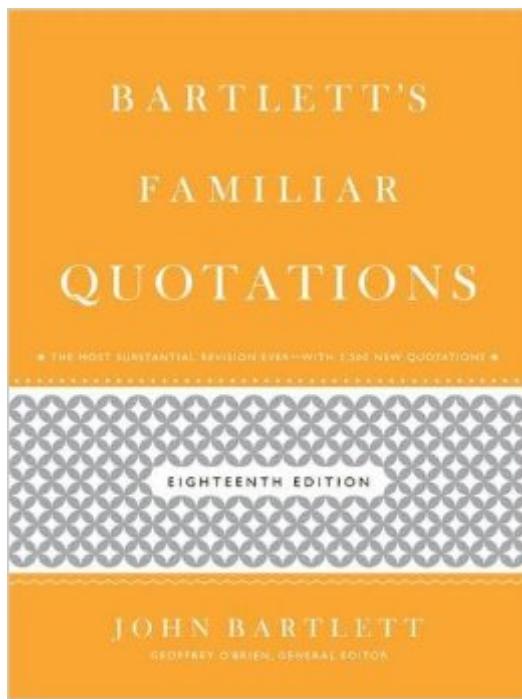


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Bartlett's Familiar Quotations



Synopsis

More than 150 years after its original publication, BARTLETT'S FAMILIAR QUOTATIONS has been completely revised and updated for its eighteenth edition. BARTLETT'S showcases a sweeping survey of world history, from the times of ancient Egyptians to present day. New authors include Warren Buffett, the Dalai Lama, Bill Gates, David Foster Wallace, Emily Post, Steve Jobs, Jimi Hendrix, Paul Krugman, Hunter S. Thompson, Jon Stewart, Elizabeth Kubler-Ross, Barack Obama, Che Guevara, Randy Pausch, Desmond Tutu, Julia Child, Fran Leibowitz, Harper Lee, Nassim Nicholas Taleb, Patti Smith, William F. Buckley, and Robert F. Kennedy. In the classic BARTLETT'S tradition, the book offers readers and scholars alike a vast, stunning representation of those words that have influenced and molded our language and culture.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This big book is a must have for quotation fans. Why in the age of Google and an internet flooded with quotations sites would we need a big heavy book of quotations? One word: serendipity. With this great book, you can page through and randomly find amazing quotations. Or you can read the book in order, which is chronological. What a way to discover great thinkers, writers and statesmen! I love to randomly open a page and just see what interesting quote I can find. Of course the other reason to buy this book is: organization. It is well indexed by key word and also organized by whom is quoted, in chronological order. What a fantastic desk-top resource this is.

Fantastic book. You can open it up to a random page and be transported to a completely different world and time. You'll keep doing this over and over again, and fortunately it doesn't appear to induce motion sickness. You can also place this volume on the ground and stand on it to see over a crowd. Depending on your height, your mileage may vary. Very happy with this purchase.

One of my childhood memories is the copy of Bartlett's on my parents' desk. I would spend hours browsing the familiar quotes, especially those made by famous, familiar people. Although I purchased this for my college age grandchild, I found myself again browsing its pages. Some of the quotations were the ones of old, but as I read so many that have been added since the one I loved as a child, I became nostalgic. I would read a quotation and memories would come flooding back. I would think of what was going on in my life at the time, the state of the world when the quote was made. Many quotes made me sad because I know what the future held for the speaker. Others made me smile. Most made me grateful for the life I have lived through these recent historic decades. Bartlett's is not merely a list of memorial quotes, but a commentary of our culture and times.

As a speechwriter, I'm asked to include quotes from noteworthy people. Invariably, my clients see something on Facebook and are convinced it is accurate. It might be, but we all know Albert Einstein didn't say everything attributed to him. That's where Bartlett's Familiar Quotations kicks in. I've been using this since childhood, and now, as it is continually updated, it searches for the balances of classical and new quotes. Among the things Bartlett's does better than some former Star Trek star posting quotable memes on social media is that these are vetted. They are sourced. You know who really said them. Don't speak at a fundraiser and say, "J. K. Rowling said..." when, in fact, it was actually in the Bible, Shakespeare or Bob Dylan. Bartlett's will help you there. Can it be better? Yes. It can be thicker. Make it comprehensive, not merely portable. As the marketing copy says, it now includes, "Warren Buffett, the Dalai Lama, Bill Gates, David Foster Wallace, Emily Post, Steve Jobs, Jimi Hendrix, Paul Krugman, Hunter S. Thompson, Jon Stewart, Elizabeth Kubler-Ross, Barack Obama, Che Guevara, Randy Pausch, Desmond Tutu, Julia Child, Fran Leibowitz, Harper Lee, Nassim Nicholas Taleb, Patti Smith, William F. Buckley, and Robert F. Kennedy." That's great, but be sure to retain the classics. While for me, this is a tool of the trade, it is also wildly entertaining, inspiring and challenging. There are reasons speakers love using quotes: they say important things well. Whether you want this at your office or on your coffee table, buy Bartlett's. Anthony

A comprehensive compilation of famous quotes although some were left out (O'Brien's room 101 statement in Orwell's "1984", for example, "You asked me once," said O'Brien, 'what was in Room 101'. I told you that you knew the answer already. Everyone knows it. The thing that is in Room 101 is the worst thing in the world"). It's easy to use; you can find quotes by author's name or by the key words. Some of the quotes that Geoffrey O'Brien (General Editor) selected were obviously chosen for the political ideology of the speaker, not for the erudite wisdom the words express. Obama and Sotomayor (and her racist "wise Latina" comment) are two examples of far left ideology while Justice Clarence Thomas' only quote is from his confirmation hearing and nothing from his Supreme Court opinions. Thomas Jefferson's "swinish multitudes" and the "rogues" who "nestle themselves into places of power and profit" (Letter to Mann Page, 1795) and "elective despotism" are examples that should be included. Still and all, it's a valuable book, well worth the price and very informative.

I have used the Oxford Dictionary of Quotations for years, and am presently using their most recent edition. Bartlett's is far more comprehensive and includes many more of the words surrounding the actual quote so you can see it in context. This adds impact and better understanding to the quotation itself.

As a professional speaker, a creator of picture word quotes, and a writer, this is an indispensable resource. I often browse for quotes that inspire material to write or speak about, not vice versa. Lots of old standard quotes, and lots I have not heard or read before. If serious about speaking or writing, be serious about acquiring this resource.

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