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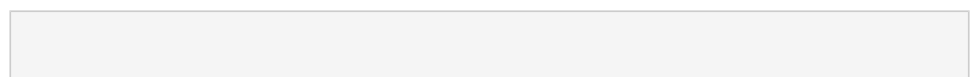
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About the Author

The Editors of the American Heritage Dictionaries are trained lexicographers with a varied array of interests and expertise. Most of the editors hold graduate degrees, and several have degrees in linguistics or in the history of the English language. All the editors familiarize themselves with the vocabulary in specific subject areas, collect materials on new developments and usage, and work in association with consultants to ensure that the content of our publications is as accurate and up-to-date as possible.

Steven Pinker, Chair of the American Heritage Dictionary Usage Panel, is Harvard College Professor and Johnstone Family Professor of Psychology at Harvard University. He has also taught at Stanford and MIT. His research on visual cognition and the psychology of language has won prizes from the National Academy of Sciences, the Royal Institution of Great Britain, and the American Psychological Association. He has also received six honorary doctorates, several teaching awards, and numerous prizes for his books *The Language Instinct*, *How the Mind Works*, and *The Blank Slate*. He is currently Honorary President of the Canadian Psychological Association, and writes frequently for *The New Republic*, *The New York Times*, and other publications. He has been named Humanist of the Year, and is listed in *Foreign Policy and Prospect* magazine's The World's Top 100 Public Intellectuals and in *Time* magazine's The 100 Most Influential People in the World Today. His latest book is *The Stuff of Thought: Language as a Window into Human Nature*.

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