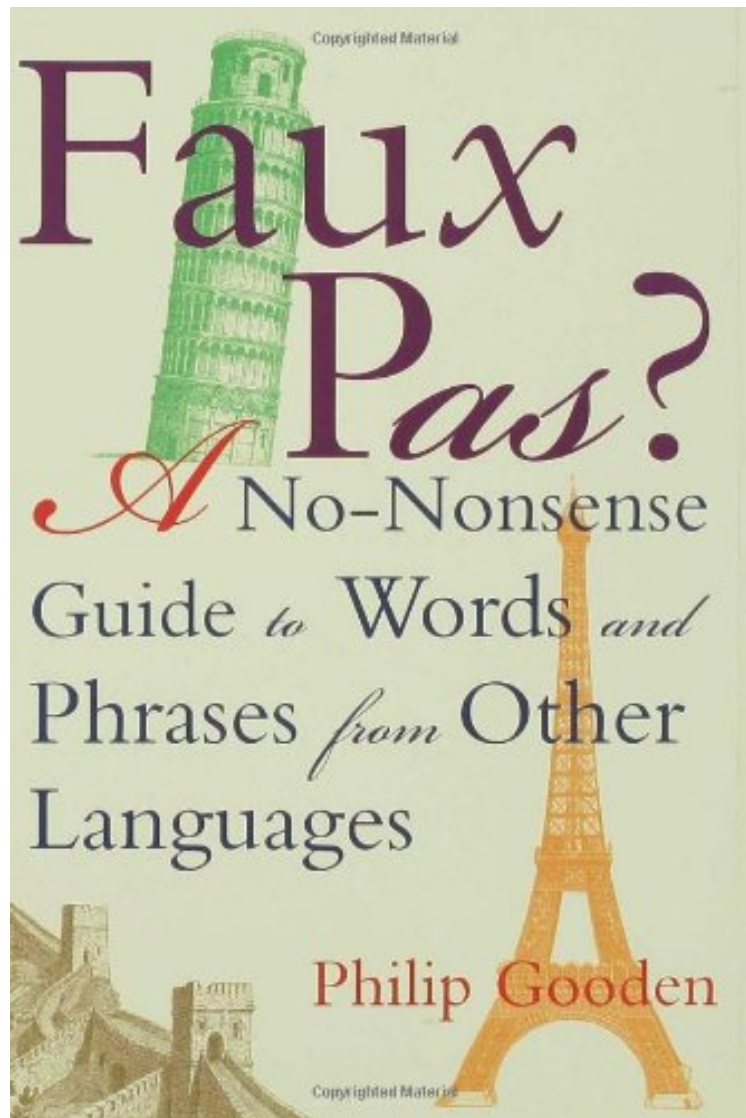


(Free) Faux Pas: A No-nonsense Guide to Words and Phrases

Faux Pas: A No-nonsense Guide to Words and Phrases

Philip Gooden

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#1041864 in Books 2006-03-21 2006-03-21 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.00 x .80 x 5.381, .75 #File Name: 0802714730256 pages | File size: 57.Mb

Philip Gooden : Faux Pas: A No-nonsense Guide to Words and Phrases before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Faux Pas: A No-nonsense Guide to Words and Phrases:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Faux Pas: All of the bons mots you could ask for (and that's here, too)By John WilliamsonWordsmiths can never seem to find enough books to cover words and their usage. Just when you think that you have enough dictionaries, style manuals and phrase books, up pops another.I bought Faux Pas: A No-nonsense Guide to Words and Phrases by Philip Gooden when looking for an entirely different title here, and have to admit that there are no regrets. It's a fascinating and sometimes humorous expos of the foreign words and phrases

that pop up in usage of our daily language. Each entry from A to Z offers a translation of the word or expression, the language of origin, and its pronunciation. There are insightful and sometimes witty comments on word and phrase usage, along with enlightening examples from the popular press, though these seem to have a decided British focus. There's also a 'Pretentiousness Index' that will help you avoid committing any linguistic faux pas. Philip Gooden's *Faux Pas* offers us a good selection from the thousands of foreign terms that have been absorbed into the English language. If you're fascinated by words or simply want to expand your vocabulary with some well-chosen and fitting *bons mots*, then this book is a good choice.

5/8/2013 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great look at foreign language words used in English. This book is written for a British audience, and quite a few of the foreign words used in England are not used in the US. Each word has a sample of its use taken from a newspaper/periodical, and I think all of those sources are based out of England. Great book, well written, nice background material for each word (a few sentences or so), in addition to the definition, language or origin, pronunciation.

9 of 10 people found the following review helpful. Learning foreign words has never been so much fun! By dan bloom Great book, and an important one in this global village we now live in. One quibble from the American side of the Pond. Most of the context statements are from British papers, and some of the references are hard to understand for us Yankees. Case in point: Gooden cites a piece from the Guardian newspaper in the UK for the Japanese term "hara kiri" (Japanese ritual suicide), and the sentence from the UK paper goes: "Politically, any school remaining bog standard nowadays in committing hara-kiri." So what does bog standard mean? We need another book guide to Britishisms! In the meantime, this book is no faux pas at all, but a darn good one.

Have you ever been embarrassed by the *bons mots* that some people toss casually into conversation, or wished that you had a clever retort? *Faux Pas* offers insight into hundreds of these phrases that readers will (or might not) want to use in writing or conversation once they know their correct meanings and usage. Entries include both familiar terms and phrases that are new, curious, or even just amusing. Each expression is "translated" and denotes the language of origin, pronunciation, and usefulness. A Pretentiousness Index is included for many expressions to assist you in avoiding inappropriate usage." Whether you are a linguaphile or a professional wordsmith, or just want to impress your friends with a few well-chosen *apercus*, Philip Gooden's guide can rescue you from potential language land mines and help you to maintain your sangfroid. Full of examples drawn from everyday contexts, *Faux Pas* will make sure that you don't upset any honchos with your *chutzpah*.

About the Author Philip Gooden read English at Magdalen College, Oxford, and then taught at secondary level for many years. In 2001 he became a full-time writer. He is the author of the Nick Revill series, a sequence of historical mysteries based in Elizabethan London and set around Shakespeare's Globe theatre. Titles so far published are *Sleep of Death*, *Death of Kings*, *The Pale Companion* (shortlisted for the Ellis Peters Historical Dagger award in 2002), *Alms for Oblivion*, *Mask of Night* and *An Honourable Murderer*. A contributor to various short story anthologies, Philip Gooden also works as an editor, most recently on the *Mammoth Book of Literary Anecdotes* and a new edition of Arthur Conan Doyle's *The Lost World* for Penguin Classics. He has also written the popular *Who's Whose?: A No-Nonsense Guide to Easily-Confused Words*, published by Bloomsbury. He lives in Bath where he is currently working on the first in a new series of historical novels.