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The Computer and the Mind: An Introduction to Cognitive Science — P. N. Johnson-Laird. The aim of this book is, according to the prologue, to describe to those interested in the scientific explanations of mental phenomena what cognitive science is, to relate its origins and to tell what it has achieved. The discipline is new, and many of the scientists involved were trained in other disciplines. Johnson-Laird describes the nature of symbols and the theory of computation. Sections are devoted to current computational models of how the mind carries out all its major tasks, such as visual perception, learning and memory. Discusses, among other topics, human communication, the conscious and the unconscious mind and free will, and finally defends a computational view of the mind which is not shared by all cognitive scientists. Harvard U Pr, 1988, 444 p., illus., \$29.50.

Egyptian Hieroglyphs — W.V. Davies. An introduction to a complex system of communication, the hieroglyphic writing of ancient Egypt, one of the very oldest recorded languages. It was first written down, according to this British Museum publication, toward the end of the 4th century BC and remained in continuous recorded use until about the 11th century AD. An extensive bibliography is included. U of Cal Pr, Reading the Past series, 1988, 64 p., illus., paper, \$7.95.

Galápagos: Discovery on Darwin's Islands — David W. Steadman and Steven Zousmer. This beautifully illustrated book offers a personal account of the fieldwork done on the Galápagos Islands by a paleontologist interested in the evolution and conservation of birds and mammals. Part II of the book contains color plates illustrating the native vertebrates of the islands. Every resident species of bird is included as well as at least one species of each major group of reptiles and mammals. The text facing each plate provides detailed information about the species. Smithsonian, 1988, 208 p., color/b&w illus., color plates by Lee M. Steadman, \$24.95.

Nobel Dreams: Power, Deceit and the Ultimate Experiment — Gary Taubes. Focuses on particle research at CERN and on physicist Carlo Rubbia's quest to win the Nobel Prize. Taubes then chronicles Rubbia's attempts, after winning the Nobel Prize, to prove a highly speculative theory called supersymmetry. Originally published in hardback by Random in 1986. Microsoft, 1988, 261 p., paper, \$8.95.

Okavango: Jewel of the Kalahari — Karen Ross. At the center of the African Kalahari Desert lies an oasis teeming with a rich variety of wildlife. Its varied terrain encompasses the ochre dunes of the south, the sparse woodlands and salt pans of its midlands and the lush green delta of its northern end. This beautifully illustrated book is a result of the three-part television special that aired on the PBS program "Nature" in February and March. Macmillan, 1988, 256 p., color illus., \$24.95.

Remembering and Forgetting: An Inquiry into the Nature of Memory — Edmund Blair Bolles. This writer surveys the psychology of memory, looks at what memory does and describes the biology of memory based on the most recent research. Examines memory failure and presents three historical cases of memory and its role in the lives of the people involved. Walker & Co, 1988, 315 p., \$22.95.

The Rewiring of America: The Fiber Optics Revolution — C. David Chaffee. Describes how the United States is being rewired with optical fibers. Discusses the development of fiber optics, the business of fiber optics and the present and possible future uses of this technology. Acad Pr, 1988, 241 p., illus., \$24.95.

Runes — R.I. Page. This British Museum publication tells the story of runes from the earliest Scandinavian inscriptions of the late 2nd century AD to the time of the Vikings. Describes the related script used for the English language in Anglo-Saxon times. U of Cal Pr, Reading the Past series, 1988, 64 p., illus., paper, \$7.95.

Tsunami! — Walter C. Dudley and Min Lee. Tells the story of the great tsunami of 1946, a series of giant waves that struck the Hawaiian islands without warning. Explains the mechanics of tsunamis and the origin and operation of the Pacific Tsunami Warning System, which was established in the late 1940s. Describes more recent tsunamis in the Hawaiian islands and around the Pacific rim. U of Hawaii Pr, 1988, 132 p., illus., paper, \$10.95.

The Dictionary of Confusable Words

Laurence Urdang

Dictionaries define individual words, and many of them do that quite well. However, standard dictionaries don't define sets of related words by contrasting them with each other and emphasizing differences in their meaning. *The Dictionary of Confusable Words* gathers together terms that are related in form, meaning or classification and concisely explains the ways in which the words can be distinguished.

Succinct, authoritative and entertaining, this unique reference tool brings together thousands of easily confused words, close synonyms and other related terms that, for many people, need distinction and clarification.

Some typical examples are:

- concrete/cement
- run/canter/gallop/trot/pace/single-foot
- analog/digital
- motor/engine
- iamb/dactyl/spondee/trochee/anapest
- building/edifice
- horse/steed/charger

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