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with Denyse Tessensohn

Via

This is an example of a Latin word that means "passing through" or "by way of" and was correctly used strictly in reference to shipping, travel or mail routes, eg, "I arrived in Zanzibar via Cochin."

The usage has now evolved to permit:

- 1) I received your invitation via my cousin.
- 2) Any information obtained via the Internet will be scrutinised.

Poor English: I would really appreciate your help on this area.

Standard English: I would really appreciate your help in this area.

We will answer some of your spoken English language questions in this column, and a book prize will be awarded weekly for the question, anecdote or suggestion most useful to our readers.

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