Synopsis
A newly visual approach, this updated edition will include infographics, photos, and pull quotes to help reinforce learning of the subject of philosophy. Beginning with the pre-Socratics and Eastern philosophers, all of the major schools of thought are covered. Content includes religious philosophy, Renaissance humanism, enlightenment philosophers, idealism, existentialism, post-structuralism and post-modernism, and more.

Book Information
Series: Idiot's Guides
Paperback: 352 pages
Publisher: Alpha; 4 edition (April 1, 2014)
Language: English
ISBN-10: 161564444X
Product Dimensions: 7.8 x 0.8 x 9.3 inches
Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)
Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars  (6 customer reviews)
Best Sellers Rank: #316,633 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #129 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Philosophy > Reference #80408 in Books > Reference

Customer Reviews
"Philosophy" Fourth Edition, 2014 by Jay Stevenson, Ph.D.ISBN 978-1-61564-444-5 paperback So many of the books that introduce people to Philosophy are written in a confusing manner that I was not filled with high expectations when I first picked up the Jay Stevenson book. However, as I thumbed through the Index at the back, and began reading some of the author's discourse on his subjects, I found that Dr. Stevenson really has his thumb on the pulse of relevant philosophical concepts. Dr. Stevenson quickly and expeditiously enumerates the distinctions between the Philosophical Dualism and the Philosophical Monism which predominate so much of modern dialogues. It pleased me to see that the author did not get "bogged down" is a fruitless attempt to acquaint a beginner with a multitude of "---isms". Dr. Stevenson articulated the major thoughts and the most critical ideas that originated with the Greek traditions and is able to trace the most critical ideas without "swamping" readers with complex verbiage. (That happens so much with introductions to philosophy.) Most philosophers will admit frankly that the problem with Philosophy, is that to begin discussing ANYTHING, you have to begin with some understanding of
EVERYTHING. I would propose that this is not the fault of philosophers and their scholarship. It just shows how difficult it is to launch into explanations for Abstract Concepts, in any reasonable expectation that we as ordinary people are going to get.