

# Reading the OED: One Man, One Year, 21,730 Pages

In 2009, Simon Winchester set out to do something that had never been done before: read the entire Oxford English Dictionary (OED) in one year.

The OED is the largest and most comprehensive dictionary of the English language, containing over 600,000 words and 2.5 million definitions. It is a massive undertaking to read it cover-to-cover, and Winchester knew that it would be a challenge.



## Reading the OED: One Man, One Year, 21,730 Pages

by Ammon Shea

★★★★☆ 4.4 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 612 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
X-Ray	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 252 pages



But Winchester was up for the task. He is a prolific writer and journalist, and he has a deep love of language. He also has a knack for finding the extraordinary in the ordinary, and he was intrigued by the idea of reading the OED as a way to learn more about the history and evolution of the English language.

Winchester began his journey on January 1, 2009, and he finished on December 31, 2009. He read for 12 hours a day, seven days a week. He took breaks only to eat, sleep, and exercise.

It was a grueling experience, but Winchester said it was also one of the most rewarding experiences of his life. He learned a great deal about the English language, and he came to appreciate its beauty and complexity.

Winchester's journey is chronicled in his book, *The Meaning of Everything: The Story of the Oxford English Dictionary*. The book is a fascinating account of Winchester's year-long adventure, and it is also a valuable resource for anyone who is interested in the history of the English language.

## **The Oxford English Dictionary**

The Oxford English Dictionary is the definitive record of the English language. It contains over 600,000 words and 2.5 million definitions, and it traces the evolution of the English language from its origins to the present day.

The OED was first published in 1884, and it has been continuously updated ever since. The dictionary is now available in print, online, and on CD-ROM.

The OED is an essential resource for anyone who wants to learn more about the English language. It is a treasure trove of information about the history, meaning, and usage of English words.

## **Simon Winchester**

Simon Winchester is a prolific writer and journalist. He has written over 20 books, including *The Professor and the Madman*, *A Crack in the Edge of the World*, and *The Map That Changed the World*.

Winchester is known for his ability to find the extraordinary in the ordinary. He has a knack for telling stories that are both informative and engaging.

Winchester's book about reading the OED is a fascinating account of his year-long adventure. It is a valuable resource for anyone who is interested in the history of the English language.

### **The Meaning of Everything**

Winchester's book, *The Meaning of Everything: The Story of the Oxford English Dictionary*, is a fascinating account of his year-long adventure reading the OED. The book is also a valuable resource for anyone who is interested in the history of the English language.

In the book, Winchester traces the evolution of the OED from its humble beginnings to its current status as the definitive record of the English language. He also tells the stories of the people who have worked on the dictionary over the years.

*The Meaning of Everything* is a fascinating and informative book that provides a unique glimpse into the history of the English language.

Simon Winchester's journey to read the OED in one year is a testament to his love of language and his dedication to learning. His book, *The Meaning of Everything*, is a fascinating account of his adventure, and it is a valuable

resource for anyone who is interested in the history of the English language.

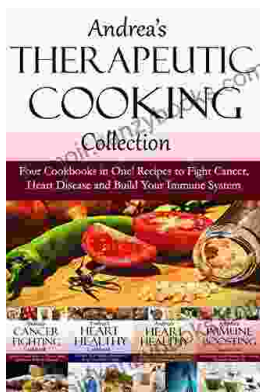


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