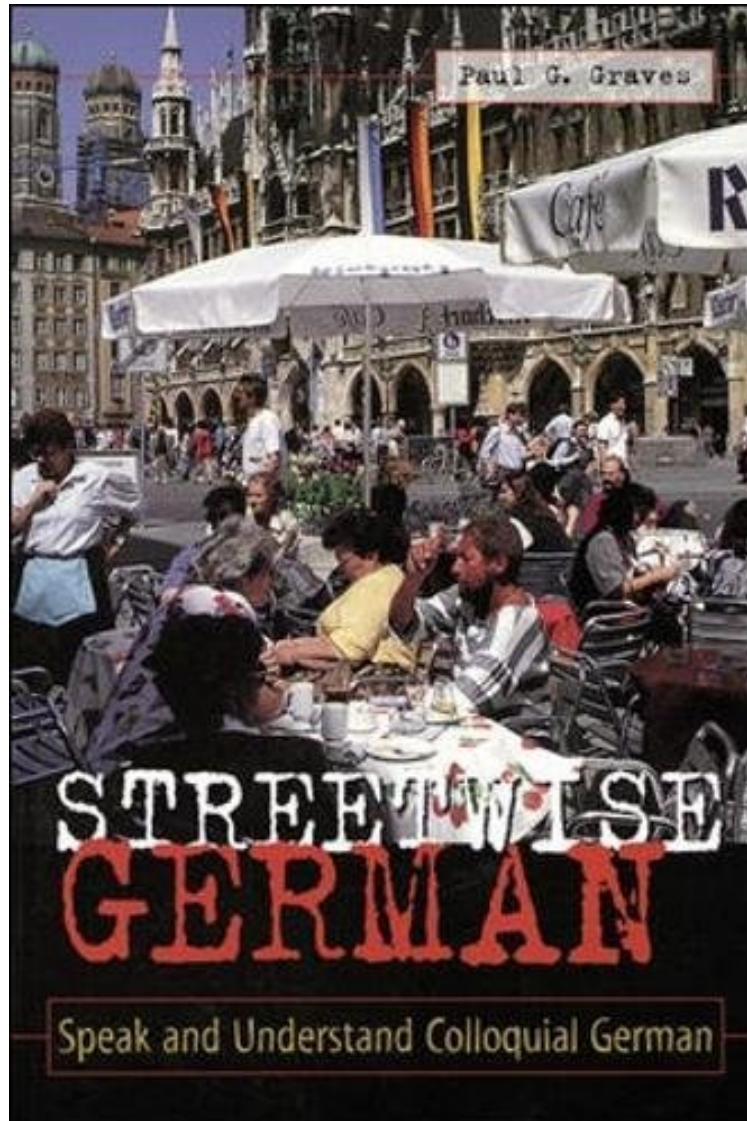


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Streetwise German: Speak and Understand Colloquial German

Paul G. Graves

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Paul G. Graves : Streetwise German: Speak and Understand Colloquial German before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Streetwise German: Speak and Understand Colloquial German:

0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Bought this for my nephew for his birthdayBy Marie K. SkowronekHe loved it and was very grateful. He is very fond of learning German, since he took several semesters in high school.5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. German nude and crudeBy Gabriel A. Da SilvaI'm

appalled by the review of other readers especially the German lot. I bought this book while I was living in England, I had great interest in learning German, so I bought every single book which could aid me in my enterprise. I gave 4 stars instead of five because I didn't like the English translation of some expressions, they could be better, the author translated some expressions with the colloquial English, which in my opinion the literal translation would have rendered a better understanding. (or perhaps could have used both literal and figurative). Most Germans frowned upon this book, but I recommend it to those who already have a good background in German, maybe an intermediate level would be good for a start, I also suggest you study with the assistance of a German native, or Austrian if that's the case, to help you with the literal translation, literal translation sheds light on the spirit of the expressions. This book is full of funny expressions and dialogues, some of them might sound rude, but although many German reviewers may dislike my comments, I have to say that this kind of language is common in every language, I agree with the reviewer who says that we have to learn the Hoch Deutsch first, and then take up the colloquial, slang part of it. Many expressions used here are very similar to those used here in Brazil like: Bist Knapp bei Kasse? Are you broke or are you short in money (from the till) Der hat's g'schallt. He swallowed it. (meaning he was taken in) Un so weit. Good book for serious students, not for dabblers. Aufwiedersehen!! Gruss aus Brasilien. Gabriel

5 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Strange... By J. Wilson I find it rather strange that so many textbooks whose stated aim is to teach the slang of a language are rated so poorly by people who think the book's purpose is to teach the standard, sanitized "textbook" version of the language. This is especially the case for German slang books, in my experience. I suppose this is because, often, language textbooks are billed as teaching only the "colloquial" language that a student "really needs," rather than the intricate nuances of literary language. If this is what is wanted, there's nothing wrong with that, but one should a) check that this kind of "sanitized" language is what is meant by the title of the book, information easily found in the product description, and b) not childishly give a book a "one" rating based on how it measures up to something that it was never intended to be. As far as I know, the "Streetwise" series fills a hole in one's linguistic knowledge left by other teaching materials readily available on the market: these books give a realistic view of everyday slang expressions, vulgar and otherwise, with notes on use and recordings of natural-ish dialogues using them to boot. In my opinion, you're not really going to get better than this if your aim is to understand what those guys next to you at the bar are saying (though the "Dirty X" series is also excellent, albeit without recordings). Obviously, one should use the material learned in this book to augment lessons on the formal register of the language, rather than using it as a stand-alone text.

Have you always wanted to speak German like a native? Containing 15 humorous, down-to-earth dialogues, Streetwise German contains the colloquial language and slang that will make you sound authentic. Exercises and brief grammar notes help you practice what you have learned. At last, a way to learn the German you won't hear in class!

Language Notes Text: English, German From the Back Cover With its 15 humorous, down-to-earth dialogues, Streetwise German is chock-full of colloquial language, slang, and vulgar expressions that are usually understood only by Germans and Austrians. It also includes an extensive Thematic Dictionary, grouping informal words and expressions by topic. About the Author McGraw-Hill authors represent the leading experts in their fields and are dedicated to improving the lives, careers, and interests of readers worldwide