What's the Difference Between "Learned" and "Learnt"?

The words "learned" and "learnt" are both used to describe the process of gaining knowledge or skills. However, there are some subtle differences between the two words.

Learned

The word "learned" is generally used to describe something that has been acquired through formal education or study. For example, you might say that you "learned" about the history of the United States in your history class. You might also say that you "learned" how to play the piano by taking lessons.



What I Learned and What I Learnt: Teaching English While Honoring Language and Culture at a Predominantly Black Institution (Critical Black Pedagogy in Education) by Betsy Carter

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The word "learned" can also be used to describe something that has been acquired through experience. For example, you might say that you "learned" how to cook by watching your mother. You might also say that you "learned" how to drive by practicing.

Learnt

The word "learnt" is generally used to describe something that has been acquired through informal or incidental learning. For example, you might say that you "learnt" how to speak Spanish by living in Spain. You might also say that you "learnt" how to play the guitar by listening to music.

The word "learnt" can also be used to describe something that has been acquired through trial and error. For example, you might say that you "learnt" how to fix your car by tinkering with it.

Which word should you use?

The best way to decide which word to use is to consider the context in which you are writing or speaking. If you are describing something that has been acquired through formal education or study, then you should use the word "learned." If you are describing something that has been acquired through informal or incidental learning, then you should use the word "learnt." Here are some examples:

- I learned about the history of the United States in my history class.
- I learnt how to speak Spanish by living in Spain.
- I learned how to play the piano by taking lessons.
- I learnt how to play the guitar by listening to music.

- I learned how to cook by watching my mother.
- I learnt how to fix my car by tinkering with it.

The words "learned" and "learnt" are both used to describe the process of gaining knowledge or skills. However, there are some subtle differences between the two words. The word "learned" is generally used to describe something that has been acquired through formal education or study, while the word "learnt" is generally used to describe something that has been acquired through informal or incidental learning. When deciding which word to use, it is important to consider the context in which you are writing or speaking.



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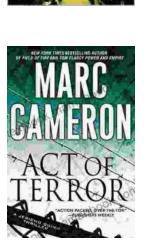
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