

The Koran A Very Short Introduction

Design: A Very Short Introduction Thought: A Very Short Introduction Russian Literature: A Very Short Introduction History Emotion: A Very Short Introduction Postcolonialism: A Very Short Introduction Theology: A Very Short Introduction The U.S. Supreme Court: A Very Short Introduction Mathematics: A Very Short Introduction Information: A Very Short Introduction Knowledge Modern Art: A Very Short Introduction Education: A Very Short Introduction Korea Bestsellers German Literature: A Very Short Introduction Navigation Music: A Very Short Introduction Thinking and Reasoning Religion John Heskett Tim Bayne Catriona Kelly John H. Arnold Dylan Evans Robert J. C. Young David Ford Linda Greenhouse Timothy Gowers Luciano Floridi Jennifer Nagel David Cottington Gary Thomas Michael J. Seth John Sutherland Nicholas Boyle James A. Bennett Nicholas Cook Jonathan St. B. T. Evans Thomas A. Tweed

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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

in this lively very short introduction tim bayne explores the nature of thought drawing on research from philosophy psychology neuroscience and anthropology he examines what we know and what we don't know about one of the defining features of human nature our capacity for thought p 2 of cover

this book is intended to capture the interest of anyone who has been attracted to russian culture through the greats of russian literature either through the texts themselves or encountering them in the cinema or opera rather than a conventional chronology of russian literature the book will

explore the place and importance of literature of all sorts in russian culture how and when did a russian national literature come into being what shaped its creation how have the russians regarded their literary language the book will use the figure of pushkin the russian shakespeare as a recurring example as his work influenced every russian writer who came after him whether poets or novelists it will look at such questions as why russian writers are venerated how they've been interpreted inside russia and beyond and the influences of such things as the folk tale tradition orthodox religion and the west 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

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 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

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

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 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

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

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

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

from the schools of ancient times to the present day gary thomas explores how and why education has evolved has 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

korea long in the shadows of its neighbours china and japan is now the object of considerable interest this book focuses on answering several historical questions what does it mean to be korean how did this nation evolve into today s sharply contrasting societies and how does korea fit into the larger narrative of world history

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

german writers be it goethe nietzsche marx brecht or mann have had a profound influence on the modern world this very short introduction illuminates the particular character and power of german literature and examines its impact on the wider cultural world

looking at the long history of navigation at sea jim bennett discusses the scientific and technological developments that have enabled the accurate measurement of position and setting of directions in the oceans

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

thinking is the essence of what it means to be human and defines us more than anything else as a species jonathan evans explores cognitive psychological approaches to understanding the nature of thinking and reasoning problem solving and decision making

religion plays a central role in human experience billions of people around the world practice a faith and act in accordance with it religion shapes how they enter the world and how they leave it how they eat dress marry and raise their children it affects law economy and government it sanctifies injustice and combats it beginning with the first signs of religion among ancient humans and concluding with a look at modern citizens and contemporary trends leading scholar thomas tweed examines this powerful and enduring force in human society religion a very short introduction offers a concise non partisan overview of religion s long history and its complicated role in the world today

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Introduction

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Conclusion

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