



# The Stories of English

*David Crystal*

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## **The Stories of English** David Crystal

When and why did 'thou' disappear from Standard English? Would a Victorian Cockney have said 'observation' or 'hobobservation'? Was Jane Austen making a mistake when she wrote 'Jenny and James are walked to Charmonth this afternoon'? This superbly well-informed - and also wonderfully entertaining - history of the English language answers all these questions, showing how the many strands of English (Standard English, dialect and slang among them) developed to create the richly-varied language of today.

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