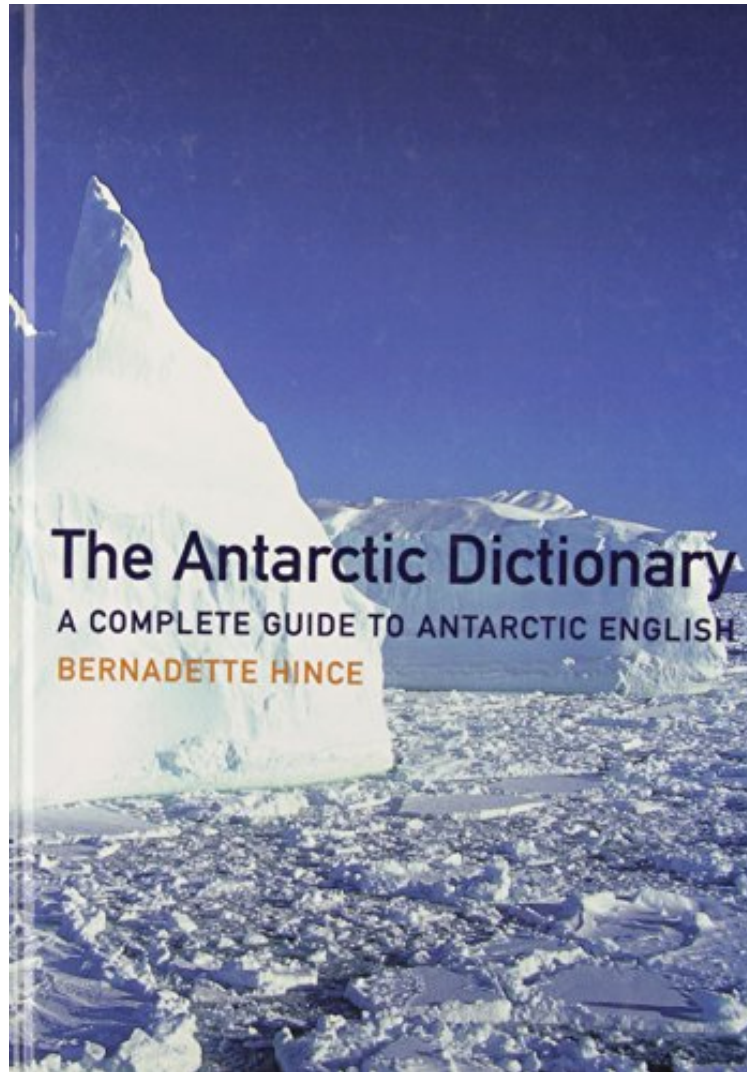


(Read free ebook) Antarctic Dictionary: A Complete Guide to Antarctic English

Antarctic Dictionary: A Complete Guide to Antarctic English

Bernadette Hince

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Bernadette Hince : Antarctic Dictionary: A Complete Guide to Antarctic English before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Antarctic Dictionary: A Complete Guide to Antarctic English:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Cool companion to Antarctic adventureBy Scribblers2How bizarre -- a dictionary of Antarctic English! Yet what a great find. I began reading this dictionary one roasting hot summer heatwave in Australia, and it was more refreshing than air-conditioning. Reading about 'cold currents', 'ice-fog' and snow sledging journeys with dogs into the Antarctic interior had me mentally dwelling in that land of eternal snow and howling blizzards.What gives this book such interest is that the definition of each term is accompanied by

illustrative quotes from a vast range of source material, including many of the early Antarctic explorers' diaries and journals. Since that summer, I've re-acquainted with the dictionary during a cruise to Antarctica and found it a very handy guide. To be able to name and describe what you are looking at, from icebergs (brash ice, bergy bits, growlers) to seals (weddells, crabeaters, lions), from whales (minke, humpback, orca) to the wind (Roaring Forties, Furious Fifties, the fumigator, katabatic), helps you understand more and therefore gain even more from the extraordinary experience. Technically, the dictionary covers the "literature of the English-speaking presences in Antarctica and the sub-Antarctic from earliest writings until modern times", and the author claims 20,000 quotations from published sources (UK, USA, Australia, NZ and South Africa). Beautifully laid out, and painstakingly researched, the dictionary is clearly a reliable and authoritative work by CSIRO Publishing. Many of the words are borrowings from north polar regions, brought by Norwegian, Russian or Canadian whalers (mukluks, pemmican). However, many were coined in Antarctica to describe the unfamiliar fauna and terrain. As Sir Ranulph Fiennes writes in his Foreword: "I have had the privilege of trekking across Antarctica and like others before me, found myself in an environment so alien to human experience, so overwhelmingly different, that even the riches of the English language were often inadequate to describe it." It sounds strange to enjoy reading a dictionary but this is not heavy going at all. Unexpected humour (tourists are warned to avoid inflicting 'Kodak poisoning' on the wildlife ('the imaginary affliction of a subject of frenzied photographing'), strange and beautiful concepts ("snow bow": 'a rainbow reflecting the sun's light in snow rather than rain', cited in Moseley (1879) "One evening, where there was a very slight fall of snow at the time that there was a brilliant sunset, a snow bow was seen arching high up in the sky. It did not show regularly arranged prismatic colours, but only a uniform bright pinkish yellow hazy light."), and examples of extraordinary courage and perseverance by so many explorers add warmth and colour to this text that describes so icy and white a world. Highly recommended for anyone visiting Antarctica, as a tourist or a 'frozen chosen' ('those who work in Antarctica'), or if you are enduring an extreme summer heatwave and just need to chill out.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. excellent. By M. Fowler If you are any kind of Antarctica buff, you owe it to yourself to get this book. Just reading the histories of some of the word usages is fascinating in and of itself, and a few of the words, well ... men under stress have to have a sense of humor to help them survive, and this dictionary documents that very well. My only complaint is that the type was a little small, but other than that, excellent.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Antarctic Dictionary You Will Want to READ By Hazel Edwards 'Snotsicle' you can probably guess, but ever heard of 'Kodak-poisoning', 'Big-eye' or 'The frozen chosen'? Neither had I, before reading 'The Antarctic Dictionary'. Reading about Antarctica is cooling, especially during a hot Australian summer. Take a slow browse especially through the recently dated, well sourced quotations which are very readable. Some are expeditioners' diary extracts. Kodak or Fiji poisoning is the imaginary affliction of being the subject of frenzied photographing. Penguins and icebergs get it a lot. 'Big-eye' is insomnia, attributed to the length of daylight in Antarctic summers. The 'frozen chosen' is US derived, for those who work in Antarctica. Otherwise they're known as Antarcticans or maybe Casey-ites or Mawson-ites if that is their work station. Antarctica has a mystique, even if it isn't on the Qantas map. Until I read lexicographer Bernadette Hince's introduction, I hadn't thought about Antarctica's lack of local native speakers. Unlike the Arctic human inhabitants, Antarctic penguins and seals didn't speak much, a challenge for any dictionary-creator. So it makes sense that many of the 15,000 quotations from 1,000 sources were attempts to label new ice-scapes, birds (shags), food (chompers) equipment (larc and quad), weather (the fumigator), shelter (melon hut) or states of mind in Antarctica. Early sealers and whalers were Scandinavian and northern words like pemmican (a dried meat) were adapted to 'pem'. Before this dictionary, no-one had ever made a study of the English of Antarctica. As explorer Sir Ranulph Fiennes points out in the foreword, the dictionary contains "...the language of scientists, engineers, technicians and doctors of the nations that have established permanent bases in Antarctica." Resourcefulness is evident. 'teabag' (Aust) is an Antarctic word, attributed to Mawson in 1912 and to another 1909 Australian expedition. The 'A' factor is a humorous term for the unreasonableness of things due to severe weather or extreme isolation. A 'moop' is a man out of phase due to changing patterns of light (like a high latitude version of jet-lag) Being 'toasted' means feeling anti-social and needing to be left alone. Polar ennui is explained. All references are masculine, no mention of a 'woop', (woman out of phase) although ice-widow, whose partner winters in Antarctica, is documented. 'Bottom of the world' is supported by a reference to: 'There are some things women don't do, 'Harry Darlington told his bride. 'They don't become Pope or President -or go down to the Antarctic.' A reasonable statement in 1947. Just a few weeks after their wedding, her husband was going away to the bottom of the world for a full year.' (Barbara Land: The New Explorers: Women in Antarctica. 1981) So, who will buy this dictionary? Students. Expeditioners. Antarctica has become so 'cool' that 14,000 tourists visited last summer. And, as a temporary 'frozen chosen', I'll understand when I am called a Jafo (Just another.... observer.) by mid-winter-ites.

Description The world's most isolated continent has spawned some of the most unusual words in the English language. In the space of a mere century, a remarkable vocabulary has evolved to deal with the extraordinary environment and living organisms of the Antarctic and subantarctic. Here, for the first time, is a complete guide to the origin and definitions of Antarctic words. Like other historical dictionaries, The Antarctic Dictionary gives the reader quotations

for each word. These quotations are the life-blood of the dictionary - more than 15 000 quotations from about 1000 different sources give the reader a unique insight into the way the language of Antarctica has evolved. The reader will find out what it means to be slotted, the shortcomings of homers, the joys of a donga and the hazards of a growler. The Antarctic Dictionary has been meticulously researched, and will appeal to all those who have been to the frozen continent or have ever dreamed of going there. It will also appeal to those fascinated by the development of language. With a forward by Sir Ranulph Fiennes.

" a genuine piece of scholarship by one who is an appropriately qualified editorial specialist who has worked in the Antarctic The volume is well produced by CSIRO and the Museum of Victoria, both institutions with a long history of quality publication." (Polar Record)This dictionary is unusual in being an enjoyable scholarly work. For the growing number of tourists to Antarctica, all of them avid to read everything they can find about it and for the jafas and winter-overers, this dictionary offers the language they will need for their time on the ice. If there is there any dictionary of English which I would want by my bedside, it would be this one. It is fascinating from start to finish, not just for a linguist or lexicographer but anyone who wants to experience the Antarctic through the lexis it has inspired and through the words of those who have been there. Perhaps this is the first post-modern dictionary in which the dictionary becomes an art form. (Koenraad Kuiper International Journal of Lexicography)"An important addition to any Antarctic collection." (D.W. Heron Choice)This is more than just a good glossary. The Antarctic Dictionary is a veritable encyclopedia of language, history, geography, flora, fauna and social science. Wayne Crawford (The Sunday Tasmanian, 25 March 2001) (Wayne Crawford The Sunday Tasmanian)"The Ice Continent has found its own Samuel Johnson in Bernadette Hince, a lexicographer who has meticulously documented the unique brand of English used by Americans, Australians, Britons, New Zealanders and South Africans working in Antarctica. (Jeff Rubin Chicago Tribune)I found the book fun to browse, especially as there are many supporting citations for each entry, so that the text as a whole builds up a fascinating picture of Antarctic exploration. (Michael Quinion)"Take a slow browse, especially through the recently dated, well-sourced quotations that are very readable. (Hazel Edwards)"The dazzling glitter of 20,000 quotations amid 2000 headwords prompts a search for dark glasses. In fact, The Antarctic Dictionary can be enjoyed bare-eyed and bare-handed at poolside As with all vigorous tributaries of our language, Antarctic English is rich in humour." (Frank Devine)Australia's love affair with Antarctica has been commemorated in the worlds first dictionary of Antarctic English Apart from the intrinsic pleasure of using expressions such as donga (a transportable dwelling), big eye (insomnia caused by 24-hour sunlight), jolly (a recreational trip) and homers (home-brewed beer), the dictionary also acts as a linguistic guide to the history of Antarctic exploration." Mark Chipperfield (The Bulletin, 9 January 2001) (Mark Chipperfield)I cannot imagine any Antarcticist not finding value and enlightenment in this volume David W. H. Walton (Antarctic Science, 2001) (David W. H. Walton Antarctic Science)