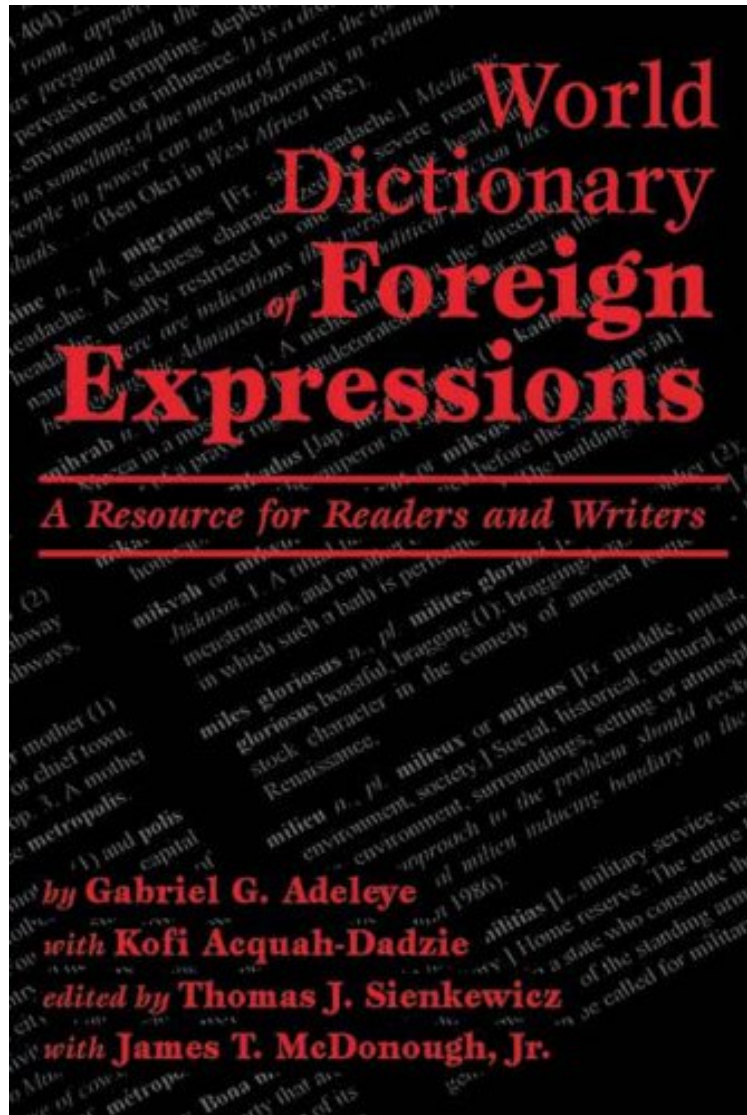


World Dictionary of Foreign Expressions: A Resource for Readers and Writers

Gabriel G. Adeleye, Kofi Acquah-Dadzie, Kofi Acquah Dadzie
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Gabriel G. Adeleye, Kofi Acquah-Dadzie, Kofi Acquah Dadzie : World Dictionary of Foreign Expressions: A Resource for Readers and Writers before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised World Dictionary of Foreign Expressions: A Resource for Readers and Writers:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. In case you run across a virgo intacta, or something like that ...By ((Marco Buendia)))A long list of foreign expressions that someone or other might use or have used in English. I like

this sort of think, myself, and I like books like this, but I'm not sure, quite, who would find this book useful these days. At about 400 pages, it's not a short book, but it's not really long enough to cover all the non-English expressions that English readers might encounter when reading the more erudite forms of English. A disproportionate part of the book is Latin, and legal language, but it's not a legal dictionary. There are foreign expressions from all over the place, and applied in all sorts of contexts. It's pretty rarified stuff; the entry for "humanitas" tells us some of the things the word can mean, then refers us to "Geisteswissenschaften". It isn't just the old gentleman type of stuff, Latin and some Greek, plus French and Italian. It has words such as kolkhoz, from the Russian, now archaic as well, of course, with the demise of Communism. The copyright is 1999, but the copy I have in front of me was published by Bolchazy-Carducci of Wauconda, Illinois, who re-publish a lot of learned stuff. An oddity about the entries: in multiple word entries, we get a translation of each word, singly, before we get a full translation into plain (so far as possible) English, e.g. for: *Lasciate ogni speranza voi ch'entrate* we get: Dante Alighieri (1265-1321). *Inferno* III, 9, 4. [It. lasciate leave, abandon (1); ogni each, every (2); speranza hope (3); ch' who (5); entrate enter (6) Abandon every hope, you who enter.] Abandon all hope, all you who enter here, i.e. the gates of hell. It includes proper nouns, e.g. "L'Arlesienne" (the play), or "Ecclesiastusai" (ditto) where such words may be translated into common nouns. It also includes abbreviations (long strings with a lot of q's, more than you'll find in some Latin dictionaries). Another one of those "reference books" that libraries are throwing out because people Boogle things these days, or just don't give a d---. I wonder how useful it would be, in any context. Another one of those books you leaf through, or don't use at all. Perhaps, in another epoch, things were different. 6 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Good overall dictionary. By A Customer While the above Booklist review brings up many important points, I think that this is a good, not too thick, basic foreign expression dictionary that will help the casual reader and user understand phrases. Entries also include the person the phrase or expression is attributed to -- such as *veni, vidi, vici* from Caesar. 1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A useful writing resource. By H. G. Wilson A literate person needs to both understand and use expressions from other languages. This is a good tool to help you do so.

A unique and indispensable reference for lovers of language. Each entry -identifies the language of origin and gives a polished translation -provides a literal, word-by-word explication of each entry, which -lets the reader know as exactly as possible what the phrase means. Additional features -quotations from recent scholarship or journalism to model proper usage -easy to follow format that's gentle on the eye. Also available: *An Introduction to Greek* - ISBN 0865165548 *Smith's English-Latin Dictionary* - ISBN 0865164916. For over 30 years Bolchazy-Carducci Publishers has produced the highest quality Latin and ancient Greek books. From Dr. Seuss books in Latin to Plato's *Apology*, Bolchazy-Carducci's titles help readers learn about ancient Rome and Greece; the Latin and ancient Greek languages are alive and well with titles like Cicero's *De Amicitia* and Kaegi's *Greek Grammar*. We also feature a line of contemporary eastern European and WWII books. Some of the areas we publish in include: *Selections From The Aeneid* *Latin Grammar Pronunciation* *Greek Grammar Pronunciation* *Texts Supporting Wheelock's Latin Classical author workbooks: Vergil, Ovid, Horace, Catullus, Cicero* *Vocabulary Cards For AP Selections: Vergil, Ovid, Catullus, Horace* *Greek Mythology* *Greek Lexicon* *Slovak Culture And History*

From *Library Journal* Stone follows up his *Latin for the Illiterati* (LJ 12/96) with this new dictionary, structured around the subtitle's three areas: medicine, law, and religion. Translations are brief and literal. The dictionary concludes with some of the same information given in Latin for the *Illiterati* as well as newer miscellaneous information, including Latin selections (with English translations) from the Roman Catholic liturgy. The dictionary ends with an English-Latin index. The major drawback is the arrangement by topic. The three different topic areas must be checked if the user doesn't know whether the word or phrase is medical, legal, or religious (there is no Latin index). On the positive side, this dictionary contains many terms not found in other recent Latin-English dictionaries, such as James Morwood's *A Dictionary of Latin Words and Phrases* (Oxford Univ., 1998). Adeleye's *World Dictionary of Foreign Expressions* provides translations from over 20 languages, making it an excellent resource for general users. Each definition indicates part of speech, language of origin, plural forms, and literal translation (including the literal translation of each word in a phrase). Also included are lengthier, connotative definitions, examples of use in sentences, and, when appropriate, cross references to other terms. Adeleye's dictionary is recommended for all public and academic libraries; Stone's is for libraries needing a more specialized resource. Cynthia A. Johnson, Barnard Coll. Lib., New York Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc. From *Booklist* Many words and phrases from other languages find their way into English. This is especially true in professional jargons. Literary, historical, and religious writings also contain expressions from other languages. Readers who are unfamiliar with these words need a source for translations. This dictionary is a compilation of two separate projects undertaken by the authors: a dictionary of Latin terms for lawyers and a more general dictionary of terms from other languages for readers. It contains words and phrases from more than 20 languages, with an emphasis on Latin legal terms. There are abbreviations, single words, and phrases pertaining to history, literature, the arts, and, to a lesser degree, the sciences. Each alphabetical entry contains the term, its designation (noun, adjective, etc.), language, and translation. The translation includes a

word-by-word explication as well as a finished version. Many entries also include sentences or phrases that illustrate usage. Although the word-by-word explication of phrases is a unique feature, it is not necessarily useful. Unless a reader is familiar with the grammar of the language in question, the very literal translation involved here will not make sense. Making the leap from this crude rendering to the polished version is not easy because there is no explanation of the grammar rules. Some of the examples provided indicate less than thorough knowledge of idiomatic English. The French phrase *au naturel* is defined as "in the natural state. Nude. Naked." It is also defined as "done, performed, accomplished, etc. in a natural manner." The example for this definition is "James is a very pleasant man, and one of his assets is his *au naturel* behavior." Some of the transliterations and translations of Hebrew and Yiddish words are not accurate. *Tzitzit*, the knotted fringes on Jewish prayer shawls, are entered as *zizith*. A cross-reference from the first spelling would make the word easier to find. The Yiddish word *yahrzeit* is correctly translated as the anniversary of a death, but the added statement that it marks the end of the official mourning period is misleading because the date is observed annually. The terms *schlemiel* and *schlimazel* have almost identical definitions, although there are subtle differences. *Schlemiel* is clumsy, inept, and unlucky, while *schlimazel* is perpetually out of luck. There are other dictionaries of foreign terms with more useful features. The Oxford Dictionary of Foreign Words and Phrases [RBB Ap 1 98] has 8,000 words and phrases from more than 40 languages. It includes pronunciation and has an index by language, which helps users locate specific expressions. The Harper Dictionary of Foreign Terms (3d ed., Harper, 1987) contains 15,000 expressions from more than 50 languages, with an English-language index. Either of these is better for general readers. The World Dictionary is most suitable for users who need translations of legal terms that they cannot find in Black's Law Dictionary. Reference Books in Brief The following is a list of additional recent and recommended reference sources. '...an invaluable tool...It is, at once, an impressive work of scholarship and an unmatched source of fun!' -- Margaret Richek, Northeastern Illinois University '...will become a classic. The research and presentation are of the highest quality, informative and enthusiastic.' -- The Book Reader, Fall/Winter, 1999-2000 The authors offer a good one-stop guide to non-English expressions that occur in English contexts [...]. -- W. Miller, Florida Atlantic University [...] a quick scan provides intriguing expressions in languages from Sanskrit to Yiddish. Not too quick, though, since almost every entry invites contemplation. --Neil Steinberg