readers can enjoy learning how to think and talk about grammar. With practice exercises, a glossary, and suggestions for further reading, Grammar: A Pocket Guide is the perfect foundation for anyone wanting to improve his or her writing and communication.

"Behren's book clearly shows that the study of language should not be a 'joyless censoriousness' (Dick Veit's expression) but an inquiry into language questions we encounter daily in writing, ranging from syntactic issues to punctuation concerns... [Her] linguistic training is evident throughout." - The ATEG JournalAbout the AuthorSusan J. Behrens is Professor of Communication Sciences and Disorders at Marymount Manhattan College, and an associate of the Institute for Writingand Thinking at Bard College. She is co-editor of Language in the Real World with Judith A. Parker (Routledge, 2010).