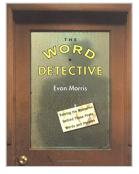
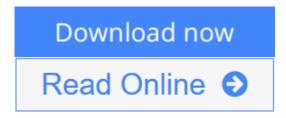
The Word Detective



By Evan Morris



The Word Detective By Evan Morris

Comic, skeptic, cyber-sleuth, syndicated columnist, and inspired wordsmith, Evan Morris is the Word Detective. He's an etymologist with a sense of humor, a lexicographer with an attitude. Morris's unique approach to language and his distinctive brand of absurdity have found a loyal following of readers curious about everything from soup to nuts--and that means the origins of the phrase soup to nuts, and thousands more words and phrases. This book is a collection of 150 of Morris's language columns, which appear in newspapers throughout the country and on his popular Web site.

A clueless husband writes the WORD DETECTIVE to ask if his wife has insulted him by calling him gormless. Coworkers write to settle a watercooler dispute about the logic of feed a cold, starve a fever. The Word Detective snoops around, follows the leads, and uncovers the answers. The book is chock-full of fascinating lore about the origins and uses of the English language and includes special sections exploring groups of words such as euphemisms, eponyms, and onomatopoeic forms. Funny and offbeat, clever and curmudgeonly, irreverent and irritable, this detective is for all of us who appreciate a dash of wit with our words.

<u>bownload</u> The Word Detective ...pdf

<u>Read Online The Word Detective ...pdf</u>

The Word Detective

By Evan Morris

The Word Detective By Evan Morris

Comic, skeptic, cyber-sleuth, syndicated columnist, and inspired wordsmith, Evan Morris is the Word Detective. He's an etymologist with a sense of humor, a lexicographer with an attitude. Morris's unique approach to language and his distinctive brand of absurdity have found a loyal following of readers curious about everything from soup to nuts--and that means the origins of the phrase soup to nuts, and thousands more words and phrases. This book is a collection of 150 of Morris's language columns, which appear in newspapers throughout the country and on his popular Web site.

A clueless husband writes the WORD DETECTIVE to ask if his wife has insulted him by calling him gormless. Coworkers write to settle a watercooler dispute about the logic of feed a cold, starve a fever. The Word Detective snoops around, follows the leads, and uncovers the answers. The book is chock-full of fascinating lore about the origins and uses of the English language and includes special sections exploring groups of words such as euphemisms, eponyms, and onomatopoeic forms. Funny and offbeat, clever and curmudgeonly, irreverent and irritable, this detective is for all of us who appreciate a dash of wit with our words.

The Word Detective By Evan Morris Bibliography

- Rank: #1945174 in Books
- Brand: Brand: Algonquin Books
- Published on: 2000-09-22
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 7.26" h x .88" w x 5.90" l, .84 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 288 pages

<u>Download</u> The Word Detective ...pdf

<u>Read Online The Word Detective ...pdf</u>

Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

Who needs Sherlock Holmes when you've got a word detective? Evan Morris, whose Web site and syndicated column solve more mysteries than even Scotland Yard could manage, has assembled a book of entertaining questions and answers that will amuse, educate, and resolve arguments all at once. From "amok" to "zarf", the definitions and origins of words are explained with a delightful combination of wit and research that will leave curious readers delighted.

Each entry begins with the original question asked of Morris, complete with the writer's misspellings and misinformation, and a few of these may result in cringes from the serious wordsmiths out there. One query incorrectly remembers the metaphor "hair of the dog that bit you" as "Something like *bite the dog's tail* or *the dog that bit you last night*," and Morris makes plenty of entertaining suggestions regarding these incorrect versions before finally explaining that the phrase have been around since about 1546, and specifically refers to a hangover remedy. The author is in especially fine form while explaining the phrase "passing the bar"--who knew that it dates back to a requirement that lawyers wrestle a grizzly "bar" before entering into practice? The correct explanation follows Morris's whimsical tale, but 16th-century England just doesn't have quite the same entertainment value. Several special sections cover larger topics, such as food- and animal-based phrases (easy as pie, dog days), onomatopoeia, euphemisms, diner slang, and Yiddish expressions. While not as detailed as the alphabetical entries, words like "wreck", "mensch," and "throb" are given satisfying, if short, descriptions. *--Jill Lightner*

Review

...carefully researched, informative, and charmingly written....Word-fanciers of all ages will cherish this remarkably reader-friendly volume. -- *Kliatt*, January 2002

From the Inside Flap

Comic, skeptic, cyber-sleuth, syndicated columnist, and inspired wordsmith, Evan Morris is the Word Detective. Morrisís unique approach to language and his distinctive brand of humor account for his loyal following of readers who wonder about everything from soup to nuts and that means the origins of the phrase ýsoup to nutsO, as well as hundreds of other perplexing words and phrases.

The Word Detective is a collection of Morrisís language columns, which appear in newspapers around the world and on his popular Web site. The Q & A format makes for lively and unusual interactions between Morris and his readers: Dan from Brooklyn is perturbed by television newscasts that incorrectly use the word factoid to mean ýa piece of triviaO (Morris agrees and adds that factoid was actually coined by Norman Mailer in 1973 to mean ýa rumor disguised as a fact.O) Tim via the Internet asks how the word moxie came to mean ýcourage.O (Morris replies that Moxie was, and still is, the name of a soft drink with a taste so intense it takes real gumption to swallow the stuff.) Whether the question is from a student hoping to win a word dispute with his professor or a daughter-in-law trying to wow her mother-in-law with an esoteric phrase, the Word Detective snoops around, does the legwork, and uncovers the answers.

This little book is chock-full of fascinating lore about the origins and uses of the English language and includes special sections exploring groups of words, such as euphemisms, eponyms, and onomatopoeic forms. Offbeat and irreverent (donít get him started on television pundits or the bogus theory that the word posh is an acronym for ýport outbound, starboard homeO), the Word Detective is for all of us who appreciate a dash of wit with our words.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Doris Griffin:

The event that you get from The Word Detective is the more deep you looking the information that hide inside the words the more you get interested in reading it. It does not mean that this book is hard to comprehend but The Word Detective giving you thrill feeling of reading. The author conveys their point in a number of way that can be understood through anyone who read the idea because the author of this publication is well-known enough. This book also makes your vocabulary increase well. Therefore it is easy to understand then can go to you, both in printed or e-book style are available. We propose you for having this particular The Word Detective instantly.

Jose Tiernan:

People live in this new day time of lifestyle always try to and must have the free time or they will get wide range of stress from both lifestyle and work. So, once we ask do people have extra time, we will say absolutely of course. People is human not really a huge robot. Then we question again, what kind of activity do you possess when the spare time coming to an individual of course your answer will probably unlimited right. Then do you try this one, reading books. It can be your alternative inside spending your spare time, the actual book you have read is The Word Detective.

Amy Rodriguez:

Reserve is one of source of information. We can add our know-how from it. Not only for students but additionally native or citizen require book to know the change information of year for you to year. As we know those guides have many advantages. Beside most of us add our knowledge, also can bring us to around the world. By book The Word Detective we can get more advantage. Don't you to be creative people? Being creative person must love to read a book. Only choose the best book that ideal with your aim. Don't end up being doubt to change your life with this book The Word Detective. You can more appealing than now.

Mathew Jones:

Reading a book make you to get more knowledge as a result. You can take knowledge and information originating from a book. Book is created or printed or created from each source that will filled update of news. On this modern era like at this point, many ways to get information are available for an individual. From media social similar to newspaper, magazines, science reserve, encyclopedia, reference book, novel and comic. You can add your understanding by that book. Are you hip to spend your spare time to spread out your book? Or just seeking the The Word Detective when you required it?

Download and Read Online The Word Detective By Evan Morris #G45FHANWJ0P

Read The Word Detective By Evan Morris for online ebook

The Word Detective By Evan Morris Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read The Word Detective By Evan Morris books to read online.

Online The Word Detective By Evan Morris ebook PDF download

The Word Detective By Evan Morris Doc

The Word Detective By Evan Morris Mobipocket

The Word Detective By Evan Morris EPub

G45FHANWJ0P: The Word Detective By Evan Morris