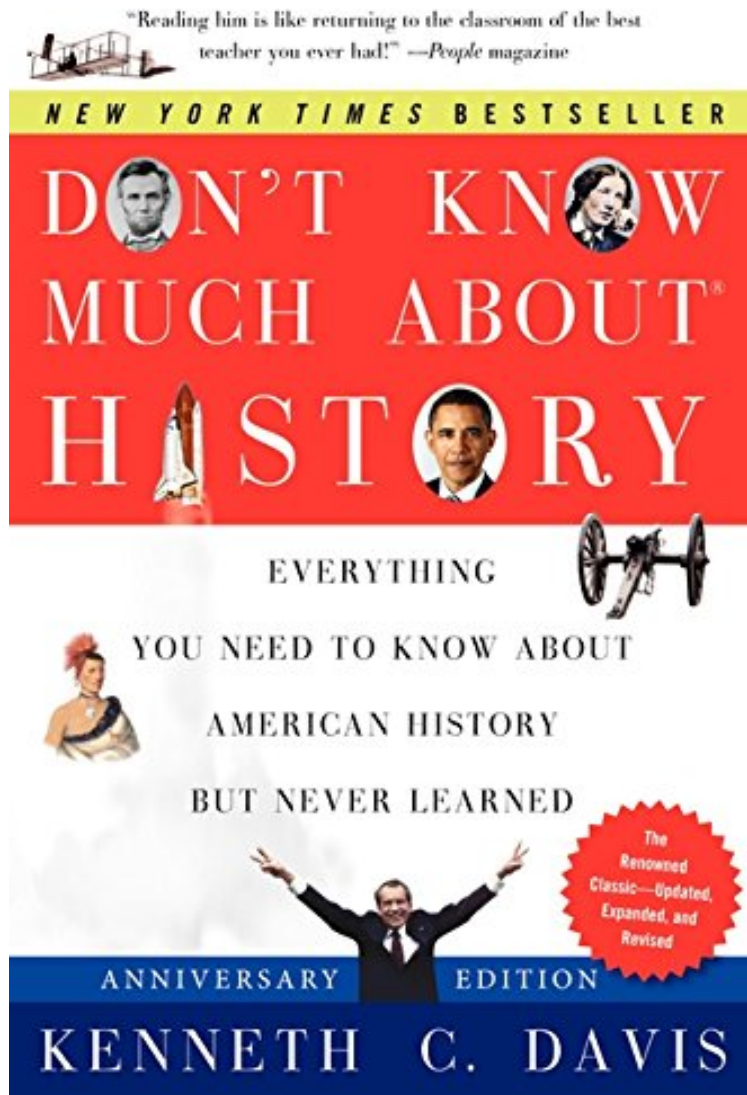


(Free read ebook) Don't Know Much About History, Anniversary Edition: Everything You Need to Know About American History but Never Learned (Don't Know Much About Series)

Don't Know Much About History, Anniversary Edition: Everything You Need to Know About American History but Never Learned (Don't Know Much About Series)

Kenneth C. Davis

**Download PDF | ePub | DOC | audiobook | ebooks*



#37776 in Books Kenneth C Davis 2012-05-08 2012-05-08Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.00 x 1.21 x 5.311, 1.32 #File Name: 0061960543752 pagesDon t Know Much About History Anniversary Edition Everything You Need to Know About American History but Never Learned | File size: 56.Mb

Kenneth C. Davis : Don't Know Much About History, Anniversary Edition: Everything You Need to Know About American History but Never Learned (Don't Know Much About Series) before purchasing it in order to

gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Don't Know Much About History, Anniversary Edition: Everything You Need to Know About American History but Never Learned (Don't Know Much About Series):

8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. A Fun, Fascinating Read By Cathryn Conroy Where else can you get an easy-to-read overview of 500 years of American history--from who really discovered America to how we elected our first black president--and have FUN reading it? I saw author Kenneth C. Davis interviewed on CNN and was mesmerized by what he had to say and how he said it. When they flashed his credentials on the screen as the author of this book, I bought it immediately. This isn't your high school or college history textbook. This one is so much fun you might even stay up past your bedtime reading it! Quite simply, read this book and you'll be quite literate when it comes to the big facts about our nation's past--whether you want to win at Trivial Pursuit, impress someone at a cocktail party or (most important) develop an understanding of why and how things happened THEN that deeply impact our NOW.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Brief but good overview, digital formatting needs some polish By Lee Stephen Roberts The book is exactly what it claims to be - a brief recap of the significant periods, events, and people of US history. None of the sections tell you the whole story, but there are some decent references for further reading, and I found that browsing Wikipedia and a world map while reading helped me fill in some gaps. Some content gets repeated (especially in the timelines of wars, etc) and some sections are oddly short (for instance, the Tonkin Incident section doesn't actually describe what happened, although it was later discussed in a timeline), but those aren't major issues. I liked the references back and forth through history that show larger patterns, cycles, and causes, and I appreciate the sustained attention paid to systemic inequalities, especially for blacks and women, that have persisted through US history. This is my first Kindle book (I'm reading it on a mac) so maybe this is an issue of the medium, but I find the formatting pretty clunky, and the lack of photos, images, and maps is unfortunate.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The author's philosophical asides are refreshing and informative By treekiller Reviewing the panorama of American history in a test prep class I teach, an adult student whined, "Why does everything have to be so complicated?" Well...it just IS. This book is an excellent place to begin laying a framework for understanding something about the United States and how it got this way. I find the author's philosophical asides refreshing and informative, though some with a conservative bias take offense to them. Two I particularly appreciate and return to again and again: "History teaches us that our actions have consequences." What better lesson could young people--or those of any age--learn? If only our politicians believed such a thing... "Americans have an affinity for simple solutions to complex problems." The presidential election of 2016 offered many examples to illustrate this simple, damning statement. Immigration problem? Build a wall on your southern border. Then beat your head against it.

More than 1.6 million copies sold! Who really discovered America? What was "the shot heard 'round the world"? 9/11: What really happened? How did America elect its first black president? From the arrival of Columbus through the historic election of Barack Obama and beyond, Davis carries readers on a rollicking ride through more than five hundred years of American history. In this newly revised, expanded, and updated edition of the classic anti-textbook, he debunks, recounts, and serves up the real story behind the myths and fallacies of American history.

From Publishers Weekly Davis, author of the trademarked series of Don't Know Much About primers, seeks to dispel public boredom and ignorance about history and correct mistakes about various historical events in this update of his bestselling survey of American history. He arranges the book around a series of short essays on questions ranging from the basic (e.g., "Why did the southern states secede from the United States?") to the esoteric ("What was Teddy Roosevelt's grandson doing in Iran?"), intended to crystallize larger themes in our country's past. Davis's engaging treatment is spicy but judicious. He notes sex scandals from Alexander Hamilton's to Bill Clinton's, tamps out JFK conspiracy theories and speculation about J. Edgar Hoover's cross-dressing, and debunks myths like the legend of Betsy Ross and the movie Mississippi Burning. He provides sharply drawn, even-handed accounts of controversies, and his verdicts are generally well considered. Unfortunately, because discussions are usually tied to colorful personalities, heroic movements and dramatic crises, processes that are quiet but profound, such as the post-war rise of suburbia and the decline of unions, tend to get slighted. There's lots of history to browse through here, but little historiography to tie it together; while the book is far superior to standard high-school treatments, and a valuable reference for students young and old, it still leaves the impression that history is just one damn thing after another.

Copyright 2003 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Booklist This revised edition of a book Davis wrote 13 years ago is part of a series that includes Don't Know Much about the Civil War (1996) and Don't Know Much about Geography (1992). As in other volumes in the series, Davis strives to dispel myths and misconceptions about American history that he asserts people have learned in school. This updated version covers, chronologically, topics from the migration routes of Native Americans to the destruction of the Twin Towers. In his zeal to correct these misconceptions, Davis frequently employs a condescending and irritating tone. In truth, many of his "corrections" are unnecessary because most reasonably well-informed Americans are already aware of them. Still, if one can get past the smugness, there is

considerable merit in this book, especially for laypeople. It is replete with interesting tidbits of information that can enrich one's general historical knowledge and stoke interest in further reading. Jay Freeman Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved From the Back Cover A new, completely revised, expanded and updated edition of the million-selling New York Times bestseller that launched the entire Don't Know Much About series When Don't Know Much About History first appeared thirteen years ago, it created a sensation. With humor, wit, great stories, and a trademark conversational style, the book brought Americans a fresh new take on history. Shattering myths and vividly bringing the past to life, it spent thirty-five consecutive weeks on the New York Times bestseller list. Davis proved that Americans don't hate history -- they just hate the dull textbook version they were force-fed in school. The book became an instant classic, an "anti-textbook" that has sold more than 1.3 million copies. In his irreverent and popular question-and-answer style, Davis now returns with a completely revised edition that brings history right up to the moment -- covering such topics as the end of the Cold War, Clinton's impeachment, the bizarre election of 2000, and the events that led to September 11. Incorporating new research and discoveries, Davis also updates and expands on such long-standing American controversies as the Jefferson-Hemings affair, the Alger Hiss trial, and the Rosenberg spy case. And he includes an expanded "civics lesson" that examines some of America's hottest social and political issues, such as the death penalty, gun control, and school prayer. For history buffs and history-phobes alike, longtime fans who need a refresher course, and for a new generation of Americans who are still in the dark about America's past, Davis proves once more why People magazine said, "Reading him is like returning to the classroom of the best teacher you ever had."