

Descriptionary: A Thematic Dictionary (Facts on File Library of Language and Literature)

By Marc McCutcheon



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Descriptionary is especially useful to readers looking for a descriptive or technical term, when they know the word but not its meaning, or when they know the subject but not the word. Updated and easy-to-use, the book features indispensable glossaries arranged by category and a new chapter that includes basic vocabulary words and expressions such as critical mass, Pandora's box, coup d'etat, and c'est la vie. Sample Entries: The Internet -- e-zine: an on-line magazine -- surf: to explore various sites on the Internet, for fun or for research purposes -- .com: at the end of an email or web address, a designation for a commercial enterprise.



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What do you call the reference of choice for those maddening moments when "you know what it *is*, but not what it's *called*?" A Descriptionary, of course! This handy book provides thousands of definitions organized thematically rather than alphabetically. A great reference for writers, students, teachers, crossword puzzle buffs, or any lover of language.

From School Library Journal

YA-- A dictionary of generic terms or ``buzz words" of over 20 categories that include the environment, animals, the human body and mind, performing arts and broadcasting, sports, the law, medicine, finance, the military, language, food and drink, and electronics. The book is both fun and useful. The definitions are easy to understand, and YAs can use it to gain a feel for a particular subject or to define a specific word in its thematic use. Its only faults are that subject-area terminology is not all inclusive and specialized subjects need illustrations to clarify definitions. Still, it's an enjoyable and worthwhile reference book. Copyright 1992 Reed Business Information, Inc.

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