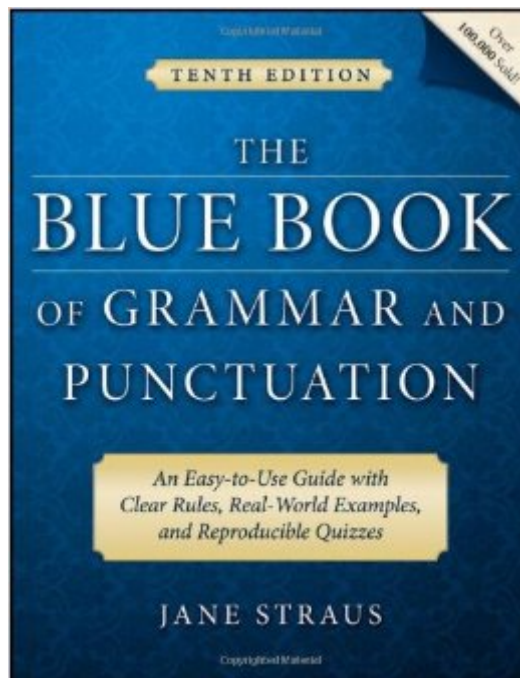


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The Blue Book Of Grammar And Punctuation: An Easy-to-Use Guide With Clear Rules, Real-World Examples, And Reproducible Quizzes



Synopsis

The Blue Book of Grammar and Punctuation is filled with easy-to-understand rules, real-world examples, dozens of reproducible exercises, and pre- and post-tests. This handy workbook is ideal for teachers, students in middle school through college, ESL students, homeschoolers, and professionals. Valuable for anyone who takes tests or writes reports, letters, Web pages, e-mails, or blogs, The Blue Book offers instant answers to everyday English usage questions.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I'm a writer, editor, and writing teacher. I've never considered myself a grammarian, but I'm pretty good at recognizing what's correct and what's not. I currently teach a grammar course at a community college and have been looking for good grammar books. I bought this one for two reasons: low cost and high rating. I should have looked at the unusual number of single-star reviews. You get what you pay for. Even upon quick review, I found numerous errors and just plain bad advice. Here are a few examples:

COLONS In her section on colons, the author implies that there are only two occasions to use the colon: when lists follow independent clauses and when sentences are joined without a coordinating conjunction, as long as the second sentence "explains or illustrates the first sentence." This is bad advice! First, what follows a colon most certainly does not have to be a complete sentence: a phrase or clause will do. Yet she doesn't have a so-called "rule" for this very common use of the colon! Here's one example of a colon construction that she completely ignores: He was greeted by a horrible sight: a dead dog on his doorstep. Furthermore,

she instructs the reader to "use a colon instead of a semicolon" when the the second sentence "explains or clarifies" the first, yet in her examples,a semicolon would be entirely acceptable, or even preferable! This is totally misleading and just plain bad advice.Her Examples:I enjoy reading: novels by Kurt Vonnegut are among my favorites.Garlic is used in Italian cooking: it greatly enhances the flavor of pasta dishes.In each case, the semicolon would be a perfectly good punctuation choice, yet she has instructed the reader not to use it!

I am having a hard time leaving an actual star review of this book, as the content of the book deserves a 5 star rating, while the organization is not user friendly, and the "quizzes" are very lackluster.In order to receive real quizzes and content, the authors of this book demand that you pay a substantial fee (\$30.00 for a limited number of logins - one year or \$129.00 unlimited logins - one year) in order to access their subscription area of the website that goes along with this book. This is never mentioned in the description, and I would like those thinking about purchasing this book based on quizzes, tests, and other content to be fully aware of what they are buying (or not buying in this instance).Furthermore, you really do not need to purchase this book unless you would rather have paper in front of you. You are able to go to GrammarBook.com and view this book in its entirety on the website and even take the menial quizzes online if you choose. Just be sure you scroll down BELOW the actually "HEY, BUY ME" stuff to take the free, interactive quizzes. You may also purchase individual quizzes from the subscription service for \$1.00 each. This might be beneficial if you do not want to purchase the entire subscription package but want more practice in certain areas that need more work.If you are interested in having the book in front of you, here is a little info on it.The book starts out with an introduction and such, like most books, then leads into the lessons. The lessons are 5 star quality as they are basic, simple to explain, teach and understand. I LOVE THESE LESSONS! One thing I particularly like in the lessons is the "note" section.

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