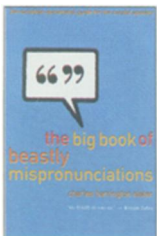


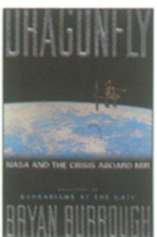
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The Big Book of Beastly Mispronunciations—Charles Harrington Elster. Is it HAL-eez comet or Hay-leez comet? Do you say puh-REN-tul or PAR-en-tul? How do you enunciate genealogy, JEE-nee-AL-uh-jee or JEE-nee-AHL-uh-jee? If you guessed the former in each case, then kun-GRACH-uh-LAY-shinz.

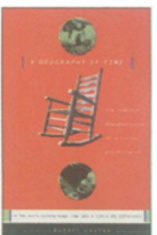
Essays arguing the logophile's rationale behind each pronunciation follow more than 1,000 words. Elster bolsters his essays with historical data, past and present pronunciations, and the opinion of others in his field. HM, 1999, 426 p., paperback, \$15.00.



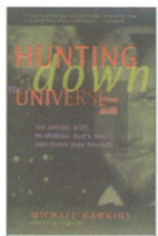
Dragonfly: NASA and the Crisis Aboard Mir—Bryan Burrough. For 6 months in 1997, Russian and American astronauts aboard the decrepit space station Mir endured a harrowing set of circumstances. Beginning with a fire, they encountered countless mechanic failures and power outages. Burrough exhaustively chronicles this misadventure day-by-day. The text is well informed by lengthy interviews with astro/cosmonauts and the author's access to many transcripts of transmissions between Mir and NASA and Russian Mission Control. HarpC, 1998, 528 p., color plates, hardcover, \$26.95.



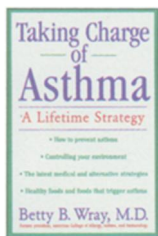
Get a Grip on Genetics—Martin Brookes. **Get a Grip on Philosophy**—Neil Turnbull. Easily digested and often humorous factoids, definitions, practical applications, and milestones provide an overview of each field. Each book offers a retrospective of its topic and introduces the field's founders, be they Gregor Mendel, the underrated geneticist, or Plato the somewhat villainous seeker of social order. Students should find these books a fun way to get acquainted with the subject matter and to become familiar with new terminology. Both books Time Life, 1998, 192 p., illus., paperback, \$14.95 each.



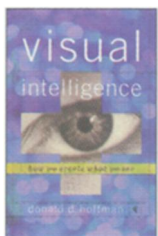
The Geography of Time: The Temporal Misadventures of a Social Psychologist—Robert Levine. During a year-long teaching stint in Brazil, Levine curiously noted that many students attending his 2-hour lecture would arrive an hour or so late and lingered long after the class ended. Levine realized that Brazilians' rules of punctuality were entwined with their cultural values. For the past 2 decades, he has traveled the globe observing how various cultures define time and how that definition paces each society overall. He presents these findings and then ponders their impact on places and on people. Originally published in hardcover in 1997. Basic, 1998, 258 p., paperback, \$13.00.



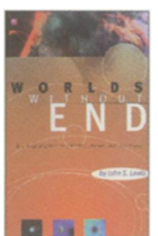
Hunting Down the Universe: The Missing Mass, Primordial Black Holes, and Other Dark Matters—Michael Hawkins. Hawkins opposes both the notion of the Big Bang and the steady-state theory of the universe. He instead declares that 99 percent of the universe—the missing mass of the cosmos—consists of tiny, primordial black holes. These were formed, he asserts, within the maelstrom of the first microseconds of the universe's life. In the process of justifying this claim, Hawkins reveals—and argues against—the exclusivity and secretiveness of established scientists confronted with new ideas. Originally published in hardcover in 1997. Perseus Bks, 1999, 240 p., paperback, \$13.00.



Taking Charge of Asthma: A Lifetime Strategy—Betty B. Wray. An asthma specialist details methods of developing a personal strategy for children and adults against asthma attacks and various symptoms. Wray's plans incorporate a holistic approach with a pharmaceutical one. Therefore, her text is rich with ways to control one's diet and environment (both at home and on the job) in order to curb attacks. Early chapters provide a general overview of the problem. Wiley, 1998, 231 p., paperback, \$14.95.



Visual Intelligence: How We Create What We See—Donald D. Hoffman. Hoffman defines vision as an intelligence founded on active construction. Based on new breakthroughs, he proffers cognitive theories of vision. Hoffman cites 30-some rules governing our perception of line, color, form, depth, and motion. Accounts of individuals whose senses have gone awry because of stroke or mental illness further distinguish sight as an intelligence. In fact, as Hoffman states, "vision is an intelligence so great that it occupies nearly half of the brain's cortex." Rife with images, this is an interactive experience. Norton, 1998, 294 p., color/b&w photos/illus., hardcover, \$29.95.



Worlds Without Ends: The Exploration of Planets Known and Unknown—John S. Lewis. Planetary scientist Lewis extends his text beyond a listing of newly discovered extrasolar planets to a discussion of what they are made of and how they form. The volume of knowledge about our own solar system, of course, informs speculation about what may exist beyond it. Lewis, therefore, begins by revealing the diversity and composition of our neighbors. Characteristics such as size, temperature, and chemical composition dictate a planet's evolution, but, as Lewis shows, these qualities do not guarantee steadfast results. Perseus Bks, 1998, 236 p., b&w plates, hardcover, \$24.00.

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