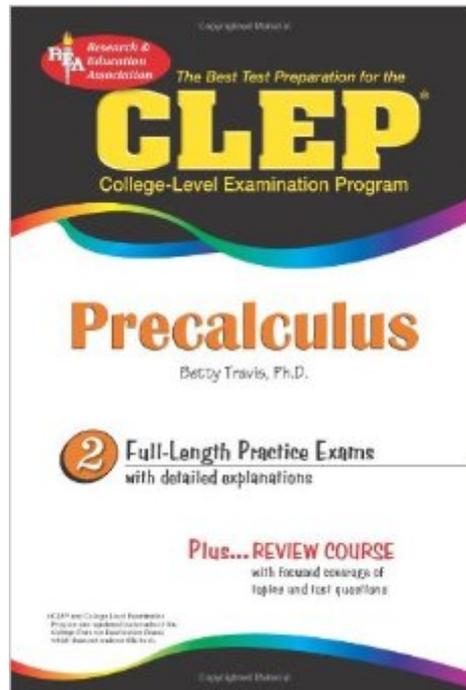


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Customer Reviews

I can't recommend this book. It does nothing that other books don't do far better. The review questions are needlessly difficult--not in a way that challenges you to learn--but in a way that is just peculiar and causes you to become even more confused. The author frequently throws "curveballs" into questions that don't feel relevant to the material and seem inappropriate for what should be general review text for a broad audience. This would be fine if the book contained a large number of questions that "ramped up" from easy to hard, but that is not the case here. I realize that the book is intended to be a "quick overview" rather than an exhaustive course, but I found it to be unsatisfactory for any purpose because it is written in a way that seems so difficult and insular. The worked solutions are typically missing steps at key points, leading you to wonder how the author got from Point A to Point B. I know this is a common criticism of math texts, but it is particularly common here. The (rather brief) concept reviews seem to, again, cover material haphazardly. The best way I can describe this book is that it is almost as if the author skips every other thought (or, as if the book was rushed). If you are studying for the CLEP Pre-Calculus exam, these are the books that I recommend: "The Complete Idiots Guide to PreCalculus" - W. Michael Kelley. This is not the most rigorous book, but it's very readable (and genuinely funny) and great for getting the basic concepts down. "Pre-Calculus Demystified" - Rhonda Huettnermueller. This goes into greater depth, and has provides lots of practice and worked examples, but beginners may want to start with the "Complete Idiot's" book. "Problem Solvers - PreCalculus" - REA.

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