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How To Think About Weird Things: Critical Thinking For A New Age (Philosophy & Religion)



Synopsis

This concise and engaging text teaches the basic principles of good reasoning through an examination of widely held beliefs about the paranormal, the supernatural, and the mysterious. By explaining what distinguishes knowledge from opinion, science from pseudoscience, and evidence from hearsay, *How to Think about Weird Things* helps the reader develop the skills needed to tell the true from the false and the reasonable from the unreasonable. Instructors and students can now access their course content through the Connect digital learning platform by purchasing either standalone Connect access or a bundle of print and Connect access. McGraw-Hill Connect[®] is a subscription-based learning service accessible online through your personal computer or tablet. Choose this option if your instructor will require Connect to be used in the course. Your subscription to Connect includes the following:

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Book Information

Series: Philosophy & Religion

Paperback: 352 pages

Publisher: McGraw-Hill Education; 7 edition (January 28, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0078038367

ISBN-13: 978-0078038365

Product Dimensions: 6.4 x 0.6 x 9.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 84 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #12,612 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #6 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Philosophy > Criticism #113 in Books > Textbooks > Humanities > Philosophy

Customer Reviews

Interesting read. This book tests your critical thinking and pushes you to think of "weird things"

through the light of the Socratic method and first principle thinking. It builds a good foundation for all learning.

i can truly and honestly say that I think everybody should read this book. In addition to being incredibly interesting and easy to read, the subject matter is very great, and it is one of the easier and clear cut class texts I have ever used.

This book was strange, but it spoke alot about logic and reason. Not a bad read.

What a Hoot. I loved the book and the ideas other people came up with. Some ideas are weird, but some are just plain crazy. If I stray into "CRAZY" I hope a friend or two will make a comment. Best to everyone!

This book was a required book in a college class I had to take. Did learn some things from it.

You can either think about weird things and let it bother you or you can analyze it. This book was a fun read and worth the purchase. Also, it was a textbook for a philosophy class.

Informative, easy reading

Not only is this book really informative, it's also entertaining. It goes through most of the 'weird' stories that you have probably heard. Stories like the monster of loch ness, bigfoot, near-death experiences, mediums, haunted houses, etc. And it analyzes each of these claims with a framework built on top of logic and the scientific method. The authors do a pretty good job of giving each of these issues a fair treatment. E.g. they don't claim that UFOs are non-existant, or impossible to exist. They just claim that for the set of phenomena reported as UFOs, there are other, simpler, explanations. Somewhere in the book it says "The more a theory contradicts your existing beliefs, the more suspicious you should be of it" (paraphrasing). What I'm driving at is that if you have a lot of beliefs about weird things, like ESP, etc. you will find a lot of the things in this book hard to swallow. If you're already a skeptic you'll be nodding your head a lot. However, if you believe in something and are trying to convince someone else to believe it too, the tools in this book are probably the only ones that will accomplish the deed.

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