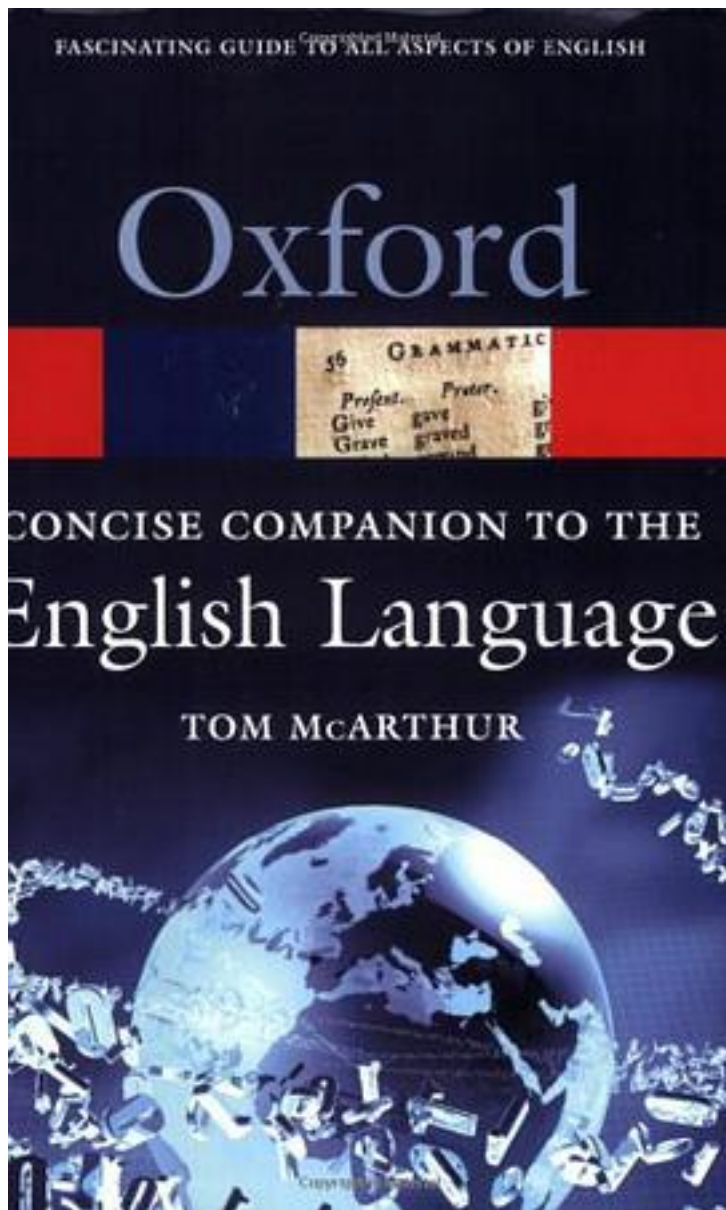


Concise Oxford Companion to the English Language



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著者:McArthur, Tom 编

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From Sanskrit to Scouse, this book provides a single-volume source of information about the English language. The guide is intended both for reference and for browsing. The international perspective takes in language from Cockney to Creole, Aboriginal English to Zummerzet, Estuary English to Caribbean English and a historical range from Beowulf to Ebonics, Chaucer to Chomsky, Latin to the World Wide Web. There is coverage of a wide range of topics from abbreviation to Zeugma, Shakespeare to split infinitive and substantial entries on key subjects such as African English, etymology, imperialism, pidgin, poetry, psycholinguistics and slang. Box features include pieces on place-names, the evolution of the alphabet, the story of OK, borrowings into English, and the Internet. It is an invaluable reference for English Language students, and fascinating reading for the general reader with an interest in language.

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