

Keynes A Very Short Introduction Very Short Introductions

Design: A Very Short IntroductionHistoryVery Short Introductions Blog BookVery Short Introductions for Curious Young Minds: The Amazing Power of ActivismNothingVery Short Introductions for Curious Young Minds: The Earth's Essential RainforestsVery Short Introductions for Curious Young Minds: The World of MusicVery Short Introductions for Curious Young Minds: The Secrets of the UniverseVery Short Introductions for Curious Young Minds: The Invisible World of GermsVery Short Introductions for Curious Young Minds: The Shocking Truth about EnergyVery Short Introductions for Curious Young Minds: The Expanding World of DataVery Short Introductions for Curious Young Minds: Ancient Myths, Legends and SuperheroesKnowledgeOrganizationsBestsellersInformationMathematics: A Very Short IntroductionEducationPhilosophy of Science: A Very Short IntroductionFoucault: A Very Short Introduction John Heskett John H. Arnold Oxford University Press Lily Dyu Frank Close Isabel Thomas Nathan Holder Mike Goldsmith Isabel Thomas Mike Goldsmith Tom Jackson Stephen Kershaw Jennifer Nagel Mary Jo Hatch John Sutherland Luciano Floridi Timothy Gowers Gary Thomas Samir Okasha Gary Gutting

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this book will transform the way you think about design by showing how integral it is to our daily lives from the spoon we use to eat our breakfast cereal to the medical equipment used to save lives john heskett goes beyond style and taste to look at how different cultures and individuals personalise objects

there are many stories we can tell about the past and we are not perhaps as free as we might imagine in our choice of which stories to tell or where those stories end john arnold s very short introduction is a stimulating essay about how we study and understand history the book begins by inviting us to think about various questions provoked by our investigation of history and explores the ways these questions have been answered in the past concepts such as causation interpretation and periodization are introduced by means of concrete examples of how historians work giving the reader a sense of the excitement of discovering not only the past but also ourselves about the series the very short introductions series from oxford university press contains hundreds of titles in almost every subject area these pocket sized books are the perfect way to get ahead in a new subject quickly our expert authors combine facts analysis perspective new ideas and enthusiasm to make interesting and challenging topics highly readable

in this free very short introductions blog book we ve gathered 30 of our vsi authors very best blog posts on topics including history politics science and more we hope you enjoy this glimpse into the passion insight and great writing that characterizes these authors and the very short introductions series

the amazing power of activism is the perfect way for young readers to get to grips with the principles of the subject and its terminology with a clear and entertaining explanation coupled with comic strips photographs and illustrations it explains what activism is how it has changed the world and what people are campaigning for today

what is nothing what remains when you take all the matter away can empty space a void exist this very short introduction explores the science and the history of the elusive void from aristotle who insisted that the vacuum was impossible via the theories of newton and einstein to our very latest discoveries and why they can tell us extraordinary things about the cosmos frank close tells the story of how scientists have explored the elusive void and the rich discoveries that they have made there he takes the reader on a lively and accessible history through ancient ideas and cultural superstitions to the frontiers of current research he describes how scientists discovered that the vacuum is filled with fields how newton mach and einstein grappled with the nature of space and time and how the mysterious aether that was long ago supposed to permeate the void may now be making a comeback with the latest research into the higgs field we now know that the vacuum is far from being empty it seethes with virtual particles and antiparticles that erupt spontaneously into being and it also may contain hidden dimensions that we were previously unaware of these new discoveries may provide answers to some of cosmology s most fundamental questions what lies outside the universe and if there was once nothing then how did the universe begin about the series the very short introductions series from oxford university press contains hundreds of titles in almost every subject area these pocket sized books are the perfect way to get ahead in a new subject quickly our expert authors combine facts analysis perspective new ideas and enthusiasm to make interesting and challenging topics highly readable

do you know why rainforests are called lungs of the world or the beating hearts of the planet the earth s essential rainforests will answer these questions and more they shape our weather are home to most of the world s plant and animal species and are our planet s oldest living ecosystems meticulously researched by experts curious young readers will quickly learn about these vast ecosystems and how these ancient forests are at risk they will learn key terminology and facts so that they can speak about our rainforests with confidence the earth s essential rainforests explains the importance of rainforests the illustrations photographs rainforest heroes and speak like a scientist sections examine facts about the rainforest tell of their astonishing biodiversity and explore how we must protect them this handy sized book with glossary and index is the perfect way to get to know our rainforests and to understand how dependent our planet is on them author isabel thomas studied human sciences at oxford university and in 2020 won an aaas subaru prize for excellence in science books consultant dr alda cun Sanchez is a professor at the norwegian university of life sciences and has studied rainforests for 15 years the earth s essential rainforests is part of a collectible set if you love this title why not collect them all

have you ever wondered why music is so powerful want to know why it impacts what we feel written by musical expert professor nathan holder the world of music and how it moves us will tell you everything you need to know this book explores music how it is all around us and how it can be used to spark change gives you the facts figures and words you need to speak like a musician will inspire you with photographs illustrations funny comic strips and the stories of music heroes the very short introductions for curious young minds series from oxford university press provides accessible introductions to the ideas facts and vocabulary behind an absorbing range of subjects meticulously researched and authoritative but written in simple language by experts in their fields curious young readers will quickly get to grips with the basic principles and terminology of each subject why not collect them all for more incredible information look out for your intelligent brain and how you use it

this is the second title in the important new series from oxford which provides accessible introductions to the ideas facts and vocabulary behind an absorbing range of subjects meticulously researched and authoritative but written in simple language by experts in their fields curious young readers will quickly get to grips with the basic principles and terminology of each subject the secrets of the universe explains in clear and interesting way the theories of the beginning of the universe what it is how it works the lives of stars and possible futures the engaging design highlights the heroes of the subject from early beginnings to modern day and explains tricky terminology in speak like a scientist features comic strips and illustrations amazing photographs and a timeline glossary and index all make this handy sized book the perfect way to learn if you love this title why not collect them all the secrets of the universe is part of a collectible set which will build into a diverse range of subjects

this title is part of the important new series from oxford which provides accessible introductions to the ideas facts and vocabulary behind an absorbing range of subjects meticulously researched and authoritative but written in simple language by experts in their fields curious young readers will quickly get to grips with the basic principles and terminology of each subject the invisible world of germs introduces in a clear and interesting way early theories about diseases and how they spread what bacteria fungi protists and viruses are and how they behave it also explores our natural defences and how we protect ourselves from the ever changing threat of infection the engaging design highlights the heroes of the subject from early beginnings to modern day and explains tricky terminology in speak like a scientist features comic strips and illustrations amazing photographs and a timeline glossary and index all make this handy sized book the perfect way to learn if you love this title why not collect them all the invisible world of germs is part of a collectible set which will build into a diverse range of subjects

this title is one of an exciting series from oxford giving accessible introductions to the ideas facts and vocabulary behind an absorbing range of subjects meticulously researched and authoritative but written in simple and engaging way by experts in their fields curious young readers will quickly get to grips with the story basic principles and terminology of each subject the shocking truth about energy explains the different types of energy including atomic energy and how we use it whether in a fridge or an internal combustion engine it introduces the scientists behind our knowledge along with the language and terminology used with the speak like a scientist features comic strips and illustrations a timeline glossary and index all make this handy sized book the perfect way to discover and think about energy and its future author mike goldsmith is a doctor of astrophysics works as a scientist and was shortlisted for royal society prize for science writing consultant aimee ambrose is professor of energy policy at sheffield hallam university

data is an integral part of our lives it helps us to unlock hidden mysteries and even predict the future the expanding world of data uncovers the world of data in a way that is accessible engaging and thought provoking using colourful artwork illustrations comic strips speak like a scientist and data hero sections this book is the perfect resource for those curious minds who want to know more about data what it is and what it does data can even help us to make the planet a better place this title is one of an exciting series from oxford giving accessible introductions to the ideas facts and vocabulary behind an absorbing range of subjects meticulously researched and written by experts in their fields curious young readers will quickly get to grips with the basic principles and terminology of each subject author tom jackson has been a writer for 25 years written about 200 books and specializes in science and technology consultant dr bran knowles is a senior lecturer in the data science institute at lancaster university where she leads the data and society theme the expanding world of data is part of a wider collectible set if you love this title why not collect them all

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meticulously researched and authoritative but written in simple and engaging way by experts in their fields curious young readers will quickly get to grips with the story basic principles and terminology of each subject ancient myths legends and superheroes explains the importance of a global selection of stories and their interpretations it introduces key mythological characters the twists and turns of the plots and the language used with the speak like a mythologist features comic strips and illustrations a timeline glossary and index all make this handy sized book the perfect way to discover the different ways people explain how the world began where we came from the universe and our place in it

human beings naturally desire knowledge but what is knowledge is it the same as having an opinion highlighting the major developments in the theory of knowledge from ancient greece to the present day jennifer nagel uses a number of simple everyday examples to explore the key themes and current debates of epistemology

most of us recognize that organizations are everywhere you meet them on every street corner in the form of families and shops study in them work for them buy from them pay taxes to them but have you given much thought to where they came from what they are today and what they might become in the future how and why do they have so much influence over us and what influences them how do they contribute to and detract from the meaningfulness of lives and how might we improve them so they better serve our needs and desires this very short introductions addresses all of these questions and considers many more mary jo hatch introduces the concept of organizations by presenting definitions and ideas drawn from the a variety of subject areas including the physical sciences economics sociology psychology anthropology literature and the visual and performing arts drawing on examples from prehistory and everyday life from the animal kingdom as well as from business government and other formal organizations hatch provides a lively and thought provoking introduction to the process of organization about the series the very short introductions series from oxford university press contains hundreds of titles in almost every subject area these pocket sized books are the perfect way to get ahead in a new subject quickly our expert authors combine facts analysis perspective new ideas and enthusiasm to make interesting and challenging topics highly readable

i rejoice said doctor johnson to concur with the common reader for the last century the tastes and preferences of the common reader have been reflected in the american and british bestseller lists and this very short introduction takes an engaging look through the lists to reveal what we have been reading and why john sutherland shows that bestseller lists monitor one of the strongest pulses in modern literature and are therefore worthy of serious study along the way he lifts the lid on the bestseller industry examines what makes a book into a bestseller and asks what separates bestsellers from canonical fiction exploring the relationship between bestsellers and the fashions ideologies and cultural concerns of the day the book includes short case studies and lively summaries of

bestsellers through the years from in his steps now almost totally forgotten but the biggest all time bestseller between 1895 and 1945 to gone with the wind and the andromeda strain and the da vinci code about the series the very short introductions series from oxford university press contains hundreds of titles in almost every subject area these pocket sized books are the perfect way to get ahead in a new subject quickly our expert authors combine facts analysis perspective new ideas and enthusiasm to make interesting and challenging topics highly readable

we live an information soaked existence information pours into our lives through television radio books and of course the internet some say we suffer from infoglut but what is information the concept of information is a profound one rooted in mathematics central to whole branches of science yet with implications on every aspect of our everyday lives dna provides the information to create us we learn through the information fed to us we relate to each other through information transfer gossip lectures reading information is not only a mathematically powerful concept but its critical role in society raises wider ethical issues who owns information who controls its dissemination who has access to information luciano floridi a philosopher of information cuts across many subjects from a brief look at the mathematical roots of information its definition and measurement in bits to its role in genetics we are information and its social meaning and value he ends by considering the ethics of information including issues of ownership privacy and accessibility copyright and open source for those unfamiliar with its precise meaning and wide applicability as a philosophical concept information may seem a bland or mundane topic those who have studied some science or philosophy or sociology will already be aware of its centrality and richness but for all readers whether from the humanities or sciences floridi gives a fascinating and inspirational introduction to this most fundamental of ideas about the series the very short introductions series from oxford university press contains hundreds of titles in almost every subject area these pocket sized books are the perfect way to get ahead in a new subject quickly our expert authors combine facts analysis perspective new ideas and enthusiasm to make interesting and challenging topics highly readable

this book aims to explain in clear non technical language what it is that mathematicians do and how that differs from and builds on the mathematics that most people are familiar with from school it is the ideal introduction for anyone who wishes to deepen their understanding of mathematics

this new edition explores how and why education has evolved as it has examining the ways in which it has responded over the centuries to influences in politics philosophy and the social sciences focussing on education today it considers the controversies over progressive versus formal teaching and also examines education worldwide

this very short introduction provides a concise overview of the main themes of contemporary philosophy of science after a short history the author goes on to

investigate the nature of scientific reasoning scientific explanation and more

foucault is one of those rare philosophers who has become a cult figure born in 1926 in france over the course of his life he dabbled in drugs politics and the paris sm scene all whilst striving to understand the deep concepts of identity knowledge and power from aesthetics to the penal system from madness and civilisation to avant garde literature foucault was happy to reject old models of thinking and replace them with versions that are still widely debated today a major influence on queer theory and gender studies he was openly gay and died of an aids related illness in 1984 he also wrote on architecture history law medicine literature politics and of course philosophy and even managed a best seller in france on a book dedicated to the history of systems of thought because of the complexity of his arguments people trying to come to terms with his work have desperately sought introductory material that makes his theories clear and accessible for the beginner ideally suited for the very short introductions series gary gutting presents a comprehensive but non systematic treatment of some highlights of foucault s life and thought beginning with a brief biography to set the social and political stage he then tackles foucault s thoughts on literature in particular the avant garde scene his philosophical and historical work his treatment of knowledge and power in modern society and his thoughts on sexuality about the series the very short introductions series from oxford university press contains hundreds of titles in almost every subject area these pocket sized books are the perfect way to get ahead in a new subject quickly our expert authors combine facts analysis perspective new ideas and enthusiasm to make interesting and challenging topics highly readable

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