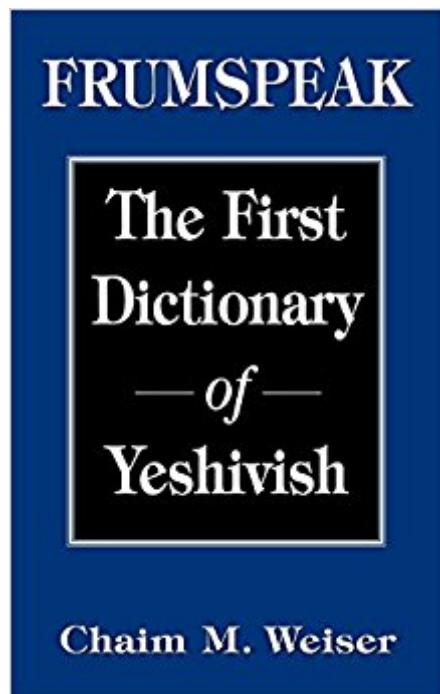


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# Frumspeak: The First Dictionary Of Yeshivish



## Synopsis

Frumspeak examines the unique linguistic habits of Orthodox, native-born Americans. This book seeks to draw comparisons with parallel phenomena of Jewish linguistic creation including Yiddish and Ladino and reaches into the linguistic consciousness of the American Orthodox community to reveal how that community thinks, communicates, and educates. The Jewish religion molds the character of this community and determines how it works, builds a home life, celebrates, and educates children. By focusing on Jewish education, the community fosters an intimacy with the classic primary texts of Judaism. These texts are replete with memorable linguistic formulations, vivid imagery, and technical terminology, all of which govern the ways in which Orthodox Jews face the challenges of daily life. Orthodox children often gain academic exposure to sophisticated concepts years before they have to undertake the responsibilities of adulthood. With each new encounter a reference to rabbinic literature is drawn upon, and the classical terms become associated with tangible experience. The result is the English, Hebrew, Aramaic, and Yiddish amalgam that this book terms Yeshivish. Yeshivish grows increasingly prevalent as the American Orthodox community continues to grow into a strong, organized body responsible for its own education and welfare. Frumspeak examines the origins of Yeshivish and attempts to determine its place in religious and linguistic thought. As a dictionary, Frumspeak provides definitions for Yeshivish words and suggests an English equivalent for each. Every entry traces the etymology of the original word to the point at which the word enters the language. All definitions include a sentence drawn from actual experience, to exemplify each meaning and to distinguish it from others.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Chaim Weiser teaches high-school English in a major American yeshiva. He is a specialist in translation and has written several articles on the challenges of translation and on educational theory. Weiser is the author of *A Silent, Invisible Language: An Exploration of Written English* and is a consultant to the Translation division of Abell Communication of Antwerp, Belgium. He received his education in yeshivas in America and abroad and holds degrees in education and linguistics from American University in Washington, D.C. He lives with his wife, Tamar, near the yeshiva where he teaches.

Like the opener about languages - unexpected but very good reading about how languages evolved and, "yeshivsh" in particular emerged - some words missing in the lexicon, but I guess that is always the case in books like this one. The part really missing is the vowels in the hebrew. The transliteration helps though. If you are a baal teshvua, this book may help you navigate shiurim, chevrusas and, shul life. You can run home and, look up the words you did not know that everyone else did know and, in the privacy of your own embarrassment. :)

A great and unique book.

I would like to see an updated version with more words, still a very good resource though.

It really helps to understand shuir and the Yeshivah world. I wish Every Yeshivah would have a copy on the shelf next to the practical Talmudic dictionary

This is mamish a gevaldig book! But just FYI, it's available from Eichlers and other Seforim stores for a LOT less money, around \$25 at the most!! You don't have to spend \$80+!!!!

This is a gevaldike sefer, and I got asach hanaa from it. The etzem dictionary is gantz useful for talmidim of the shprach, and it's also geshmak to stam read through, which is a big toeles. The hakdoma, on the metzius of yeshivish, is tief, and the other shticklach at the haschala (including a translation of Hamlet's soliloquy) are peledik. I mamish hold of this sefer.

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