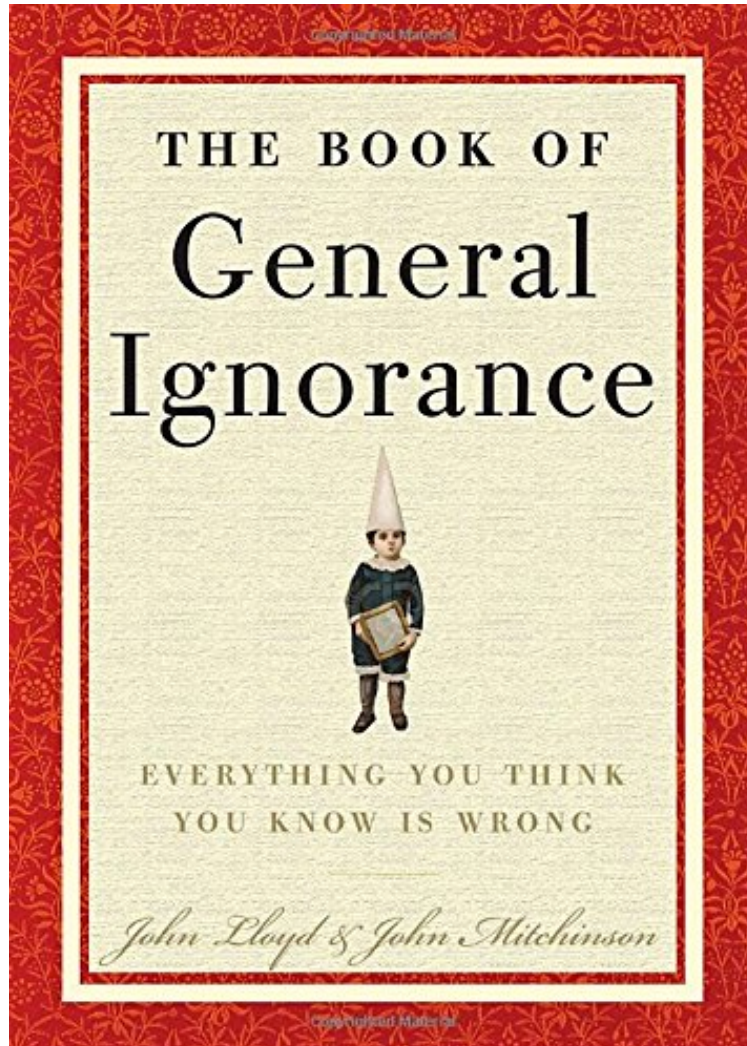


## The Book of General Ignorance

*John Mitchinson, John Lloyd*

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**John Mitchinson, John Lloyd : The Book of General Ignorance** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Book of General Ignorance:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Anthony T. Fun book to read 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Interesting By Lewis A. Jones Interesting. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Three Stars By Folke J. Brahme Fun book, interesting. Not sensational. Folke Brahme

Misconceptions, misunderstandings, and flawed facts finally get the heave-ho in this humorous, downright humiliating book of reeducation based on the phenomenal British bestseller. Challenging what most of us assume to be verifiable

truths in areas like history, literature, science, nature, and more, *The Book of General Ignorance* is a witty gotcha compendium of how little we actually know about anything. It'll have you scratching your head wondering why we even bother to go to school. Think Magellan was the first man to circumnavigate the globe, baseball was invented in America, Henry VIII had six wives, Mount Everest is the tallest mountain? Wrong, wrong, wrong, and wrong again. You'll be surprised at how much you don't know! Check out *THE BOOK OF GENERAL IGNORANCE* for more fun entries and complete answers to the following: How long can a chicken live without its head? About two years. What do chameleons do? They don't change color to match the background. Never have; never will. Complete myth. Utter fabrication. Total Lie. They change color as a result of different emotional states. How many legs does a centipede have? Not a hundred. How many toes has a two-toed sloth? It's either six or eight. Who was the first American president? Peyton Randolph. What were George Washington's false teeth made from? Mostly hippopotamus. What was James Bond's favorite drink? Not the vodka martini.

From Publishers Weekly If you think you're a trivia expert, British TV men Lloyd (producer of the hit comedy shows *Spitting Image* and *Black Adder*) and Mitchinson (writer for *Quite Interesting*) may disabuse you of the notion that you're a true scholar of random facts—and quickly. Their surprisingly lengthy tome is jam-packed with real answers to a number of less-than-burning questions—camels store fat, not water, in their humps; only five out of every 100,000 paper clips are used to clip papers; the first American president was in fact Peyton Randolph—that you nevertheless may be embarrassed to have completely wrong. Although some of the entries rely on technicality more than actual excavation of obscure fact (Honolulu is technically the world's largest city, despite the fact that 72% of its 2,127 square miles is underwater), these page-length entries prove entertaining and informative, perfect for trivia buffs and know-it-alls; it also makes a fine coffee table conversation piece and a handy resource for prepping clever cocktail party banter. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. Trivia buffs and know-it-alls alike will exult to find so much repeatable wisdom gathered in one place. *New York Times* *The Book of General Ignorance* won't make you feel dumb. It's really a call to be more curious. *The Associated Press* Ignorance may be bliss, but so is learning surprising information. *Hartford Courant* You, too, can banish social awkwardness by having its endless count of facts and factoids at the ready. Or you could just read it and keep what you learned to yourself. *Betcha can't.* *New York Daily News* To impress friends with your cleverness, beg, borrow or buy John Lloyd and John Mitchinson's *The Book of General Ignorance*, an extraordinary collection of 230 common misperceptions compiled for the BBC panel game *QI (Quite Interesting)*. *Financial Times* This book would make even Edison feel small and silly, for it offers answers to questions you never thought to ask or had no need of asking as you already knew, or thought you knew, the answer. *The Economist* Trivia books, like any kind of mental or physical addiction, are both irresistible and unsatisfying. By the standards of the genre, this one has something approaching the force of revelation. Answering silly questions suddenly seems less important than taking the trouble to ask a few. *Melbourne Age* Eye-watering, eyebrow-raising, terrific . . . moving slightly faster than your brain does, so that you haven't quite absorbed the full import of one blissful item of trivial information before two or three more come along. Such fine and creative research genuinely deserves to be captured in print. *Daily Mail* This UK bestseller redefines common knowledge with factoids that will inform and entertain (or at least liven up your next cocktail party). OK! *Magazine* About the Author JOHN LLOYD is the producer of the hit British comedy shows *Not the Nine O'Clock News*, *Blackadder*, and *Spitting Image*. JOHN MITCHINSON writes for the British television show *QI*, and drinks in the same pub as John Lloyd.