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Schur

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Schur : British English a to Zed before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised British English a to Zed:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good enough, but lacks etymologies (the fun part)By You mean she's NOT Irish?If you are not a regular PBS-viewer, this can be helpful. (Cannot comment on the one review which suggested that it was dated, and does a better job reflecting speech of prior generations.) My chief criticism is that having given definitions, it does not explain where the expressions come from, how they developed. Also, it excludes all slang, such as used in Royal Navy, for example; has only standard-usage phrases. If you are interested in derivation of expressions, suggest you look for books on Cockney Rhyming Slang (which is now used by non-Cockneys, as seen in BBC police dramas) or buy the Oxford English Dictionary (OED), the original etymological dictionary.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. British English A to ZedBy Bailey BrightThis is the second copy of this book that I purchased for friends relocating to London. I became acquainted with this resource as a result of reading many British mysteries. It is truly invaluable. As Americans, we realize and understand the fact that our own language is changing and so if you are in regular contact with our British cousins or have the chance to spend time in Britain, you need this book. It unlocks the secrets to many words used differently from the American interpretation and does so in a delightful way. If you plan on traveling abroad or just enjoy reading British novels -- you need this book. It's a joy to own. The fact that it is so easily obtained on is just icing on the cake.5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Best reference of its typeBy James M. BeckI write sophisticated Harry Potter fanfic, but I'm an American and I don't have much of a clue about British usages. I had been relying upon a number of Internet sources of greater or lesser quality before I saw British English from A to Zed recommended in one of the writer's fora on Fictionalley. I

bought it, and I must say it is smashing. There is no better reference work for American-British conversion available. It is comprehensive and understandable - also funny; I sometimes find myself just reading a series of entries for the humour value. I absolutely recommend this to anyone trying to write in the British style. There are only two drawbacks. One, the indexing is rather rudimentary. It's sometimes hard to find what one wants. Second, it's rather dear - over \$50 (35) for a couple hundred pages in hardback. But, as it's a specialty work, I suppose the price is to be expected.

Students, teachers, and language lovers alike will have immediate access to an alphabetical listing of more than 5,000 "Briticisms" and their correlating "Americanisms." Also featured in this fully revised and updated volume are lively, up-to-date discussions of British language, pronunciation, punctuation, style, usage, and culture; and special sections on units of measure, automotive terms, cricket terms, and more.

From Booklist In an effort to unravel the differences between British and American English, Schur published his first guide, entitled *British Self-Taught: With Comments in American*, in 1973. When a revised edition appeared in 1980, the title was changed to *English English*, and the 1987 revision was published as *British English A to Zed*. This latest edition has been revised by Ehrlich, coeditor of the *Oxford American Dictionary*. The approximately 5,000 Briticisms covered in this dictionary include words and phrases that Americans generally do not use at all (for example, dabs, meaning fingerprints) as well as terms used in both the U.S and Britain but that have different meanings (such as bomb, which in Britain means a smash hit, but in America indicates just the opposite). Entries indicate the American equivalent for each Briticism and usually provide additional explanation. Valuable supplemental material appears in two appendixes, the first of which outlines the basic differences between British and American English regarding syntax, pronunciation, punctuation, and spelling. The second appendix provides a means of identifying terms in specific areas, including currency, finance, weights and measures, and cricket. An index to American equivalents completes the volume. Ehrlich has put his stamp on the dictionary by condensing and rewriting significant portions of the work. He has dropped a large number of terms and has significantly shortened many of the remaining entries by deleting illustrative examples and editorial commentary. In addition, Ehrlich has added a handful of new terms, including finger (shot of booze), ruby wedding (fortieth wedding anniversary), and scrotty (crummy). *British English A to Zed* continues to be a useful source for public and academic libraries. Because this revision treats relatively few new terms, it is not an essential purchase for libraries that own the 1987 revision or its 1991 paperback reprint.

RBB Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved "A reference designed to ease Americans' confusion over British usage, explaining 5,000 British slang terms and common phrases." - Book News

About the Author Norman W. Schur was a lawyer, a graduate of Columbia Law School, and a lexicographer. His first book *British Self-Taught: With Comments in American* was published in 1973 and revised in 1980, 1987, and 2007. He passed away in 1992. Eugene Ehrlich, Ph.D., (Mamaroneck, NY) is professor emeritus of English Literature at Columbia University and has been a commentator for National Public Radio.