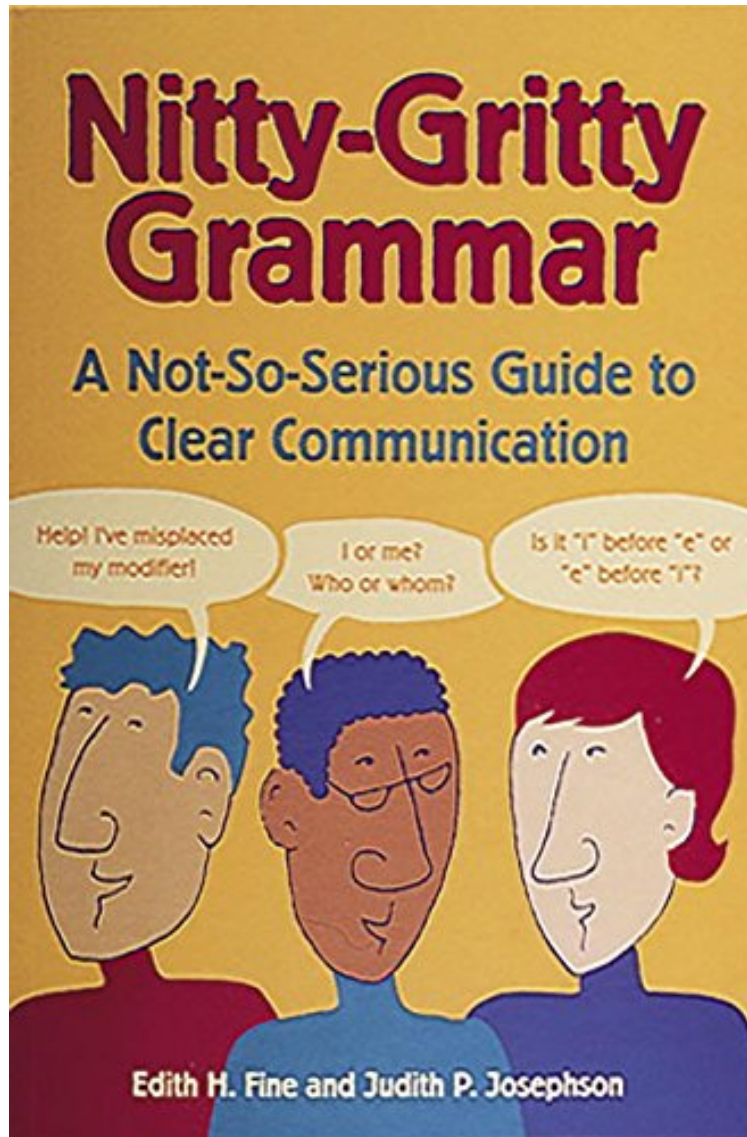


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Nitty-Gritty Grammar: A Not-So-Serious Guide to Clear Communication

Edith H. Fine, Judith P. Josephson
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Edith H. Fine, Judith P. Josephson : Nitty-Gritty Grammar: A Not-So-Serious Guide to Clear Communication before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Nitty-Gritty Grammar: A Not-So-Serious Guide to Clear Communication:

28 of 28 people found the following review helpful. An outstanding book-- educational and entertainingBy A

Customer "Nitty-Gritty Grammar" is an outstanding book. I read it prior to having its authors Edith Fine and Judith Josephson on my talk radio show on WRKO Radio in Boston. They were informative and funny and the phone lines were full the entire hour they were on my show. The key to this book is that it is both educational and entertaining. In someone else's hands, this book could be a real snoozer. In Judith and Edith's hands, it is a work of art. If you read this book, you will stop making up "irregardless" and other words which don't exist (see page 85.) You will stop mispronouncing words like "asterisk" (it's not asterick-- see page 72.) And you will never again misplace your apostrophes, dangle your participles or commit other high crimes and misdemeanors against grammar, spelling, punctuation and pronunciation (see pages 1-102--the entire book.) The book includes many cartoons which will teach you while you laugh. The section on "Ways to Tame the Spelling Monster" is indispensable with clever ways to remember the correct spelling of words including "dessert" (it has two s's--think strawberry shortcake). If you only read the "ticker tape" which runs throughout the book at the bottom of each page, you will learn more than you did in twelve years of boring English classes. The amazing part of this book is that it can be used by children, teenagers and adults. I suggest you buy copies for your entire family and all your friends and coworkers. They'll speak properly when they thank you. Bob Katzen, WRKO Radio, Boston, Massachusetts

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Light-hearted
By Bob Smith
This is a good guide for general guidance, but not for grammar geeks. It will be best received by elementary and high school students, as well as those who just don't want to look ignorant. The title says it all. (Minor Kindle note: Some pages are unreadable in landscape mode but are fine in portrait mode. This is probably due to the frequent tables, cartoons and special characters.)
1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Remove Mystery - Add Mastery
By Frank L. Pope
I've taught English for over 45 years, and this is one of the best books available. Its simple, easy-to-understand tips provide the tools that take the mysteries out of the mastery of basic grammar. The authors' use of the Calvin and Hobbes' cartoons even make it a delightful read. English teachers would do well to incorporate this tool in their libraries.

An easy-to-follow guide for all of your grammar needs. With clear text, appealing cartoons, and a focus on common grammatical errors and how to correct them, this little volume is a real gem that should find a permanent place with companies, universities, and anyone seeking a user-friendly guide to style and usage.

.com This is a good, solid guide to basic grammar by two women who claim to be "nutty enough to have liked diagramming in school." Their book is clear. It is not boring. It even compares punctuation marks to traffic signals (a period is a stop sign, a comma a flashing yellow light). But its crowning glory is the nearly 30 cartoons--from Sally Forth, Beetle Bailey, The Far Side, and others--on the subject of grammar that are sure to delight anyone who is nutty enough to have liked diagramming in school. In our favorite, Hobbes tries to persuade Calvin that a pronoun is "a noun that lost its amateur status." Calvin, after pondering for a moment, writes it down. "Maybe I can get a point for originality," he says. --Jane Steinberg
From Library Journal
Fine and Josephson teach "Nitty-Gritty" Grammar for the San Diego State University extension program and have written many books, including File A Don't Pile! (St. Martin's, 1994). Their new book is a clever and fun way to review or learn the rules of grammar. Included are all of the hokey rhymes and sayings learned in grammar school, e.g., "Use i before e except after c, or when sounded like a as in neighbor or weigh." Each page has an example sentence illustrating a common mistake and a reference to the rule that explains it, and jokes and comics are used throughout to keep things light. Now there's finally hope that some readers may learn how to diagram a sentence. This is a useful book at a good price and fun besides. Recommended for all public libraries.
ALisa J. Cihlar, Monroe P.L., WI
Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc. Grammar, like love, is a perpetual mystery, and books on how to do either better are eternal. In NITTY-GRITTY GRAMMAR, Edith H. Fine and Judith P. Josephson attack the homonyms and dangling modifiers that? which? frequently plague even native speakers, and even delve into the fine points of diagramming. -Publishers Weekly