

dilettante (plural: dilettanti)



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Word of the Day - for Toastmasters everywhere  
*Friday 8th November 2024*



# dilettante (plural: dilettanti)

(noun and adjective) dil-i-TANT-i or DIL-i-tont

A dabbler in fine art or knowledge; having a superficial interest in, superficial.

What is disappointing is that every speech by Opposition Front-Bench Members has been lightweight, frivolous and **dilettante**.

Stephen Dorrell, *Commons Hansard*, 6 December 1993. Commons Hansard

It was neither an academic subject nor a **dilettante** amusement but "our endeavour to realise the essential nature of our experience and to present that realisation to ourselves and others."

Alison Oldham, *The Guardian*, 21 November 2007, Guardian quoting Derek Savage.

He treats Wilson as a serious thinker, rigidly focused on his goals, but portrays Roosevelt as a classic **dilettante**, shallow and detached.

David Oshinsky, *The New York Times*, 30 December 2007, New York Times reviewing Jonah Goldberg's *Liberal Fascism: The Secret History of the American Left From Mussolini to the Politics of Meaning*.

In Paris in the early nineteen-eighties, two young couples cross paths: a poetic **dilettante** and his pedantic girlfriend and a singer in a Baroque ensemble and her computer-programmer boyfriend.

Richard Brody, *The New Yorker*, 17 December 2007. The New Yorker