# Plain English Simply Explained: Lessons and Ideas for Students, Gamblers, and Beyond



Probability and Statistics for 12- Year-Olds (and Maybe You): Plain English Simply Explained, Lessons and Ideas for Students, Gamblers, and Decision Makers

by Marie-Françoise Hiroux		
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Plain English is a controlled natural language that combines the clarity and simplicity of natural language with the precision and rigor of formal languages. This makes it an ideal choice for a wide variety of applications, including education, gambling, programming, and more.

#### **History of Plain English**

Plain English was developed in the late 1970s by Richard Stallman as a way to make computer programming more accessible to non-programmers. Stallman's goal was to create a language that was as easy to read and understand as natural language, but that was also precise enough to be used to write complex programs.

Plain English has since been used in a variety of applications, including:

- Education: Plain English is used in schools to teach students about computer programming and other technical subjects.
- Gambling: Plain English is used to develop software for gambling games, such as poker, blackjack, and roulette.
- Programming: Plain English is used to develop software for a variety of applications, including word processors, spreadsheets, and databases.

#### Grammar and Syntax of Plain English

The grammar and syntax of Plain English are based on the principles of natural language, but with some important simplifications. For example, Plain English does not have any irregular verbs or nouns, and its word order is always subject-verb-object.

Here are some of the key features of the Plain English grammar:

- Nouns are always singular. To make a noun plural, you simply add an "s" to the end of the word.
- Verbs are always in the present tense. To make a verb past tense, you add "ed" to the end of the word. To make a verb future tense, you add "will" before the verb.
- Adjectives come before nouns.
- Adverbs come after verbs.
- Sentences are always terminated with a period.

#### **Applications of Plain English**

Plain English has a variety of applications, including:

- Education: Plain English is used in schools to teach students about computer programming and other technical subjects. It is also used to write textbooks and other educational materials.
- Gambling: Plain English is used to develop software for gambling games, such as poker, blackjack, and roulette. This software is used to simulate the games and to keep track of the players' winnings and losses.
- Programming: Plain English is used to develop software for a variety of applications, including word processors, spreadsheets, and databases. This software is typically easier to use than software written in other programming languages.
- Natural language processing: Plain English is used to develop software that can understand and generate natural language. This software is used in a variety of applications, such as machine translation, text summarization, and question answering.

Plain English is a powerful and versatile language that has a wide variety of applications. Its simplicity and clarity make it an ideal choice for use in education, gambling, programming, and natural language processing.



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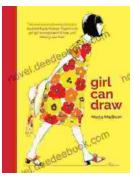
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