Indian and British English
A Handbook of Usage and Pronunciation

P. N. Nihalani, R. K. Tongue, and Priya Hosali

New Delhi: OUP
1990

Reviews

'it gives a fascinating insight into how a common language may develop distinct regional variations while remaining totally comprehensible to the speakers from both cultures' Malcolm Pain, Telegraph & Argus

'most dictionaries plough, roughly speaking, the same furrows. So it is always a joy to find one that breaks new ground: Indian and British English: a Handbook of Usage and Pronunciation does.' David Holloway, Sunday Telegraph

'We now have... a handbook admirably conceived and produced... in India... The approach is descriptive and informative... as interesting as reading a thriller...' -- The Humanities Review

'The authors' aim is a very "modest one", but what they have actually produced is highly commendable. [They] aim at an objective compilation of some of the peculiar features of English used by Indians... extremely valuable, useful, technical and otherwise, information about Indian English usage. The book is the only one of its kind...' -- Indian Book Chronicle

Description

India's contact with the West has resulted in the distinctive vocabulary of Indian English. This easy to use dictionary contains many of the European words that have been Indianized, several of which no longer exist in British English. This is an essential handbook for all Indian speakers wishing to improve their English.

Since English is widely spoken in India, Indian speakers (and writers) of English find it useful to recognize the many, often quite subtle, ways in which Indian English differs from standard British English usage, and where these differences are regarded as acceptable or substandard. The many examples which supplement the text are a distinctive feature of the book. The text is also a handbook for all users of English who are uncertain of the correctness of their speech and writing, as well as anyone who wants to refer to differences between Indian and British uses of English words and phrases. It also addresses special problems faced by those who are learning English, and the difficulties of recognizing nuances of meaning and usage.

Special Features

- Easy-to-read dictionary format with plenty of examples
- Contains Indianized European words
- Gives differences between British Standard English (BSE) and Indian Variants of English (IVE)
- Compares phonological systems of British Received Pronunciation and Educated Indian English
- For use as a guide in schools and colleges, for the Indian learner as well as the teacher of English, and those who write in English, such as journalists and general readers.

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