While one would expect entries on the historical aspects of the Roman Empire to be in this encyclopedia, one may not expect entries of movies and video games that are related to Julius Caesar. AJTC has a number of entries on movies (Spartacus and Cleopatra), television shows (HBO’s Rome) and even video games (Caesar I–IV) related to Julius Caesar. These additional entries add tremendous value to this work.

Primary source documents lie at the end of AJTC. Their inclusion is a bonus allowing users to go straight from an article to a primary source. The value of their inclusion could be increased dramatically if more references were made to them in individual entries.

While they are several ways that AJTC could improve its value, its combination of being focused on a very specific topic yet providing an incredibly broad look at that topic, make it a reference set worth having in any undergraduate university library.—Garrett B. Trott, Reference/Instruction Librarian, Corban University, Salem, Oregon


Although calling itself a geographic encyclopedia, the scope of this two-volume set is broader than such a designation suggests. Hund has attempted to encompass a large range of information about a vast area, perhaps a bit much for a modest two-volume set. Attempting to address in a meaningful way topics in the humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, and applied sciences for both poles in approximately 350 entries and fewer than 800 pages is ambitious. His stated “central feature . . . the original inhabitants of the Arctic region” (xi) would, alone, merit a work of this size. John Stewart’s larger, two-volume Antarctica: An Encyclopedia would be an excellent choice and is recommended.—Lisa Euster, Reference Librarian, Brooks Library, Central Washington University, Ellensburg, Washington


Jennifer L. Hellier’s The Brain, the Nervous System, and Their Diseases fulfills its purpose as a single, comprehensive resource that covers all aspects of the brain, nervous system, and the diseases effecting these organ systems. The text is easy to navigate: entries are listed alphabetically and by topic. A detailed index is also provided at the end of volume 3. The 333 entries vary in length from several paragraphs to multiple pages and include “see also” references and lists of further readings. Images, tables, charts, and graphs are provided when available. A list of recommended resources at the end of the encyclopedia provides only eight resources; however, each entry’s own list of further readings makes up for the brevity of this list. The encyclopedia covers a wide range of topics, from the anatomy of the nervous system to the diagnostic tests and treatment for various diseases of the nervous system. Though the encyclopedia is easy to use, the entries are written at a level that may be challenging for