



## The Play of Words: Fun & Games for Language Lovers

By Richard Lederer

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Do you know the connection between the expression A HARROWING EXPERIENCE and agriculture, between BY AND LARGE and sailing, between GET YOUR GOAT and horses, or between STEAL YOUR THUNDER and show business? You probably have heard the comparisons HAPPY AS A CLAM, SMART AS A WHIP, PLEASED AS PUNCH, DEAD AS A DOORNAIL - but have you ever wondered why a clam should be happy, a whip smart, punch pleased, and a doornail dead? By playing the fifty games in this book, you'll discover the answers to these questions as well as hundreds of other semantic delights that repose in our marvelous English language.

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### Editorial Review

#### From the Back Cover

Fun & Games For Language Lovers. Some of these games are as easy as rolling off a log, while others may leave you stumped (until you peek at the answers). But whether you play alone or with friends, this collection of matchless semantic antics will bring you hours of lexicological pleasure.

#### About the Author

Richard Lederer is the author of more than 30 books about language, history, and humor, including his best-selling *Anguished English* series and his current book, *Presidential Trivia*. He has been profiled in magazines as diverse as *The New Yorker*, *People*, and the *National Enquirer* and frequently appears on radio as a commentator on language. Dr. Lederer's syndicated column, "Looking at Language," appears in newspapers and magazines throughout the United States. He has been named International Punster of the Year and Toastmasters International's Golden Gavel winner.

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