



# Intuition Pumps And Other Tools for Thinking

By Daniel C. Dennett

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**Intuition Pumps And Other Tools for Thinking** By Daniel C. Dennett

Over a storied career, Daniel C. Dennett has engaged questions about science and the workings of the mind. His answers have combined rigorous argument with strong empirical grounding. And a lot of fun.

*Intuition Pumps and Other Tools for Thinking* offers seventy-seven of Dennett's most successful "imagination-extenders and focus-holders" meant to guide you through some of life's most treacherous subject matter: evolution, meaning, mind, and free will. With patience and wit, Dennett deftly deploys his thinking tools to gain traction on these thorny issues while offering readers insight into how and why each tool was built.

Alongside well-known favorites like Occam's Razor and *reductio ad absurdum* lie thrilling descriptions of Dennett's own creations: *Trapped in the Robot Control Room*, *Beware of the Prime Mammal*, and *The Wandering Two-Bitser*. Ranging across disciplines as diverse as psychology, biology, computer science, and physics, Dennett's tools embrace in equal measure light-heartedness and accessibility as they welcome uninitiated and seasoned readers alike. As always, his goal remains to teach you how to "think reliably and even gracefully about really hard questions."

A sweeping work of intellectual seriousness that's also studded with impish delights, *Intuition Pumps* offers intrepid thinkers—in all walks of life—delicious opportunities to explore their pet ideas with new powers.

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## Intuition Pumps And Other Tools for Thinking By Daniel C. Dennett Bibliography

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## Editorial Review

### From Bookforum

Dennett declares that his aim in *Intuition Pumps* is to lay out devices by which we might think more clearly, or with more insight, about a host of thorny topics—which might be boiled down to those many areas in which we errantly or too hastily assume we have a solid sense of the right and wrong answers. The sheer number of these thought experiments, geared to reveal how thoroughly incorrect our assumptions might be, is daring itself. The most provocative comprise consciousness, free will, and our own sense of what we mean by meaning and intend by speaking of intentionality—in other words, the philosophical terrain Dennett has explored extensively in his prior books. —Eric Banks

### Review

“An excellent introduction to Dennett’s body of thought.” (Boston Globe)

“One of the most original thinkers of our time.” (Michael Shermer - Science)

“Perhaps America’s most widely read (and debated) living philosopher. . . . [*Intuition Pumps* is] a lively primer on the radical answers Mr. Dennett has elaborated to the big questions in his nearly five decades in philosophy” (New York Times)

“The sharpest, cleverest, most stylish prober of how issues of human consciousness interconnect today with evolutionary theory.” (Carlin Romano - Philadelphia Inquirer)

“A philosopher’s box of tools for the musing mind.” (Nature)

““[Dennett] is a master at inventing tools for thought? metaphysical jokes, fables, parables, puzzles, and zany Monty-Python-like sketches that can help thinkers feel their way forward.” (Daily Beast)

### About the Author

Daniel C. Dennett is the Austin B. Fletcher Professor of Philosophy at Tufts University and the author of numerous books including *Breaking the Spell*, *Darwin’s Dangerous Idea*, and *Consciousness Explained*.

## Users Review

### From reader reviews:

#### Larry Parker:

This *Intuition Pumps And Other Tools for Thinking* is fresh way for you who has intense curiosity to look for some information mainly because it relief your hunger of knowledge. Getting deeper you upon it getting knowledge more you know otherwise you who still having small amount of digest in reading this *Intuition Pumps And Other Tools for Thinking* can be the light food to suit your needs because the information inside this book is easy to get by simply anyone. These books create itself in the form which can be reachable by anyone, yes I mean in the e-book form. People who think that in e-book form make them feel sleepy even dizzy this guide is the answer. So there isn't any in reading a e-book especially this one. You can find actually looking for. It should be here for you actually. So , don't miss that! Just read this e-book sort for your better life and also knowledge.

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