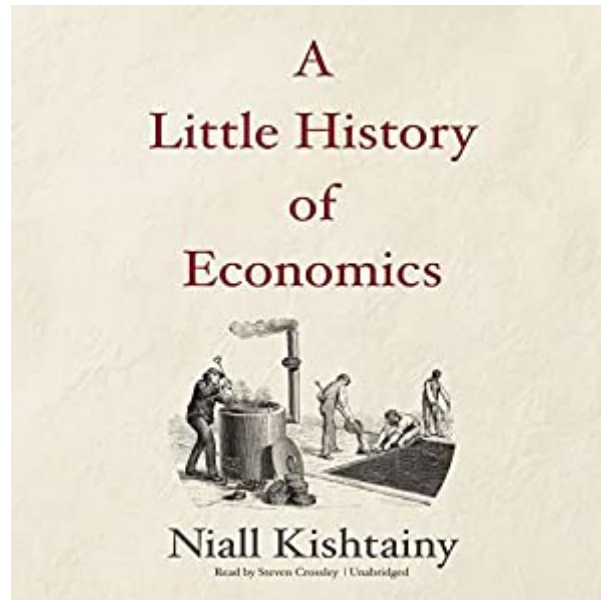




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# **A Little History Of Economics**



## Synopsis

A lively, inviting account of the history of economics, told through events from ancient to modern times and the ideas of great thinkers in the field. What causes poverty? Are economic crises inevitable under capitalism? Is government intervention in an economy a helpful approach or a disastrous idea? The answers to such basic economic questions matter to everyone, yet the unfamiliar jargon and math of economics can seem daunting. This clear, accessible, and even humorous book is ideal for young listeners new to economics and to all listeners who seek a better understanding of the full sweep of economic history and ideas. Economic historian Niall Kishtainy organizes short, chronological chapters that center on big ideas and events. He recounts the contributions of key thinkers including Adam Smith, Ricardo, Marx, Keynes, and others, while examining topics ranging from the invention of money and the rise of agrarianism to the Great Depression, entrepreneurship, environmental destruction, inequality, and behavioral economics. The result is a uniquely enjoyable volume that succeeds in illuminating the economic ideas and forces that shape our world.

## Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 9 hours 52 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: Blackstone Audio, Inc.

Audible.com Release Date: March 7, 2017

Whispersync for Voice: Ready

Language: English

ASIN: B06WVMGRHJ

Best Sellers Rank: #14 in Books > Business & Money > Economics > Comparative #40 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > History > World #43 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Business & Investing > Economics

## Customer Reviews

Ok, this is not a book one would teach if one were teaching economics, but, when teaching history or sociology, this would be a good introductory book about economics. Written in a "easy-breezy" style, the historical examples sometimes veered into algorithms that needed to be read several times. One key point of the book...the discussion of Joan Robinson's books on economics and then

this quotation: "The purpose of studying economics is...to learn how to avoid being deceived by economist." Now that was the high point gleaned from 241 pages of reading about economics.

This book brought together and clarified some of the theories and Thoughts of economics that I have been exposed To over the past several decades.

Provides a powerful understanding of the evolution of ideas in Economics. The breadth of the Economists and topics is breathtaking.

Simple and interesting.

Very good resume of economicd. Gift to a young aspiring Grand Chile.

Amazing book! Easy and fun to read. Now that is rare for something on economics...

A Little History of Economics by Niall Kishtainy is a free NetGalley ebook that I read in early March. This book offers not only info on economics, but issues of entitlement, usefulness, the 'expense' of making one choice and not another one (scarcity opportunity cost), allocation of resources, consumption of goods & resources, the history of economics (from ancient Greece and Mesopotamia to the modern era), the definition of marginal revenue, Victorian leisure class, income distribution, entrepreneurship and capitalism, and the mending of one's social life and their personal economy - all with chapters that are highlighted with impactful, simple woodcut illustrations.

I loved this book. Niall Kishtany uses plain language to tell the reader the history of economic thought and its implications for society. He uses analogies well to make himself understood. He also appears objective, not necessarily expounding his own position but telling what consensus appears to be. I had recently read Economic Thought by Heinz D. Kurz, and I liked Kishtany's book much more. I even stopped reading the Kurz book half way through, giving it a two-star rating. If you want to read a great book on economics that doesn't read like a textbook, then I recommend Kishtany's book. Disclosure: I received a complimentary copy of this book from Netgalley for review purposes.

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