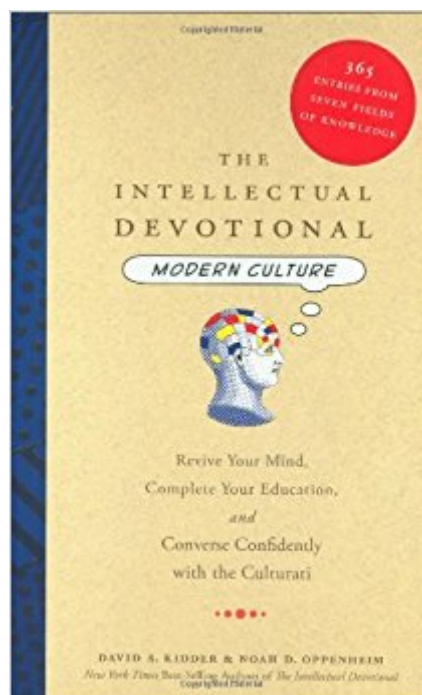


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The Intellectual Devotional Modern Culture: Revive Your Mind, Complete Your Education, And Converse Confidently With The Culturati



Synopsis

In the tradition of the instant bestsellers *The Intellectual Devotional* and *The Intellectual Devotional: American History* comes the third installment in this indispensable series. In *The Intellectual Devotional: Modern Culture*, authors David S. Kidder and Noah D. Oppenheim explore the fascinating world of contemporary culture to offer 365 daily readings that provide the essential references needed to navigate the world today. Quench your intellectual thirst with an overview of the literature, music, film, personalities, trends, sports, and pop references that have defined the way we live. From the Slinky to Star Wars; Beatlemania to Babe Ruth; flappers to fascism—refreshing your memory and dazzling your friends has never been easier, or more fun. Whether you're a trivia genius, pop-culture buff, or avid reader, you'll be riveted by this comprehensive journey through contemporary culture.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

DAVID S. KIDDER is an entrepreneur with a wide range of technology and marketing expertise. Stories about Kidder and his companies have appeared in numerous publications, from the Wall Street Journal to the New York Times. He lives in Westchester, New York. NOAH D. OPPENHEIM, a senior producer of NBC's Today show, has extensive experience in television and print journalism. His writing has appeared in Esquire and the Wall Street Journal. He lives in New York City.

Using a framework borrowed from religion, the devotional, this collection of 365 short intellectual

topics is intended to refresh the mind daily for a full year. Most listeners will enjoy multiple segments at a sitting because they become addictive once their richness becomes obvious. The authors draw from seven fields of knowledge--history, literature, philosophy, mathematics and science, religion, fine arts, and music--and their choices are impressive for their range and depth. The two narrators, Helen Litchfield and Oliver Wyman, could not be better suited to this endeavor. As they mostly alternate entire segments, the contrast of tone and personality will keep listeners' attention stirred but not shaken. Their performances are so sturdy and appropriate that most people won't even be aware of the extraordinary talent and professionalism they embody. T.W. 2009 Audies Finalist Â© AudioFile 2009, Portland, Maine --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I like how it is broken down into one page daily readings. However, many of the topics were below level for me (but I have a masters degree). The level of information is excellent for junior high or high school students.

This book contains multiple factual errors. The format is great and I enjoyed it until I started doubting some of the facts. I looked one up and confirmed that it was incorrect, which kind of ruins an educational text.

This book covers a very broad range of topics with only page per topic, so I didn't expect much and prepared myself for a superficial treatment. But being the generalist that I am, I was obligated to give the book a try anyway. I'm pleasantly surprised by how good this book is. Having only one page per topic is of course still a serious limitation, but the authors make efficient use of each page and do about as good a job as anyone could. The range of topics is broad and interesting, the information is (almost always) accurate, the insights are useful and sometimes impressive, and the overall writing quality is consistently high. As other reviewers have noted, one flaw of the book is that the font size is too small, and I'm surprised that the editors let that go through. It wasn't really a problem for me, but it may be a fatal flaw for readers with vision problems. Another semi-criticism is that it's not clear that this book is ideally suited for any particular audience. For readers who aren't already well read, the fragmented and jumping-around format of the book may inhibit understanding and retention (but of course the book can be read more than once to help remedy that). And for readers who are already well read, the book will be more of a review, so they may not learn much, although I did manage to pick up some useful new tidbits despite extensive prior reading on many topics. Even with the caveats noted above, I still definitely recommend this book to readers who are

oriented towards broad generalist learning. The book is a quality resource for that purpose, and there aren't many alternatives to choose from (The Bedside Baccalaureate: A Handy Daily Cerebral Primer to Fill in the Gaps, Refresh Your Knowledge & Impress Yourself & Other IntellectualsÂ is another good choice).

I keep this book on my coffee table and when I'm bored and about to browse on my phone, I'll read one page- it does a great job summarizing a topic or subject and get me thinking. Such a simple book and idea that stimulates thoughtful learning while educating!

Wonderful for night time reading, good variety of topics, quick way to boost your knowledge. My only criticism is in the Religion category, which is almost entirely Christian based rather than equal time to all the major religions. In this country most people are generally familiar with the Bible and Christian stories, this would have been better giving more information on other religions.

Having owned a paper copy for years and not looking at it, bought the online version. Why? Maybe because it was on sale, I can't remember. But I have read it, great in the morning with breakfast. Gave my paper copy to a friend, they have enjoyed it as well. Get a little knowledge in the morning, that's what I say.

This was a gift for a friend and I have now moved up to the #1 spot on their friends list. They loved this book! Each day, it is a new subject, and it is an easy read. I will be purchasing additional copies as gifts in the future.

great book

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