

## Ten Books of Interest

These are readable, even enjoyable books about language written in the past ten years.

Casagrande, June, *Grammar Snobs Are Great Big Meanies*, 2006  
a nice list of confused terms (e.g. flout, flaunt)

Crystal, David, *A Little Book of Language*, 2010  
about language development in children

Crystal, David, *The Fight for English*, 2006  
a somewhat conservative view

Diamond, Jared, *The Third Chimpanzee*  
an anthropologist's view of language development

Hitchings, Henry, *The Secret Life of Words*, 2008  
how English became English

Keneally, Christine, *The First Word*, 2007  
speculative history

McWhorter, John, *The Power of Babel*, 2003  
a natural history of language

Pinker, Stephen, *The Stuff of Thought*, 2008  
a very important book on the nature of language

Pinker, Stephen, *The Language Instinct*, 2007  
Is language innate?

Tross, Lynn, *Eats, Shoots, and Leaves*, 2003  
a best-seller about punctuation, of all things