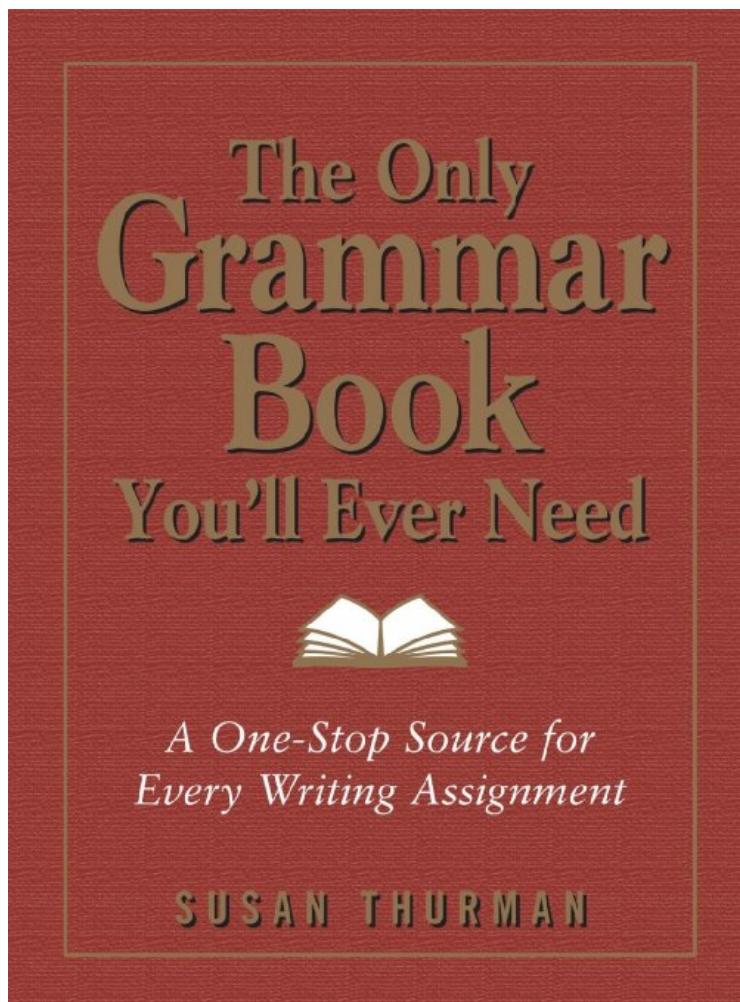


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The Only Grammar Book You'll Ever Need: A One-Stop Source For Every Writing Assignment



Customer Reviews

Being a native English speaker, my biggest concern about English grammar was during college when I was ensuring that my papers, exams, etc., were good enough to help me pull good grades. It wasn't until I began to pick up Spanish that English grammar grabbed more of my attention. Learning a foreign language, ironically, can sometimes force you to better understand your native tongue; if for no other reason than comparison's sake. I've occasionally used English grammar guides and books, but found Susan Thurman's to be surprisingly approachable. Grammar books often scared me away, but not this one. Two of my favorite sections are, one, where Thurman compares/contrasts commonly confused words (then/than, etc.) and, two, her explanations about punctuation. Her examples are down-to-earth and drive each point home. Plus, it's small and easily portable. For these reasons, I rate this book 5 stars. If you are looking for a desktop reference for more professional needs, this MIGHT not be for you. However, I believe it to be sufficient for 90-95% of the time, depending on your needs.

This truly may be The Only Grammar Book You'll Ever Need. I am a tutor and have found this book indispensable; it's especially useful when coaching students for the SAT-II Writing exam and the English section of the ACT. Any grammar question you can possibly have seems to be in here, and it's very easy to reference. I can't imagine being without this book.

After readingÂ The McGraw-Hill Handbook of English Grammar and Usage, I have to say, I'm quite disappointed with Susan Thurman's book. If you want a great grammar book with in depth analysis, explanations, and great tips on how to avoid the most common grammatical mistakes, then read Mark Lester and Larry Beason's book. If you want a quick reference with not much "meat", then get Susan's book. It just lists a lot of stuff, but doesn't really help you with avoiding the errors. The book is very short and small: only 160 pages. "The Handbook of English Grammar and Usage" on the other hand has 300 pages. I guess, it might still be a good read for many, but I didn't get much out of it.

This may not be the only grammar book you'll ever need, but it certainly is comprehensive and well written. I use it to teach high school and college students as well as adults who need grammar instruction. I recommend it.

This is a no nonsense book that gets right down to business. No fancy frills or filler. Just useful

information. I recommend this book to anyone writing literature.

This well organized grammar is what it purports to be. Getting a high school student to use it is the trick. To my mind, it doesn't replace "Strunk and White," The Elements of Style: The Original Edition but it does the job.

This book is too short to cover all of the topics and does not go into enough detail. It is condensed. I would suggest purchasing The McGraw-Hill Book of English Grammar and Usage, along with this book and workbook, should you need more explanations on some of the topics. The McGraw-Hill Book even provides tests you can use if you are uncertain of the different types of speech. However, I will say that the commonly misspelled words in this book is more comprehensive than any other grammar books I've taken a look at recently. The workbook also provides a lengthy test of commonly misspelled words, which I found very helpful. If you want to get even deeper into the subject and are interested in word usage and style and editing, don't forget to take a look at Strunk & White's "The Element of Style" and then move onto June Casagrande (I would suggest "The Best Punctuation Book Period."). Every author has something to add. This is by no means the only grammar book you will ever need, but it will help guide you and provide a helpful start. Oh, and then there's a few more on proofreading and editing books if you want to brush up your skills. I did like this one; however; as I noted earlier, it provides a long list of the most commonly misspelled words, and believe me, they are up-to-date. I just thought that the textbook with explanations is too short if you are planning on reading some of the copyeditors' books at length.

This book covers most everything you learned in high school and college. It's not too big to carry with you and has a lot of helpful examples. It works very well as a good review for those things you have "forgotten" since you went to school. I would buy it again...

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