

Reading



How to Use a Dictionary

A good dictionary gives the user information about words such as spellings, pronunciations and definitions. It also gives examples of how to use the words in sentences correctly. Therefore, it is essential to know how to use a dictionary. In this lesson, we provide you with some helpful tips on how to use a dictionary effectively.

1. Choose the Right Dictionary. There are many different types of dictionaries such as learner's dictionaries, general dictionaries, picture dictionaries, etc. Therefore, first identify your needs. Without choosing the right one you cannot meet your language needs.

2. Read the Introduction. The best way to learn how to use your dictionary effectively is to read its introduction. This section explains issues like how entries are arranged, what information is offered in entries and what abbreviations and pronunciation symbols are used throughout the entries.

3. Learn the Abbreviations. Different types of abbreviations are often used in the definitions for a word. This can be confusing if you do not know what the abbreviations stand for.

