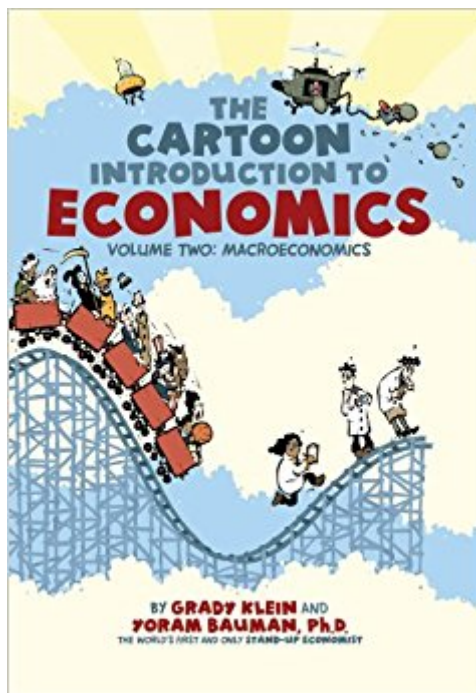




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The Cartoon Introduction To Economics: Volume Two: Macroeconomics



Synopsis

Need to understand today's economy? This is the book for you. The Cartoon Introduction to Economics, Volume Two: Macroeconomics is the most accessible, intelligible, and humorous introduction to unemployment, inflation, and debt you'll ever read. Whereas Volume One: Microeconomics dealt with the optimizing individual, Volume Two: Macroeconomics explains the factors that affect the economy of an entire country, and indeed the planet. It explores the two big concerns of macroeconomics: how economies grow and why economies collapse. It illustrates the basics of the labor market and explains what the GDP is and what it measures, as well as the influence of government, trade, and technology on the economy. Along the way, it covers the economics of global poverty, climate change, and the business cycle. In short, if any of these topics have cropped up in a news story and caused you to wish you grasped the underlying basics, buy this book.

Book Information

Series: The Cartoon Introduction to Economics

Paperback: 240 pages

Publisher: Hill and Wang (December 20, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0809033615

ISBN-13: 978-0809033614

Product Dimensions: 6.9 x 0.7 x 9.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars 60 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #70,299 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #42 in Books > Comics &

Graphic Novels > Graphic Novels > Educational & Nonfiction #124 in Books > Business &

Money > Economics > Macroeconomics

Customer Reviews

“The major concepts of macroeconomics are broken down with wit, verve, and clarity in this excellent follow-up to The Cartoon Introduction to Economics: Vol. 1: Microeconomics . . . This clever, lucid, and lighthearted book is a godsend to anyone who needs a simple but complete primer on the ins and outs of economics.” Publishers Weekly
“People don't usually chuckle over unemployment, inflation, and recessions. But they'll get plenty of laughs out of this book--and a good introduction to macro too.” Eric Maskin, Nobel Laureate in

Economics – “If you don’t want to cry about the state of the economy, why not laugh instead? This book is an ideal introduction to macroeconomics for anybody who thinks they ought to understand what’s happening around them but is put off by dense text and economics jargon.” – Diane Coyle, author of *The Economics of Enough* – “Bauman [has] an insightful philosophical bent and the natural inclinations of an educator, in the best sense of that term.” – MarginalRevolution.com

A freelance cartoonist, illustrator, and animator, Grady Klein is the creator of the *Lost Colony* series of graphic novels. An environmental economist at the University of Washington, Yoram Bauman, Ph.D., is the world’s first and only stand-up economist.

This is a wonderful and humorous introduction to macroeconomics! I bought while waiting for a train in Frankfurt at the bookstore in that station (no idea, why they thought it a good idea to put copies of that book next to the cash register --- but that’s how I found it!), read it in full riding a train to Berlin (rather than some other things I was really supposed to read) and chuckled all the way! It contains a surprising amount of valuable information, it is a surprisingly complete and balanced introduction, it is fun to read and excellent value for the price. I love the little cartoons when they describe tongue-in-cheek, how many fundamental ideas in macroeconomics received a Nobel prize (or perhaps led to frustration of the Nobel committee eventually). Fact #3 on p. 98, that "technological progress and trade are essentially indistinguishable" is perhaps a bit odd, but overall, this is well written and a terrific read. This should be required reading in schools, for journalists and politicians, and it is an excellent quick-guide intro for anyone embarking on learning all the details in earnest. I recommend it highly. I liked it so much, I bought an extra copy from as a present. Harald Uhlig, Dept. of Econ., Univ. of Chicago.

A former Columbia University professor in computer science, I feel a kindred spirit with Professor Yoram (whom I did meet once at a comedy club several years ago), since I love bending over backwards to make technical concepts fun, humorous, and entertaining (e.g., I used to sing educational songs to my college and graduate students during lectures). Yoram and Grady have succeeded in making the college-level concepts of economics clear, revealing, interesting, and completely effortless to take in by way of the entertaining mode of this work. When you sugarcoat the pill in this way, the reader gets that knowledge "Matrixed" into their head and then you realize the experts were right: there was nothing bitter about this pill in the first place! Despite my technical

background, I'd never actually taken an economics course. I chose their two cartoon books on economics to do so (their third is forthcoming as I write this) and very much feel like I filled in the blank spots of my background on this topic area. If you enjoy learning and want to enjoy it even more, ahem: no-brainer!

Eric Siegel, Ph.D. Founder, Predictive Analytics World
Author, *Predictive Analytics: The Power to Predict Who Will Click, Buy, Lie, or Die*

I'm a professional economist and was looking for a book to introduce the field to my homeschooled children, ages 10 and 12. I discovered the cartoon guides after being disappointed with economics books explicitly targeting middle school. These books are wonderful. They find just the right level of detail to convey the most important concepts of economics without being misleadingly simple or tediously complex. My kids frequently laughed out loud while I read this book to them. I seldom needed to stop to explain concepts as they were clearly described in the text. Months after reading, my kids were able to apply the concepts to real life examples. The books were perfect for my needs - I couldn't ask for more.

I used the concepts in this book to teach my class about GDP instead of having the students read Krugman's 30 pages in their text. Students retained more information when using cartoons. Of course, this book isn't a substitute for Mr. Krugman's book, but for those wishing to instantly learn about major macro topics, this book is excellent.

I don't know if this book is helpful or not because it's not legible on a Kindle. It may be a great book, but the handwritten, cartoon style text is not readable on the Kindle format, so it was a waste of \$14 for me.

Be sure to start with Volume One

(http://www..com/gp/product/0809094819/ref=cm_cr_ryp_prd_ttl_sol_55). The problem with the material is in its density. While I thought that I could read ten pages at a time without coming up for a breather, retention and understanding requires reading a couple (that means "two") pages at a time, pausing, thinking, writing notes, looking a few things up, considering the implications, then proceeding to the next.) A good read for anyone who wants to understand why the economy affects a person, the individual.

The Cartoon Introduction to Economics: Volume Two: Macroeconomics
Do not waste your

money. This book did not provide any further insight into my Econ studies.

Macroeconomics was invented as a way to conceal the workings of Keynesian interventions in the economy. This book does a great job of revealing some of the intricacies and double-speak of macroeconomists. Great for students to use when venturing into the black lagoon. It, along with Vol 1: Microeconomics, are essential tools for students trying to "figure it out;" and instructors who still are working at it. Well-done, and good reading.

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