

## Catechism Of The Catholic Church English Mfetch

The presence of the Catholic Church in the United States reaches back to the founding days of our country through the leadership of Archbishop John Carroll, the first Catholic bishop in the United States. His story like the stories at the start of each chapter in the United States Catholic Catechism for Adults give us a glimpse into the lives of Catholics who lived out their faith throughout our country’s history. Each chapter in the Catechism for Adults includes stories, doctrine, reflection, quotations, discussion questions, and prayer to lead the reader to a deepening faith. The Catechism for Adults is an excellent resource for preparation of catechumens in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults and for ongoing catechesis of adults.

Foreword by Cardinal Christoph Schoenborn
The theme of this book is that the Catechism of the Catholic Church, perhaps the most important work on catechesis since the Apostolic Age, offers not only a new, definitive account for our times of the full teaching of the Catholic faith, but also that it is a superbly crafted work from which to learn and to teach the faith. This book reveals the pedagogy embedded in the Catechism, showing every teacher, parent, catechist or student how to discover the key principles that enable one to learn from, and teach from, the Catechism. The Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church speaks of the “wisdom of the presentation” of the Catechism and of “the depth of its spirituality”. These points have rarely been explained in any sustained way and have never before been systematically treated. The unique point about this book is that it focuses on these points, rather than a simple explanation of the content of the Catechism. This book offers a pedagogical approach to the Catechism for handing on the faith of the Catholic Church in any setting, whether home, school and parish. It offers perennially valid teaching points drawn from a perennial text, and an explanation of the ‘pedagogy of God’ which underpins all authentic teaching methods in the Church. In this way, the book offers a twelve step ‘path to recovery’ out of unhealthily catechetical addictions and obsessions which have bedeviled the catechetical world. It is unique in its origin, emerging from a ‘catechetical friendship’, encouraged by Cardinal Schönborn, between three institutions working in an authentic Catholic catechetical tradition. The three authors display a deep trust and love for the words of the Catechism of the Catholic Church – words that hold a rich heritage and can be pondered lovingly and searchingly, since they are for our good, for everyone’s good.

Pope Benedict XVI gives the Church the “food” that it seeks in the 598 questions and answers comprising the official summary of the Catechism of the Catholic Church. Because of the book’s format, parents, pastors, teachers, principals, and catechists have a unique opportunity to dialogue with the faithful, and reinvigorate the Church’s ongoing mission of evangelization and catechesis. USCC

ÉCardinal Christoph Schñborn, the editor of the monumentalÉCatechism of the Catholic Church, a worldwide best seller, provides a brief and profound commentary on the third part of theÉCatechism.ÉLife in Christ.ÉSchñborn gives an incisive, detailed analysis of living the Christian life, providing a specific meditation for each week of the year on how to better live the Catholic faith as presented in the Catechism. Through these 52 meditations, Schñborn’s hope is for the reader to not just have a better grasp of the Catholic doctrine and belief, but especially to grow in a greater love of and devotion to the person of Jesus Christ.

Handing on the Faith

Reader’s Journal for the United States Catholic Catechism for Adults

Modifications from the Editio Typica

Based on the Catechism of the Catholic Church

Second Edition

*Introduces young readers to Catholic beliefs as expressed in the Catechism of the Catholic Church.*

*Ratzinger, one of the key persons responsible for the compilation of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, offers new insights on the catechetical character and Biblical foundation of the worldwide bestselling Catechism that has had such a positive response from ordinary Catholics across the globe. But he acknowledges that the response of many theologians and “professional religionists” has been negative toward the Catechism. He says that if theologians don’t want to be “shut out” of this worldwide development of sensus fidei and lose touch with the common Catholic, they will have to engage the Catechism positively. The main purpose of this book is to offer an invitation to this changed approach to the Catechism. He wants people to see, as he shows here, how the Catechism is an excellent teaching tool that responds to man’s deepest questions about the meaning of life, how to live a good life, and how to attain happiness in this life and in eternal life. He shows how the Catechism affirms that man’s happiness is love, and that the essence of true love has been manifested in the Person of Jesus Christ.*

*The Catechism of the Catholic Church is the sure norm for teaching the faith (Apostolic Constitution Fidei Depositum ). Still the language and wording of both the Catechism and the Second Vatican Council is one full of poetic beauty and soft diplomacy. This style of poetry and diplomacy is not the most appropriate for clarity. In many places the language results hard to understand and multiple contradictory interpretations are possible due precisely to the language full of charity but not of clarity. The purpose of the Compendium of the Traditional Catechism of the Catholic Church is to provide absolute clarity about the Faith of All times and less room for open interpretations and ambiguity. The world today in order to keep the Faith of All times needs more than poetic words. It needs clear teachings with full power, strength, and clarity above: no room for misinterpretations, no wiggle room for heretical interpretations at all. That is the purpose of this work: high clarity above all. With total clarity several subjects are covered: the definition of schismatic, the Limbo, Freemasons, heretic, the so called marriage among homosexuals, the doctrine of the Church regarding the liberal freemasonic Democracy, the responsibility that Catholics must have when voting or taking action on the political field, the so called New Atheists movement, the Consecration of Russia according to Our Lady of Fatima, the future of the world according to the City of God of St. Augustin, etc. All of these subjects of today and many others are addressed in this work with extreme and total clarity. Here there is no room for error and no room for misunderstanding. This is the Traditional Catechism that is really needed in the Year of the Faith and in any year!*

*THE COMPLETE SET OF THE CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN ONE VOLUME– LEARN AND MASTER EVERYTHING ABOUT THE CATHOLIC TEACHING AND FAITH To establish the faithful in the Catholic Faith, the Holy See composed this book with the full text of the Catholic Catechism. This book is an effort by the world’s bishops in union with Rome to deliver the knowledge base of the Catholic faith and teaching to the faithful and the whole world. This Catechism book is the most beautiful of its kind in over several centuries. After the Second Vatican Council, which took place in 1962-1965, “It was essential for the Holy Catholic Church to convey its teachings to everyone living in the modern world,” according to the Secretariat of Evangelization and Catechesis, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). Stressing the importance of studying the Catechism, the U.S bishops’ conference published reflections on “Five Things Every Catholic Should Know About the Catechism” to help Americans understand their faith better. Pope Benedict XVI encourages every Catholic to study the Catholic Catechism, affirming that the Catechism helps Catholics to grow in the light of faith, and by this same light, they may be light and witnesses to others and the world in general. Catechism is divided into four parts: prayer, morality, sacraments, worship, and beliefs. This Catechism book is an invitation to encounter Catholic spirituality in light of the theological virtues of love, faith, and hope. This Catechism book also helps you grow in prayer and Catholic education. This litanic and magnanimous book of Catholic faith draws from the teachings and documents of the Holy Scriptures, the lives of the Saints, and the richness of the Catholic tradition. Truly, learning and living the Catholic Faith is an ongoing process throughout one’s Catholic life. This Catechism, like a ladder, will help us ascend the mountain of faith, attain the love of God, and hope for the coming of God’s kingdom. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), in their exhortation, highlights the importance of the Catechism, which are the following: It conveys the essential and fundamental content of Catholic faith and morals in a complete and summary way. It is a point of reference for national and diocesan catechisms. It is a positive, objective and declarative exposition of Catholic doctrine. It is intended to assist those who have the duty to catechize, namely promoters and teachers of catechesis. The Holy Scripture, itself, emphasizes the importance of the Catechism of the Church, our Catechism of the Catholic Church. In the following verses, we find some encouragement in our journey in the way of faith through the Catholic Catechism: There are difficult doctrines “which the ignorant and unstable twist to their own destruction” (2 Peter 3:16). There are many deceivers (1 John 2:26). Leaders must raise up those who can “give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it.” (Titus 1:9). We are required to “continue in the faith, stable and steadfast” (Colossians 1:23). We are urged to “attain to the unity of the . . . knowledge of the Son of God . . . so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about by every wind of doctrine” (Ephesians 4:13-14).*

Catechism Of The Catholic Church Revised PB

Compendium of the Traditional Catechism of the Catholic Church

The Companion to The Catechism of the Catholic Church

Youcat English

A Complete Catechism of Catholic Beliefs Based on the Catechism of the Catholic Church

Annual Volume #59 of the College Theology Society, this book of collected essays will explore the theme of how theology and catechesis interact. Is theology “handing on the faith,” or is the vocation of the theologian something more/different? What are the challenges and convergences for theology and catechesis in the classroom?

Consisting of fifteen essays originally delivered as papers at the College Theology Society annual meeting in Omaha, NE in May 2013, this book will offer the reflections and analyses of teachers across a broad spectrum of experience, background, and personal convictions vis-a-vis the importance of catechesis in the college classroom.

Sometimes when teaching children an aspect of our Catholic Faith, it is helpful to have a special activity to reinforce the lesson. They need exercises that train the mind or move the heart. For this reason, Catholic teachers and parents will appreciate these one hundred thoughtfully crafted activities drawn from the new universal Catechism of the Catholic Church. The worksheets, memory games, Bible studies, etc. in this book require little preparation or materials and are designed to supplement any catechetical text or program for children in grades 1 through 8. Though simple to use, these exercises uncover some of the depth and richness of Catholic doctrine and practice. Topics of the activities are organized according to the four pillars of the Catechism – Faith, Sacraments, Morality and Prayer. Each activity is self-contained, perforated to tear out and reproduce for group use. Whether it is memorizing the Creed, understanding the Bible, or learning to pray, these exercises will enrich the faith of children and those who teach them.

This updated second edition of the Catechism of the Catholic Church incorporates all the final modifications made in the complete, official Latin text, accompanied by line-by-line explanations of orthodox Catholicism, summaries of each section, a detailed index, extensive cross-references, and helpful footnotes.

Operating instructions for being a Catholic. The Catechism is an amazing collection of Church teachings and rules that cover everything from the basics, like honoring God, to more unusual subjects, such as paying just wages and respecting animals. Perfect for students, lay teachers, Catholics, and readers of other faiths, this guide is the key to understanding the daily life of Catholics and gives readers an appreciation for what Catholics believe.
? Provides information and explanations without a conservative or liberal stant
? Co-author is a clergyperson expert on the teachings of the Catechism
? Companion volume to The Complete Idiot’s Guide® to Understanding Catholicism, Third Edition

Approved by His Excellency Bishop Fernando Areas Rifan from Campos Brazil

A Contemporary Catechism of the Teachings of the Catholic Church

The Catechism of the Catholic Church and the Craft of Catechesis

Traditional Themes and Contemporary Issues

The Catechism of the Old Catholic Church

*For the first time in 400 years the Catholic Church has authorized an official universal catechism which instantly became an international best-seller, The Catechism of the Catholic Church. Using this official Catechism, the highly-regarded author and professor Peter Kreeft presents a complete compendium of all the major beliefs of Catholicism written in his readable and concise style. Since The Catechism of the Catholic Church was written for the express purpose of grounding and fostering catechisms based on it for local needs and ordinary readers, Kreeft does just that, offering a thorough summary of Catholic doctrine, morality, and worship in a popular format with less technical language. He presents a systematic, organic synthesis of the essential and fundamental Catholic teachings in the light of the Second Vatican Council and the whole of the Church's Tradition. This book is the most thorough, complete and popular catechetical summary of Catholic belief in print that is based on the universal Catechism.*

*Two world-renowned formative theology experts guide readers through a systematic study of the four sections of the new Catholic catechism. Written especially for women, this book focuses on themes within the catechism that are especially relevant to the lives of women such as prayer and family.*

*Centuries before the Catechism of the Catholic Church was published in 1992, encouraged by the Council of Trent, a catechism was prepared called the Roman Catechism or the Catechism of the Council of Trent. It was prepared for use by Pastors to instruct their flocks in the Catholic Faith. Educated lay people should know their faith at this level, therefore this catechism is recommended for study by all Catholics. It is laid out in a far different manner than the 1992 Catechism of the Catholic Church, which is laid out in a similar manner to Henry Denzinger’s Enchiridion Symbolorum, which is in translation at the Sources of Catholic Dogma.*

*The Baltimore Catechism is the official book of Catholic doctrine and instruction for children in the United States - it consists of many lessons about God, the sacraments, and Jesus. An all-encompassing summary of the Catholic faith, The Baltimore Catechism explains what the principles and beliefs of Catholicism are. Each chapter consists of a series of questions and answers; beginning with the simple topic, gradually the questions grow more detailed and insightful. By the end of each chapter, the reader is intended to fully grasp the topic at hand, whether it be about the life and example of Jesus, or the functions of the church in society. The first part is intended for young children up to the fifth grade, the second is aimed at those from the sixth to the ninth grade, while the final, most detailed part is for those in high school. The idea of an official, Catholic book that explains the faith for young readers was conceived in the early 19th century. Bishops of the church determined that a single, complete text be distributed to church educators for use in Sunday schools and to parochial institutions. Divergences in the text throughout the 20th century made the catechism less popular, as schools established their own curricula. This edition of The Baltimore Catechism replicates the 1891 text, so that readers may receive an accurate impression of what the original book was intended to answer.*

Crede

A Primer for the Catechism of the Catholic Church

The Splendour of Doctrine

100 Activities Based on the Catechism of the Catholic Church

The Baltimore Catechism

**The Old Catholic Church of the United States is a Catholic Family of Faith, based within the United States. As inheritors of Apostolic Succession from the Western Latin (Catholic) Church, the Ancient Oriental Churches and the Eastern Byzantine (Orthodox) Churches, we possess a rich theological heritage. We are a sacramental church, embracing the fullness of Christianity as expressed within Catholic understanding. We stand, holding fast to the teachings of the ancient faith, in a modern society that is often hostile, towards Christians in general and Catholics in particular, and choose to obey the timeless message of Christ rather than yield to the "Spirit of the Age". "I am very happy with the contents, and feel that yet again it is a wonderful work and look forward to having this in print to use here in the UK."**-Most Rev. David Bowler, Provincial Ordinary of the United Kingdom. "As a comprehensive, detailed Old Catholic catechism, it is an indispensable aid to studying the faith."-Most Rev. Andre' Queen, Provincial Ordinary of the Western United States.

A compendium of Catholic doctrine regarding faith and morals, revised in accordance with the official Latin text promulgated by Pope John Paul II in 1997, with a glossary of terms, analytical index, index of citations, abbreviations of biblical and Church documents, and other reference tools.

"This volume is intended to meet a widely felt need for an up-to-date and concise source book on the principal teachings of the Catholic Church. Since the close of the Second Vatican Council, there has been such an accumulation of ecclesiastical constitutions and decrees and so many changes they introduced in Catholic practice that few people have been able to keep up with all that has happened... A parallel purpose of this volume is to offer those who use it a handy guidebook of the Catholic tradition, whether formally documented in ecclesiastical sources or implicitly accepted by the faithful under the aegis of the Church's hierarchial leaders. "The method followed in presenting the Church's doctrine is a combination of history and logic. Doctrines are placed into a historical framework by tracing their origins to the Old and New Testaments and placing their development within the context of persons, places, and times. The doctrine thus becomes more intelligible because it is viewed in the setting of its vital growth over the centuries. "The intended reading audience of this Catholic catechism are all those priests, religious and laity, and above all parents and teachers, who are looking for a concise statement of the faith they profess, the conduct they practice, and the worship they give to the Lord." --From The Catholic Catechism by John A. Hardon, S.J.

Cardinal Christoph SchOnborn, the editor of the monumental Catechism of the Catholic Church, a worldwide best seller, provides a brief and profound commentary on the second part of the Catechism, the sacraments. SchOnborn gives an incisive, detailed analysis of the sacraments, providing a specific meditation for each week of the year on how to better live the Catholic faith with the aid of the sacraments and the Mass, and explained in the Catechism. Through these 52 meditations, SchOnborn’s hope is for the reader to not just have a better grasp of the Catholic doctrine and belief, but especially to grow in a greater love of and devotion to the person of Jesus Christ. "Faith is a whole. It has only one heart, one center, Jesus Christ, the Son of the living God. Christ must therefore also be the center of catechesis whose object is 'putting people...in communion...with Jesus Christ; only He can lead us to the love of the Father in the Spirit.'" --Cardinal Christoph SchOnborn

Catholic Christianity

United States Catholic Catechism for Adults

The Doctrines of the Catholic Church - Lessons on God, His Commandments, Christ, Sin, Confession and Prayer - the 1891 Edition

A Guide to the Catechism of the Catholic Church

The Ecumenical Christian Dialogues and the Catechism of the Catholic Church

Cardinal Christoph SchOnborn, the editor of the monumental Catechism of the Catholic Church, a worldwide best seller, provides a brief and profound commentary on the first part of the Catechism, the Creed. Sch ò born gives an incisive, detailed analysis of the Creed, providing a specific meditation for each week of the year on how to better live the Catholic faith as expressed in the Creed and explained in the Catechism. Through these 52 meditations, Sch ò born’s hope is for the reader to not just have a better grasp of Catholic doctrine and belief, but especially to grow in a greater love of and devotion to the person of Jesus Christ. "Faith is whole. It has only one heart, one center: Jesus Christ, the Son of the living God. Christ must therefore also be the center of catechesis whose object is 'putting people...in communion...with Jesus Christ: only he can lead us to the love of the Father in the Spirit and make us share in the life of the Holy Trinity' (CCC 426). for "in him are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge" (Col.2:3). In a certain sense, the 'essential elements of the faith' have their origin in a treasury of the heart of Jesus." -Cardinal Christoph Sch ò born

Over 3 million copies sold! Essential reading for Catholics of all walks of life. Here it is - the first new catechism of the Catholic Church in more than 400 years, a complete summary of what Catholics around the world commonly believe. The Catechism draws on the Bible, the Mass, the Sacraments, Church tradition and teaching, and the lives of saints. It comes with a complete index, footnotes and cross-references for a fuller understanding of every subject. The word catechism means "instruction" - this book will serve as the standard for all future catechisms. Using the tradition of explaining what the Church believes (the Creed), what she celebrates (the Sacraments), what she lives (the Commandments), and what she prays (the Lord's Prayer), the Catechism of the Catholic Church offers challenges for believers and answers for all those interested in learning about the mystery of the Catholic faith. The Catechism of the Catholic Church is a positive, coherent and contemporary map for our spiritual journey toward transformation.

This is a valuable introduction to the Catechism by the general editor of the Catechism (Schonborn) and the head of the Bishops Commission for the implementation of the Catechism (Ratzinger). Providing helpful insights on how to read and study the Catechism, this book includes a prehistory of the Catechism, an overview of its structure and contents, the major themes and methods in it, a special introduction to the four parts of the Catechism, and specific advice on how to use the Catechism. Ratzinger and Schonborn illuminate theCatechism’s teaching on faith, morals, prayer and sacraments, and how a Catholic lives those teachings in today’s world.

The full, complete exposition of Catholic doctrine, this second edition of the international bestseller has been significantly expanded, enhancing both its content and usability.

Catechism of the Catholic Church

With Modifications from the Editio Typica

Introducing the Catechism of the Catholic Church

Gospel, Catechesis, Catechism

*The Catechism of the Catholic Church, issued by the Vatican to establish standards of religious instruction that would apply to all people, will appear in its English-language edition in 1994. Here is a collection of 11 essays by distinguished theologians, educators and linguists that introduces the catechism to American readers and assesses its function.*

*This easy-to-use journal is the perfect companion to the United States Catholic Catechism for Adults. The reflections in the journal support and further expand on the topics in each chapter of the USCCA, helping the reader deepen their encounter with the living Christ. Use the journal with catechumens as part of their preparation for the Easter sacraments. Make it available to participants in your adult faith formation program.*

*The new "Catechism of the Catholic Church," the first since the Council of Trent four centuries ago, will play a major part in shaping the consciousness of Roman Catholic Christians of the foreseeable future. Not only will it remain the foundational text for teaching Catholic doctrine for years to come, but it successfully consolidates the achievements of the Second Vatican Council, and presents the definitive modern synthesis of the Church's ever-living Tradition.Aidan Nichols's study introduces the reader to the doctrinal teaching of this massive text of almost three thousand clauses. Commenting on the vital first part of the Catechism section by section, he succeeds in highlighting its principal themes while drawing attention to the significance of the way they have been handled.More sympathetic to the intentions of the Catechism's authors than some other recent commentators, Nichols is sensitive to the nuances of this magisterial text, and its immense theological import.*

*This Companion to the Catechism of the Catholic Church Book of References contains all the passages of Sacred Scripture referred to in the Catechism arranged according to the paragraphs in which the references are made. But that is only a beginning. The Catechism also refers to conciliar texts, papal documents, writings of the Fathers and of the Saints. There are more than 3,600 of these references extending from the earliest credal formulations of the ancient Church to the documents of Vatican II and beyond to the magisterial teaching of Pope John Paul II. The Book of References includes all the texts referred to arranged, along with the Scripture passages, according to the paragraphs of the Catechism in which they are referred. (From Ignatius Press website: http://www.ignatius.com/Products/CCC-P/the-companion-to-the-catechism-of-the-catholic-church.aspx - accessed 11/03/2011).*

Catechism for Youth

Compendium

The Sacraments

The Faith

The Woman's Guide to the Catechism of the Catholic Church

The purpose of this catechism is to present an organic and synthetic exposition of the essential and fundamental contents of Catholic doctrine both on faith and on morals, in the light of the Second Vaatican Council and the entire Tradition of the Church. Its main sources are Sacred Scripture, the Holy Fathers, the Liturgy and the Magisterium of the Church. It is intended to serve "as a point of reference for catechisms or compendia that are drawn up in different countries" (Synod of Bishops 1985. Final Report II BA 4). Catechesis is the name given to all the efforts made in the Church to make disciples, to help men to believe that Jesus is the Son of God so that, by faith, they may have life in his name, and to educate and instruct them, in this life and thus build the Body of Christ (Cf. John Paul II, CT 1,2). The purpose of First Communion is the education in the faith of children, youth and adults, which especially includes a teaching of Christian doctrine. In a more specific sense, "globally, catechesis can be considered here as an education in the faith of children, young people and adults that especially includes a teaching of Christian doctrine, generally imparted in an organic and systematic way with a view to initiating the fullness of the Christian life " (CT 18).

A guided tour for anyone who wants to understand the Catechism better--and for anyone who wants to live a more truly Christian life. This new edition brings Father McBride's beloved classic up-to-date.

The first edition of the new Catechism went out across the world in many language versions. This gave the local Churches the chance to study it in depth. Through their bishops and teachers they responded with comments on texts that needed refinement. The present edition was developed in the light of these comments and published in Latin as the definitive Editio Typica. This book is the English translation of the Editio Typica.

Due to growing interest in ecumenism, dialogue among Christian churches has grown in the last 50 years. This one-of-a-kind book of fers selections from ecumenical dialogues formally sponsored by the Catholic Church arranged according to the order of the Catechism of the Catholic Church; readers can learn what the Catholic Church believes and what other Christian churches believe on the same topic gathered together. The volume of selections beings with a chapter on Catholic ecumenical principles, and a chapter on the churches involved in the dialogue. Following these introductory chapters are seven chapters on agreements in faith, sacraments, the Christian life, and spirituality following the four parts of the Catechism. Throughout the seven final chapters are editor's notes to help the reader understand the context of the dialogues, the pertinent issues involved, and the significance of what has been addressed, all in clear, easy-to-understand language.

The Complete Idiot's Guide to the Catholic Catechism

The Catholic Catechism

Essentials of the Faith

Introduction to the Catechism of the Catholic Church

A Compendium of Texts Referred to in the Catechism of the Catholic Church

*In this new reissue of Fr. Hardon's classic, the universal Catechism of the Catholic Church is presented in an easy-to-use question-and-answer format. He zeroes in on what question each section is trying to answer and formulates that question in user-friendly language. He then gives a simple answer in his own words, referencing the section of the Catechism that addresses the question. Still as fresh and relevant as when it was first released, The Faith makes the Catechism of the Catholic Church accessible to a new generation of readers. Fr. Hardon helps to form Catholics in the faith by focusing on the principle points of doctrine, moral teaching, and spirituality conveyed so richly in the Catechism. In the pages of this book, you'll learn: What the faith we profess is all about Why Christianity is the most credible religion in the world How the Catholic Church possesses the fullness of truth Catholics today have a greater responsibility than ever before to educate themselves first and then the world--a world that is starving for knowledge of Christ and his truth. This question-and-answer guide will be a valuable addition to your library.*

The "Catechism of the Catholic Church" on Christian Believing

For Grades 1 to 8

Sidelights to the Catechism of the Catholic Church

Living the Catechism of the Catholic Church

The Core Teachings of Catholicism in Plain English