

Longman English Guides

Improve Your Word Power

SUE LLOYD

39-8156

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LONGMAN GROUP UK LIMITED,

Longman House,

Burnt Mill, Harlow, Essex CM20 2JE, England

and Associated Companies throughout the world.

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First published 1988

ISBN 0 582 00262 1

Set in 10/11 Rockwell light and medium

Edited by Stenton Associates

Design by Ken Vail Graphic Design

Produced by Longman Group (FE) Ltd.

Printed in Hong Kong

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INTRODUCTION

Do you often find yourself at a loss for words? Is your written work flat and uninteresting? Do you fail to put your ideas (and yourself) across at interviews? A knowledge of the English language can give you confidence and help you to express yourself clearly and effectively.

This little book takes eighty groups of words dealing with common topics, and shows you how to use them in your speaking and writing. Each group has a heading, usually the most general word in the group, and each offers you:

- a list of words with similar meanings
- an explanation of each word's particular meaning
- an example of the use of each word
- a list of contrasting words, if there are any.

So under each heading, you will find a variety of ways of expressing the same idea. The explanations and examples will help you to choose the best word for your purpose, and your writing and speaking will become more effective as a result.

Let's assume you have thought of a word, but you need a better one. Find the group where your word is dealt with by looking it up in the Word Finder at the back of the book. Here every word discussed is listed along with the number of the group where it can be found.

Small as it is, this book offers you guidance on how to use over 600 words, and suggests, too, many contrasting words. For an even greater choice, you need a thesaurus, and we have added a brief course in how to use one at the end.