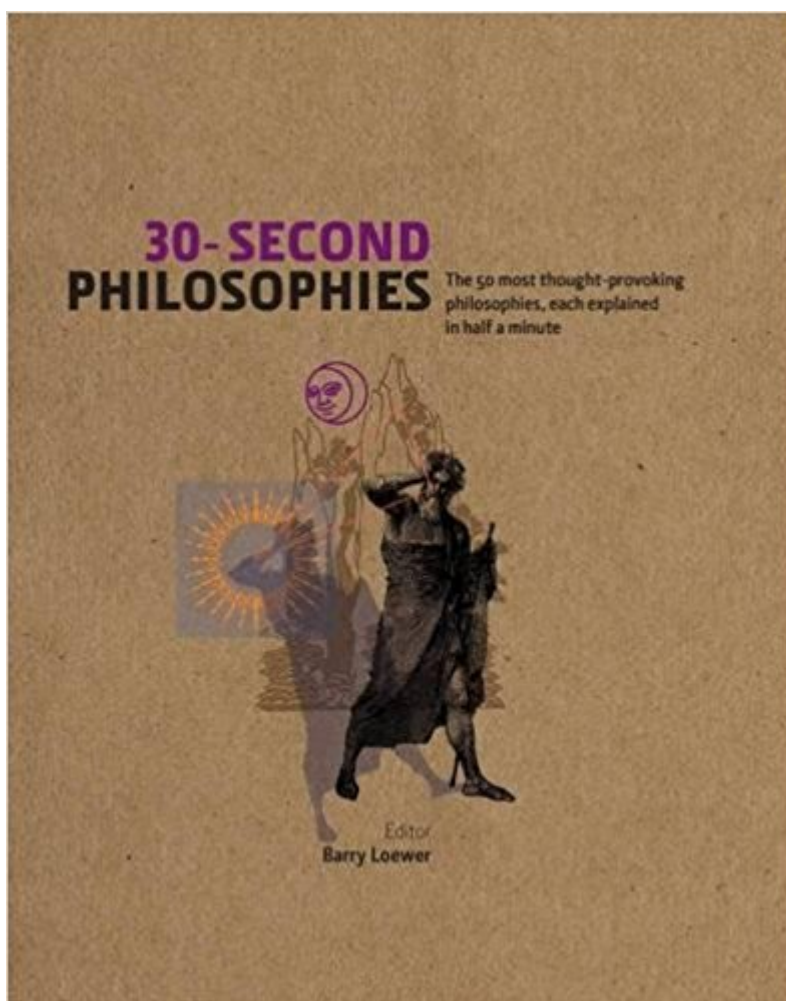


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# 30-Second Philosophies The 50 Most Thought-Provoking Philosophies, Each Explained In Half A Minute



## Synopsis

I Think Therefore I Am, Existentialism, Dialectical Materialism, The Socratic Method and Deconstruction? Sure, you know what they all mean. That is, you've certainly heard of them. But do you know enough about them to join a dinner party debate or dazzle the bar with your knowledge? 30-Second Philosophies takes a revolutionary approach to getting a grip on the 50 most significant schools of philosophy. The book challenges leading thinkers to quit fretting about the meaning of meaning for a while and explain the most complex philosophical ideas-using nothing more than two pages, 300 words, and a metaphorical image. Here, in one unique volume, you have the chance to pick the potted brains of our leading philosophers and understand complex concepts such as Kant's Categorical Imperative without ending up in a darkened room with an ice pack on your head.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 160 pages

Publisher: Metro Books (2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1435109570

ISBN-13: 978-1848311626

ASIN: 1848311621

Product Dimensions: 7.4 x 0.6 x 9.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.6 pounds

Average Customer Review: 3.4 out of 5 stars 11 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #77,015 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #29 in Books > Arts & Photography > Performing Arts > Theater > Direction & Production #6135 in Books > Humor & Entertainment

## Customer Reviews

I Think Therefore I Am, Existentialism, Dialectical Materialism, The Socratic Method and Deconstruction? Sure, you know what they all mean. That is, you've certainly heard of them. But do you know enough about them to join a dinner party debate or dazzle the bar with your knowledge? 30-Second Philosophies takes a revolutionary approach to getting a grip on the 50 most significant schools of philosophy. The book challenges leading thinkers to quit fretting about the meaning of meaning for a while and explain the most complex philosophical ideas-using nothing more than two pages, 300 words, and a metaphorical image. Here, in one unique volume, you have the chance to pick the potted brains of our leading philosophers and understand complex concepts such as Kant's Categorical Imperative without ending up in a darkened room with an ice pack on your head.

Excellent guide for brushing up ones memory!

Awesome. Just as described.

Very, very, very, good. Complete satisfaction.

A book that can be read satisfactorily in very short spurts, this one is full of nuggets for fascinating pondering.

This book is one of a collection of 30-second books. This doesn't mean it takes you 30 seconds to read the entire thing, now that would be silly, it means it takes several schools of philosophy and gives a base explanation in nothing more than two pages per school. I thoroughly enjoyed this book, and it's one of those books I like to have lying around to dip in and out of at will; however, on my first read through I did start at the beginning and go through to the end. The book and its contents are simple, straightforward and easy to understand, each being given a two page spread with about 300 words, some fun facts and an illustration that may, or may not relate to what you've just read. Various schools of thought are covered by dividing the book into seven chapters such as language and logic and religion to name but two, and this all ties together into a neat little package that is more an historical review than a guide to current thinking in this field. I enjoyed this book, and other in the series, because they expand on my knowledge or actually give me ammunition when faced with a conversation on a subject I've not studied; and every reader needs to be well armed at the dinner party of today, all written in language that the lay-person can understand. I would recommend this book to those readers who are looking for something educational, fun and interesting to read, and those readers looking for an introduction to philosophy. Originally reviewed on: [...]

It is my sincere hope that this review is taken in the vein that it is meant- I do not mean to say anything negative about the concept of this book or the attempt to make philosophy accessible. I think it's clever and had high hopes for it. I know a little bit about a few philosophers, but I was hoping that this would expand my horizons. Unfortunately, I found that this book was just too condensed to really explain the philosophies that are presented in a well-rounded way. The nuances that make philosophy interesting are just lost. The few philosophers that I did know

something about were presented in such an abrupt way that I found myself shocked and at a loss. So much about what the philosophers say are lost in this format, and there isn't enough context given to facilitate real understanding. If I argued a position based on the information in this book, I would be laughed at by my peers that have taken the time to get to know the material. I felt like this format was dangerous for that reason- it's just enough to make one feel like they know something they would actually know almost nothing about if this book was their only resource. At its best, this book might introduce the reader to an idea of interest, but she or he would need to read more somewhere else in order to really understand what the philosopher's position was. I hate to write such a negative review, but I wanted to give my true opinion in the hopes it would be helpful to someone else.

This is a great little book. I have been taking philosophy and ethics classes at school and once we delve into a new topic I take a quick read in this book to get the 'gist of the concept and/or philosopher. Then I follow through with the assigned class readings. You aren't really going to learn the concept in 30 seconds, but it's a great starting point, especially since philosophy texts are so challenging. In fact, I came online to find another copy because my dogs chewed mine up!

Disappointing. The authors spend more time talking about their opinions about each philosophy than they do teaching them. You're better off reading this stuff on a philosophy encyclopedia online.

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