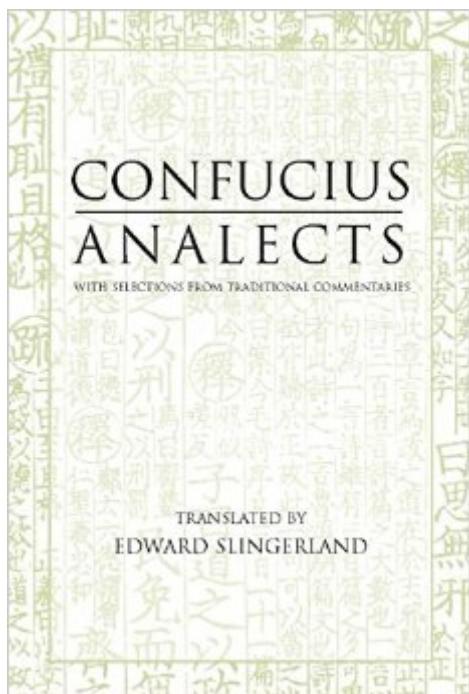


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Analects: With Selections From Traditional Commentaries (Hackett Classics)



Synopsis

This edition goes beyond others that largely leave readers to their own devices in understanding this cryptic work, by providing an entrée into the text that parallels the traditional Chinese way of approaching it: alongside Slingerland's exquisite rendering of the work are his translations of a selection of classic Chinese commentaries that shed light on difficult passages, provide historical and cultural context, and invite the reader to ponder a range of interpretations. The ideal student edition, this volume also includes a general introduction, notes, multiple appendices--including a glossary of technical terms, references to modern Western scholarship that point the way for further study, and an annotated bibliography.

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Customer Reviews

I am an absolute novice in studying Confucius and had almost no knowledge of the China of his time. I wanted to read something of his works because I live in a society with Confucian underpinnings and had read a colleague's PhD thesis on some of the confusion that occurs in workplaces where people from Confucian based cultures work with westerners. I thought reading the Analects would give me some insights and it did. I chose this title after reading other reviews on this site. This book was extremely helpful and not difficult for a beginner to read. I liked the use of previous commentaries and translations, some dating back over 2000 years. And the author gave me some insight into the difficulty of rendering a simple and unchallenged translation from ancient

Chinese script. I found the five appendices very illuminating and they provided depth and added understanding to both Slingerland's translations and the earlier commentaries he quotes. I thought that I might find the almost total omission of any references to women too much to cope with. But Slingerland deals with that early in his introduction and I read it for what it was - a 2,500 year old view. As an Australian I found the political aspects of Confucius' commentary very relevant to current events and wondered if some of my nation's politicians are not relics from much earlier times. As an English language teacher I had a few problems with the English. There are far too many typos - if for is, as for an or for is, ed endings where ing endings were needed, prepositions left out. And I had trouble with some words - for example sagely used as an adjective used in phrases such as sagely advice or sagely ruler. And sageliness (which my spell checker wants to correct to sageness) grated.

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