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Marx Jun 06 2021 "First published 1980 as an Oxford University Press paperback; Reissued 1996; First published as a Very Short Introduction 2000"--Title page verso.

TheatreJan 21 2020 Theatre is one of the longest-standing art forms in modern civilization. Taking a global look at how various forms of theatre, including puppetry, dance, and mime - have been interpreted and enjoyed, this book explores all aspects of the theatre, including its relationship to religion, literature, and its value worldwide.

EconomicsSep 28 2020 Economics has the capacity to offer us deep insights into some of the most formidable problems of life, and offer solutions to them too. Combining a global approach with examples from

everyday life, Partha Dasgupta reveals the connections between economic, political, and development, and shows how these interactions create the world we live in today.

Fashion: A Very Short Introduction Jan 13 2022 Fashion is a global industry, and plays a role in our economic, political, cultural, and social lives. However, fashion is often denigrated as trivial and superficial, a source of vanity and narcissism. This Very Short Introduction will give a clear understanding of how fashion has developed while addressing these divergent views.

Comedy: A Very Short Introduction Apr 16 2022 With a broad scope across the millennia, from high literature to popular culture, between page and stage and screen, this Very Short Introduction considers comedy not only a literary genre, but also as a broader impulse at work in many other historical and contemporary forms of satire, parody, and play.

Free Will: A Very Short Introduction Sep 21 2022 Do we really make our own decisions? Or are we compelled to act by factors beyond our control? And if our choices are not free, why should we be held morally responsible for them. Thomas Pink's Very Short Introduction to free will is an accessible and stimulating investigation of one of the most important enduring problems of Western philosophy. It looks at a range of issues surrounding this fundamental philosophical question, exploring it from the ideas of the Greek and medieval philosophers through to the thoughts of present-day thinkers.

Thought: A Very Short Introduction Dec 20 2019 There is no denying that thinking comes naturally to human beings. But what are thoughts? How is thought realized in the brain? Does thinking occur in public or is it a private affair? Do young children and non-human animals think? Is human thought the same everywhere, or are there culturally specific modes of thought? What is the relationship between thought and language? What kind of responsibility do we have for our thoughts? In this compelling Very Short Introduction, Tim Bayne looks at the nature of thought. Beginning with questions about what thought is and what distinguishes it from other kinds of mental states, he goes on to examine various interpretations of thought from philosophy, psychology, neuroscience, and anthropology.

exploring the logical structures of thought and the relationship between thought and other mental phenomena, as well as the mechanisms that thought possible and the cultural variations that may exist in our thought processes, Bayne looks at what we know - and don't know - about our capacity for thought. 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.

Information: A Very Short Introduction Apr 28 2023 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.

Sport Jul 27 2020 Sport is big business; international in nature and the focus of much media and cultural attention. In this Very Short Introduction Mike Cronin charts the history of sport, from its traditional origins in football and cock fighting to its position as a global phenomenon today. Looking at a variety of sports from team games such as rugby, cricket, football to games for individuals such as golf, tennis, and skiing, he considers how these first emerged and captivated the interest of ordinary people, and how sport has been transformed within our daily lives. Exploring the relationship between sport and class, gender, commerce, identity, and ethics, Cronin considers some of the central issues in sport today, including the high pay of professional footballers and the glamour of women in sports, as well as fair play standards. Charting sport through ages and around the world, this is a short guide to the history, development and place of sport in contemporary global society. 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.

Feminism: A Very Short Introduction Feb 02 2021 This book provides an historical account of feminism, exploring its earliest roots and key issues such as voting rights and the liberation of the sixties. Margaret Walter brings the subject completely up to date by providing a global analysis of the situation of women, from Europe and the United States to Third World countries.

Rousseau: A Very Short Introduction Mar 03 2021 In this study of Rousseau's life and works, across a range of disciplines, Robert Wokler shows how his thinking and writing were all inspired by an ideal of mankind's self-realization in a condition of unfettered freedom.

Buddhism: A Very Short Introduction Jan 07 2021 Introduces Buddhism, looking at how the tradition began and how it evolved and explaining its central teachings and practices.

Humour: A Very Short Introduction Aug 28 2020 Examines the leading theories of humor, focusing on the incongruity theory.

History: A Very Short Introduction Feb 14 2022 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.

Mathematics: A Very Short Introduction Jul 19 2022 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 few chapters are about general aspects of mathematical thought.

Causation: A Very Short Introduction Apr 04 2021 Without cause and effect, there would be no science or technology, no moral responsibility, no system of law. Causation is therefore the most fundamental connection in the universe and a core topic of philosophical thought. This Very Short Introduction introduces all of the main theories of causation and its key debates.

Nothing: A Very Short Introduction Jan 25 2023 An exploration of the

concept of "nothing" journeys from ancient ideas and cultural tradition to the latest scientific research, discussing the history of the vacuum, theories on the nature of time and space, and other discoveries.

The Devil: A Very Short Introduction Apr 23 2020 The Devil has fascinated writers and theologians since the time of the New Testament, and inspired many dramatic and haunting works of art. Today he remains a potent figure in popular culture. The Devil: A Very Short Introduction presents an introduction to the Christian Devil through the history of ideas and the lives of real people.

Computer Science Mar 23 2020 While the development of information technology has been obvious to all, the underpinning computer science has been less apparent. Subrata Dasgupta provides a thought-provoking introduction to the field and its core principles, considering computer science as a science of symbol processing.

Descartes: A Very Short Introduction Oct 22 2022 René Descartes (1596-1650) had a remarkably short working life, and his output was small, yet his contributions to philosophy and science have endured to the present day. He is perhaps best known for his statement 'Cogito, ergo sum'. By a mixture of 'intuition' and 'deduction' Descartes derived from the 'cogito' principle first the existence of a material world. But Descartes did not separate the metaphysics from his scientific work, which included some of the most important investigations into physics, mathematics, psychology, and optics. In this book Tom Sorrell shows that Descartes was, above all, an advocate and practitioner of a new mathematical approach to physics, and that he developed his metaphysics to support his programme in the sciences.

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Trust: A Very Short Introduction May 17 2022 Trust is indispensable, yet it can be dangerous. Without trusting others, we cannot function in society, even stay alive for very long, but being overly-trustful can be a bad strategy too. Trust is pragmatic, but it also has a moral dimension: trustworthiness.

a virtue, and well-placed trust benefits us all. In this Very Short Introduction, Katherine Hawley explores the key ideas about trust and distrust. Considering questions such as 'Why do we value trust?' and 'do we want to be trusted rather than distrusted?', Hawley raises issues about the importance of trust in both the personal and public spheres, including family and relationships as well as politics and society. ABOUT THE SERIES: The Very Short Introductions series from Oxford University Press contains hundreds of titles in almost every subject area. These pocket books are the perfect way to get ahead in a new subject quickly. Our authors combine facts, analysis, perspective, new ideas, and enthusiasm to make interesting and challenging topics highly readable.

Cryptography: A Very Short Introduction Jan 01 2021 A clear and informative introduction to the science of codebreaking, explaining what algorithms do, how they are used, the risks associated with using them, and why governments should be concerned.

Kafka: A Very Short Introduction Mar 27 2023 Franz Kafka is one of the most intriguing writers of the 20th century. In this text the author provides an up-to-date introduction to Kafka, beginning with an examination of his life and then discussing some of the major themes that emerge in Kafka's work.

The Atmosphere Oct 30 2020 In this Very Short introduction Paul Palmer looks at the structure and basic physics and chemistry of the Earth's atmosphere, comparing it to the atmospheres of other planets, particularly our neighbours, Venus and Mars. Palmer looks at the effects of pollution and climate change, and what may happen to our atmosphere in the future.

The English Language Jun 18 2022 "[This book]: provides a concise and accessible history of English; engages with key debates concerning issues of correctness, standards, and dialects; investigates the uses of English worldwide; reflects on the future of the English language..."--Publisher's description.

Plato Oct 10 2021 This introduction to Plato focuses on the philosophical argument of his writings, drawing the reader into Plato's way of doing philosophy, and the general themes of his thinking. It includes a brief account of Plato's life.

The Future Feb 26 2023 From the beginning of time, humans have been driven by both a fear of the unknown and a curiosity to know. Our forefathers tried to create certainty in the unknown, by seeking to influence outcomes with sacrifices to gods, preparing for the unexpected with advice from oracles, and by reading the stars through astrology. As scientific methods improve and computer technology develops we become ever more confident of our capacity to predict and quantify the future by accumulating and interpreting patterns from the past, yet the truth is there is still no certainty to be had. This introduction considers some of our most burning questions about what the future is.

Education: A Very Short Introduction Dec 24 2022 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 methods of learning to teaching, and ensuring that schools are more inclusive and meaningful for a broader range of students. He finishes by considering 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.

Expert authors combine facts, analysis, perspective, new ideas, and enthusiasm to make interesting and challenging topics highly readable.

Knowledge Nov 23 2022 What is knowledge? Is it the same as opinion or truth? Do you need to be able to justify a claim in order to count as knowing it? How can we know that the outer world is real and not a dream? Questions like these have existed since ancient times, and the branch of philosophy dedicated to answering them - epistemology - has been active for thousands of years. In this thought-provoking Very Short Introduction,

Jennifer Nagel considers the central problems and paradoxes in the theory of knowledge and draws attention to the ways in which philosophers and theorists have responded to them. By exploring the relationship between knowledge and truth, and considering the problem of scepticism, Nagel introduces a series of influential historical and contemporary theories of knowledge, incorporating methods from logic, linguistics, and psychology, using a number of everyday examples to demonstrate the key issues and debates. 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 subject quickly. Our expert authors combine facts, analysis, perspective, ideas, and enthusiasm to make interesting and challenging topics highly readable.

Psychology: A Very Short Introduction Nov 11 2021 "Fully updated new edition"--Label on cover.

Design: A Very Short Introduction Jan 25 2020 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.

Statistics: A Very Short Introduction May 05 2021 Statistics has evolved into an exciting discipline which uses deep theory and powerful software to shed light on the world around us: from clinical trials in medicine, to economics, sociology, and countless other subjects vital to understanding modern life. This Very Short Introduction explores and explains how statistics works today.

Risk: A Very Short Introduction Aug 20 2022 Risk is everywhere - from genetically modified crops, dams, and stem-cell therapy to heartbreak, online predators, inflation, and robbery. This Very Short Introduction examines what science has learned about how people deal with risks, how we can learn through decision theory, and how we can evaluate risk in our own lives.

Ethics: a Very Short Introduction May 25 2020 Simon Blackburn tackles the major moral questions surrounding birth, death, happiness, desire,

freedom, and considers how we should think about the meaning of life. The new edition highlights the importance of an understanding of approach ethics and its foundations, and how this relates to our modern world of eroding trust.

Reconstruction: a Very Short Introduction Oct 12 2021 The era known as Reconstruction is one of the unhappiest times in American history. It succeeded in reuniting the nation politically after the Civil War but in many other ways. Among its chief failures was the inability to chart a progressive course for race relations after the abolition of slavery and rise of Jim Crow. Reconstruction also struggled to successfully manage the Southern resistance towards a Northern, free-labor pattern. But the failures cannot obscure a number of notable accomplishments, with decisive long-term consequences for American life: the 14th and 15th Amendments to the Constitution, the election of the first African American representatives to the US Congress, and the avoidance of any renewed outbreak of civil war. Reconstruction suffered from poor leadership and uncertainty of direction but it also laid the groundwork for renewed struggles for racial equality during the Civil Rights Movement. This Very Short Introduction delves into the constitutional, political, and social issues behind Reconstruction to provide a lucid and original account of a historical moment that left an indelible mark on American social fabric. Award-winning historian Allen Guelzo depicts Reconstruction as a "bourgeois revolution" -- as the attempted extension of the free-labor ideology embodied by Lincoln and the Republican Party to what was perceived as a Southern region gone astray from the Founders' intention in the pursuit of Romantic aristocracy.

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Nationalism: A Very Short Introduction Nov 30 2020 Throughout history, humanity has borne witness to the political and moral challenges that arise when people place national identity above allegiance to geo-political states or international communities. This book discusses the concept of nation

and nationalism from social, philosophical, geological, theological and anthropological perspectives. It examines the subject through conflicts and present, including recent conflicts in the Balkans and the Middle East rather than exclusively focusing on theory. Above all, this fascinating and comprehensive work clearly shows how feelings of nationalism are an inescapable part of being human.

The Computer: A Very Short Introduction **Sept 09 2021** Discusses the basic components of computers; how increasingly miniature parts have led to products, applications, and networks that solve problems; the issues that increased connectivity has produced; and some of the emerging technologies in the field.

The Brain: A Very Short Introduction **Mar 15 2022** "How does the brain work? Michael O'Shea provides an accessible introduction to the key questions and current state of brain research, and shows that, though we know a surprising amount, we are still far from having a complete understanding. The topics he discusses range from how we sense things, how memories are stored, to the evolution of brains and nervous systems from primitive organisms, as well as altered mental states, brain-computer hybrids, and the future of brain research."--BOOK JACKET.

The United Nations: A Very Short Introduction **Feb 20 2020** 'The United Nations: a Very Short Introduction' engages the current debate over the United Nations' effectiveness and explains how it was originally conceived, how it has come to its present form, and how it must confront new challenges in a rapidly changing world. In what ways has the UN succeeded and failed as a guardian of international peace and security, as a promoter of human rights, protector of international law, and engineer of socio-economic development?

Happiness: A Very Short Introduction **Aug 08 2021** Most of us spend our lives striving for happiness. But what is it? How important is it? How (and should we) pursue it? In this Very Short Introduction Dan Haybron provides a comprehensive look at the nature of happiness. By using examples, Haybron considers how we measure happiness, what makes us happy, and considers its subjective nature.

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