

Sociolinguistics A Very Short Introduction

Design: A Very Short Introduction Philosophy: A Very Short Introduction The U.S. Supreme Court: A Very Short Introduction Theology: A Very Short Introduction Emotion: A Very Short Introduction Russian Literature: A Very Short Introduction Mathematics: A Very Short Introduction Postcolonialism: A Very Short Introduction History Bestsellers Measurement Information: A Very Short Introduction Modern Art: A Very Short Introduction Theatre Thinking and Reasoning The Industrial Revolution Music: A Very Short Introduction Education: A Very Short Introduction Translation Knowledge John Heskett Edward Craig Linda Greenhouse David Ford Dylan Evans Catriona Kelly Timothy Gowers Robert J. C. Young John H. Arnold John Sutherland David J. Hand Luciano Floridi David Cottington Marvin Carlson Jonathan St B. T. Evans Robert C. Allen Nicholas Cook Gary Thomas Matthew Reynolds Jennifer Nagel

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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

philosophy introduces important themes in ethics knowledge and the self via readings from plato aristotle darwin and buddhist writers it explains how areas of philosophy relate and explores the contexts in which philosophy was and is done

for 30 years pulitzer prize winning journalist linda greenhouse chronicled the activities of the u s supreme court and its justices as a correspondent for the new york times in this very short introduction she draws on her deep knowledge of the court s history and of its written and unwritten rules to show readers how the supreme court really works greenhouse offers a fascinating institutional biography of a place and its people men and women who exercise great power but whose names and

faces are unrecognized by many americans and whose work often appears cloaked in mystery how do cases get to the supreme court how do the justices go about deciding them what special role does the chief justice play what do the law clerks do how does the court relate to the other branches of government greenhouse answers these questions by depicting the justices as they confront deep constitutional issues or wrestle with the meaning of confusing federal statutes throughout the author examines many individual supreme court cases to illustrate points under discussion ranging from marbury v madison the seminal case which established judicial review to the recent district of columbia v heller 2008 which struck down the district of columbia s gun control statute and which was surprisingly the first time in its history that the court issued an authoritative interpretation of the second amendment to add perspective greenhouse also compares the court to foreign courts revealing interesting differences for instance no other country in the world has chosen to bestow life tenure on its judges the second edition of greenhouse s very short introduction tracks the changes in the court s makeup over the last eight years considers the landmark decisions of the obama and trump eras and reexamines the precarious fates of such precedents as roe v wade a superb overview packed with telling details this volume offers a matchless introduction to one of the pillars of american government

this is an introduction to the subject of academic theology its basic approach is interrogative raising key questions so as to lead into a range of selected topics such as knowledge community salvation god prayer and evil

was love invented by european poets in the middle ages or is it part of human nature will winning the lottery really make you happy is it possible to build robots that have feelings in this very short introduction dylan evans explores these and many other intriguing questions in this guide to the latest thinking about the emotions drawing on a wide range of scientific research from anthropology and psychology to neuroscience and artificial intelligence evans takes the reader on a fascinating journey into the human heart discussing the evolution of emotions and their biological basis the science of happiness and the role that emotions play in memory and decision making greeted by critics as a pop science classic when it was first published in 2001 the book has now been thoroughly revised and updated to incorporate new developments in our understanding of emotions including new sections addressing the neural basis of empathy and the emotional impact of films 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 text explores the place and importance of literature of all sorts in russian culture and aims to answer the questions how and when did a russian national literature come into being and what shaped its creation

the aim of this volume is to explain the differences between research level mathematics and the maths taught at school most differences are philosophical and the

first few chapters are about general aspects of mathematical thought

this innovative and lively book is quite unlike any other introduction to postcolonialism robert young examines the political social and cultural after effects of decolonization by presenting situations experiences and testimony rather than going through the theory at an abstract level he situates the debate in a wide cultural context discussing its importance as an historical condition with examples such as the status of aboriginal people of those dispossessed from their land algerian raï music postcolonial feminism and global social and ecological movements above all young argues postcolonialism offers a political philosophy of activism that contests the current situation of global inequality and so in a new way continues the anti colonial struggles of the past 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

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

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

measurement is a fundamental concept that underpins almost every aspect of the modern world it is central to the sciences social sciences medicine and economics but it affects everyday life we measure everything from the distance of far off galaxies to the temperature of the air levels of risk political majorities taxes blood pressure iq and weight the history of measurement goes back to the ancient world and its story has been one of gradual standardization today there are different types of measurement levels of accuracy and systems of units applied in different contexts measurement involves notions of variability accuracy reliability and error and challenges such as the measurement of extreme values in this very short introduction david hand explains the common mathematical framework underlying all measurement the main approaches to measurement and the challenges involved following a brief historical account of measurement he discusses measurement as used in the physical sciences and engineering the life sciences and medicine the social and behavioural sciences economics business and public policy 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

introduction 1 the information revolution 2 the language of information 3 mathematical information 4 semantic information 5 physical information 6 biological information 7 economic information 8 the ethics of information conclusion references

as public interest in modern art continues to grow there is a real need for a book that will engage general readers offering them not only information and ideas about modern art but also explaining its contemporary relevance and its history this book does just that

theatre is one of the longest standing art forms of modern civilization taking a global look at how various forms of theatre including puppetry dance and mime have been interpreted and enjoyed this very short introduction explores all aspects of the theatre including its relationship with religion literature and its value worldwide

our extraordinary capacity to reason and solve problems sets us aside from other animals but our evolved thinking processes also leave us susceptible to bias and error the study of thinking and reasoning goes back to aristotle and was one of the first topics to be studied when psychology separated from philosophy in this very short introduction jonathan evans explores cognitive psychological approaches to understanding the nature of thinking and reasoning problem solving and decision making he shows how our problem solving capabilities are hugely dependent on also having the imagination to ask the right questions and the ability to see things from a completely new perspective beginning by considering the approaches of the behaviourists and the gestalt psychologists he moves on to modern explorations of thinking including hypothetical thinking conditionals deduction rationality and intuition covering the role of past learning iq and cognitive biases evans also discusses the idea that there may be two different ways of thinking arising from our evolutionary history 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

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the industrial revolution was one of the great transforming events of world history robert c allen explains what happened during this period and why he asks why the revolution occurred in Britain rather than other countries and looks at the impact of changing technology and business organizations on contemporary social structures publisher's description

this stimulating very short introduction to music invites us to really think about music and the values and qualities we ascribe to it the world teems with different kinds of music traditional folk classical jazz rock pop and each type of music tends to come with its own way of thinking drawing on a wealth of accessible examples ranging from Beethoven to Chinese zither music Nicholas Cook attempts to provide a framework for thinking about all music by examining the personal social and cultural values that music embodies the book reveals the shortcomings of traditional conceptions of music and sketches a more inclusive approach emphasizing the role of performers and listeners 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

from the schools of ancient times to the present day Gary Thomas explores how and why education has evolved as it has examining education worldwide he explains the way schools work noting how curricula are remarkably consistent around the world delving into some of the big questions Thomas explores the history of education in this very short introduction considering various styles such as progressive versus formal he also explores the ideas of some of the big theorists including Piaget and Vygotsky looking at different forms of education and styles of teaching he considers the ways in which education is being improved by matching styles of learning to teaching and ensuring that schools are more inclusive and meaningful for a broader range of students he finishes by considering the ways in which education may develop over the coming century 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

translation is everywhere giving us dubbed films and access to foreign news and the literature of other cultures considering subtitling interpreting and adaptations Matthew Reynolds reveals how translation is changing radically in the new age of electronic media

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

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