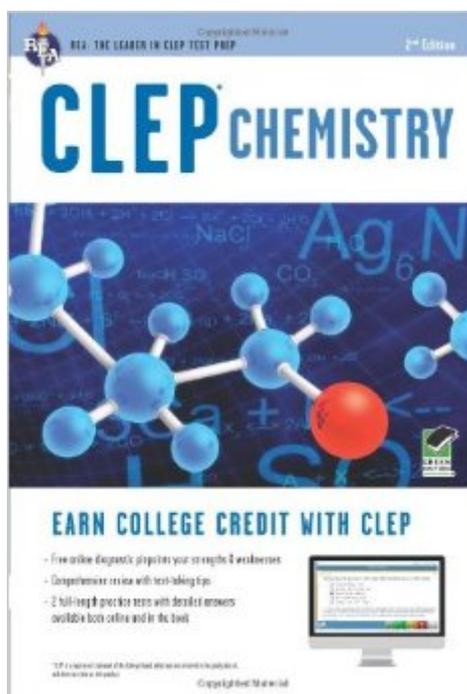


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Customer Reviews

I bought this book confident that it would provide a comprehensive and detailed introduction to chemistry specially designed to lead to success in the Chemistry CLEP. I was very disappointed. The book is filled with arcane charts, sparing explanations, and poor graphics. As I worked through it, it became clear that the authors knew little of pedagogy; they expected their readers to be far more proficient in the topics than can be expected of a student preparing to take the Chemistry CLEP test. Realizing that the book was inadequate, I studied for the test by using a standard college chemistry textbook; Khan Academy videos -- available for free online -- helped enormously. The Chemistry CLEP book's only contribution to my study was its practice tests, which I found to be very similar to the questions on the actual exam. After barely a week of rigorous preparation, I passed the CLEP with a score 55; hurray!

Don't buy this book unless you already know chemistry pretty well and just need a refresher on all the facts. It doesn't explain too many things but it's great at highlighting specifics. I used this book, Khan academy chemistry videos, and a Kaplan MCAT general chemistry book to study and it worked out fine.

I wasn't expecting much given the other reviews, but I thought I'd give the book a chance, since I had great success with other titles in the REA CLEP series. Unfortunately, this book is unlikely to be of any use to me, it lacks sufficient detail and clarity.

This book will not help people who've only had little exposure to chemistry. There are too many shortcuts and the major concepts are poorly explained. The writing is not what you would expect from an academic document (it lacks rigor and clarity) and there are even some big mistakes (example: 1st law of thermodynamics and its example on page 102; a negative result becomes magically positive to hide a gross misrepresentation of the sign of the work energy). I'm hoping that

it's at least ok for the coverage of the program of the CLEP test, because it is certainly not good for much else.

This book is very useless for the CLEP test. I took one of the practice tests and absolutely none of what is actually in the book is on the exam. This book does not even deserve the one star rating it gets.

This book is definitely not a book for someone with no prior knowledge of the subject matter. If you are a student that already has a good grasp on all topics and just needs a more detailed study guide and overview than this book might be helpful to you. The online practice exams will cost an additional \$1.99, but I found them rather helpful. However, and this is the reason I rate this book so low, it is full of errors. Some of them are in so plain sight that I have the feelings that no one proof read this book even once. Others are more difficult to find and you actually need to understand the subject matter in order to realize that it is the book that is making a mistake and not you. For first time learners, I think, this could be fatally confusing. The answers to the questions also have mistakes. Again, the publishers must have never had the book or questions proof read.

My daughter was 3 years out of high school AP chemistry and used this book in conjunction with Chemistry Concepts and Problems by Houk, and the Clep Professor CD. She spent the summer studying and easily passed both parts with points to spare. Apparently the pass rate for both semesters is pretty low, so I feel these 3 resources used together must be a pretty thorough combination.

Easy to follow and very comprehensive. A great buy for anyone trying to get out of semesters of college.

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