



American Language Supplement 2 (American Language No. 1)

H.L. Mencken

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The ground thus covered in *Supplement II* is as follows:

1. *American Pronunciation*. Its history. Its divergence from English usage. The regional and racial dialects.
2. *American Spelling*. The influence of Noah Webster upon it. Its characters today. The simplified spelling movement. The treatment of loan words. Punctuation, capitalization, and abbreviation.
3. *The Common Speech*. Outlines of its grammar. Its verbs, pronouns, nouns, adjectives, and adverbs. The double negative. Other peculiarities.
4. *Proper Names in America*. Surnames. Given-names. Place-names. Other names.
5. *American Slang*. *Its origin and history*. The argot of various racial and occupational groups.

Although the text of *Supplement II* is related to that of *The American Language*, it is an independent work that may be read profitably by persons who do not know either *The American Language* or *Supplement I*.

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