

SOURCES

Pilot,” or “Marine Police.” The *Encyclopedia of Marine Science* does cover all the scientific and technical terms you would expect; the addition of some basic seafaring terms is a bonus.

The encyclopedia is written for a wide audience, from high school students to scientists. The style is easy to follow and explains all the terms that laypeople may not understand. The many black-and-white illustrations and tables support this effort. The appendixes include background information, like the periodic table and a list of geologic time periods.

There are two recent multivolume encyclopedias that must be compared with this work: the *Encyclopedia of Ocean Sciences*, edited by Steele, Turekian, and Thorpe (Academic Press, 2001) and the *Interdisciplinary Encyclopedia of Marine Sciences* by Nybakken, Broenkow, and Vallier (Grolier Academic Reference, 2003). The first is a six-volume work, the second has four volumes. Both works are obviously larger and provide more content than the *Encyclopedia of Marine Science*. The *Encyclopedia of Ocean Sciences*, while older, is aimed at a college-level or above audience, and the entries read that way. The *Interdisciplinary Encyclopedia of Marine Sciences* has an audience similar to the *Encyclopedia of Marine Science*.

Larger high school and public libraries that don't have the other two encyclopedias should consider purchasing the *Encyclopedia of Marine Science*. Academic libraries may not need to purchase this volume if they own one or both of the other encyclopedias, and I don't suggest purchasing this one-volume work to update the other two, which are larger and more detailed.—Robin N. Sinn, Librarian for Science and Engineering, The Sheridan Libraries, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland

Encyclopedia of the Peoples of Asia and Oceania. Ed. by Barbara A. West. Facts On File Library of World History. New York: Facts On File, 2009. 2 vols. acid free \$175 (ISBN 978-0-8160-7109-8).

The *Encyclopedia of the Peoples of Asia and Oceania* is a two-volume reference set that provides information on roughly four hundred groups located in Asia and Oceania. Barbara A. West and the twenty-five contributors had many difficult choices to make on what groups would be included because “Asia and Oceania are broad and dynamic regions that encompass the two largest countries on Earth by population, China and India, and the largest by territory, Russia” (xvii).

Entries vary in length, and the majority of these entries are organized according to geography, origins, history, and culture. Entries may also include sidebar information about location, time period, ancestry, religion, and language. There are sixty-three nationality entries that “are defined by citizenship rather than by language, ethnicity, or some other cultural trait” (xix). Some of the nationality entries include essays about Australians, Fijians, Tongans, and Vietnamese. These are longer entries that include timelines, further reading lists, and more descriptive essays about the people. The timelines that are provided are useful for their up-to-date information.

There are cross-references available for certain groups, pointing the user to alternate entry names. This set also in-

cludes black-and-white maps and photographs. There are seven appendixes in volume 2. Appendix 1 is particularly functional, as it organizes the groups by country.

The *Encyclopedia of the Peoples of Asia and Oceania* is a valuable source for its inclusion of many different peoples. However, because so many groups are included, the depth at which each is covered is limited. West explains that “we made choices to cover the most important dates and events that we believe contributed to each group's contemporary position or ultimate demise” (xvi). This set does not include racial groups or caste groups. Contemporary people groups and also historical groups like the Greeks are represented.

Although readers will discover valuable information about a group's culture, they may not see that much information about the peoples' art, clothing, literature, or music. Users could refer to other ethnology reference sources like Timothy L. Gall's *Worldmark Encyclopedia of Cultures and Daily Life*, vol. 3, *Asia and Oceania* (Gale, 1998) or David Levinson's *Encyclopedia of World Cultures* (G. K. Hall, 1991–1996) for more detailed cultural information, yet these reference books are not as inclusive or current as the *Encyclopedia of the Peoples of Asia and Oceania*.

Overall, this reference work is an authoritative and appropriate place for students to start their research on a particular Asian or Oceanic group of people. Recommended for public and college libraries.—Megan Coder, Senior Assistant Librarian, State University of New York, New Paltz.

Environmental Science in Context. Ed. by Brenda W. Lerner and K. L. Lerner. Detroit: Gale, 2008. 2 vols. \$245 (ISBN 978-1-4144-3617-3).

This work is part of Gale's In Context series. It is aimed primarily at high school students but would also be appropriate to a general readership. The series supports and aligns with national science standards and high school curriculums across subject areas. The focus is on the “impacts of science on social, political, and legal issues” (xxiii).

Environmental Science in Context is a two-volume set with almost 250 entries and about 1,000 pages. The introductory information for the work is duplicated at the beginning of each volume. This consists of a complete table of contents that covers both volumes; the section “About This Book,” which explains the structure of the work and the entries with a section on bibliographic citation formats; a section on using primary sources, which explains what they are and how to use them; a glossary; and a chronology. Having this material in both volumes is extremely helpful. The discussion of citation formats is very thorough and should be helpful to student, teacher, and librarian alike. The primary sources section is also very helpful and is a concept sometimes overlooked or not well understood at the high school level. The glossary is extensive. While the chronology is interesting, I am not certain of the usefulness in such a broad subject area. A well-designed, comprehensive index and a bibliography, entitled “Sources Consulted,” are found at the back of volume 2.

The entries are arranged alphabetically. Each entry fol-