

# David Crystal Quotes

*People, Language, Kids, Years, Writing, Different, Way, Taken, Internet, Giving,  
Three, Phones, Latin, Excellent, Dad, Exercise, Made, Kaleidoscope, Mediums,  
Fall*

Language changes and moves in a different direction evolving all the time. Where a lot of people see deterioration, I see expressive development

~David Crystal

Language has no independent existence apart from the people who use it. It is not an end in itself; it is a means to an end of understanding who you are and what society is like.

~David Crystal

Language itself changes slowly but the internet has speeded up the process of those changes so you notice them more quickly.

~David Crystal

Research shows that those kids who text frequently are more likely to be the most literate and the best spellers, because you have to know how to manipulate language.

~David Crystal

At any one time language is a kaleidoscope of styles, genres and dialects.

~David Crystal

Grammar is what gives sense to language ... sentences make words yield up their meaning. Sentences actively create sense in language. And the business of the study of sentences is grammar.

~David Crystal

Although many texters enjoy breaking linguistic rules, they also know they need to be understood.

~David Crystal

A feature of English that makes it different compared with all other languages is its global spread.

~David Crystal

In effect we are, bending and breaking the rules of the language. And if someone were to ask why we do it, the answer is simply: for fun

~David Crystal

Spellings are made by people. Dictionaries - eventually - reflect popular choices.

~David Crystal

Anyone interested in language ends up writing about the sociological issues around it.

~David Crystal

The internet is an amazing medium for languages.

~David Crystal

Text messaging is just the most recent focus of people's anxiety; what people are really worried about is a new generation gaining control of what they see as their language.

~David Crystal

Swearing makes an excellent relief mechanism

~David Crystal

Texting has added a new dimension to language use, but its long-term impact is negligible. It is not a disaster.

~David Crystal

The story of English spelling is the story of thousands of people - some well-known, most totally unknown - who left a permanent linguistic fingerprint on our orthography.

~David Crystal

Vocabulary is a matter of word-building as well as word-using.

~David Crystal

Sending a message on a mobile phone is not the most natural of ways to communicate. The keypad isn't linguistically sensible.

~David Crystal

Academics don't normally manage to alter people's way of thinking through their strength of argument.

~David Crystal

You don't talk to a linguist without having what you say taken down and used in evidence against you at some point in time.

~David Crystal

As I get older and I get a few more years experience I become more like Dad, you know, King Lear.

~David Crystal

It took three years to put Shakespeare's words together, there were a lot of words to be studied and a lot of words to be sorted out, and it proved to be a major project.

~David Crystal

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