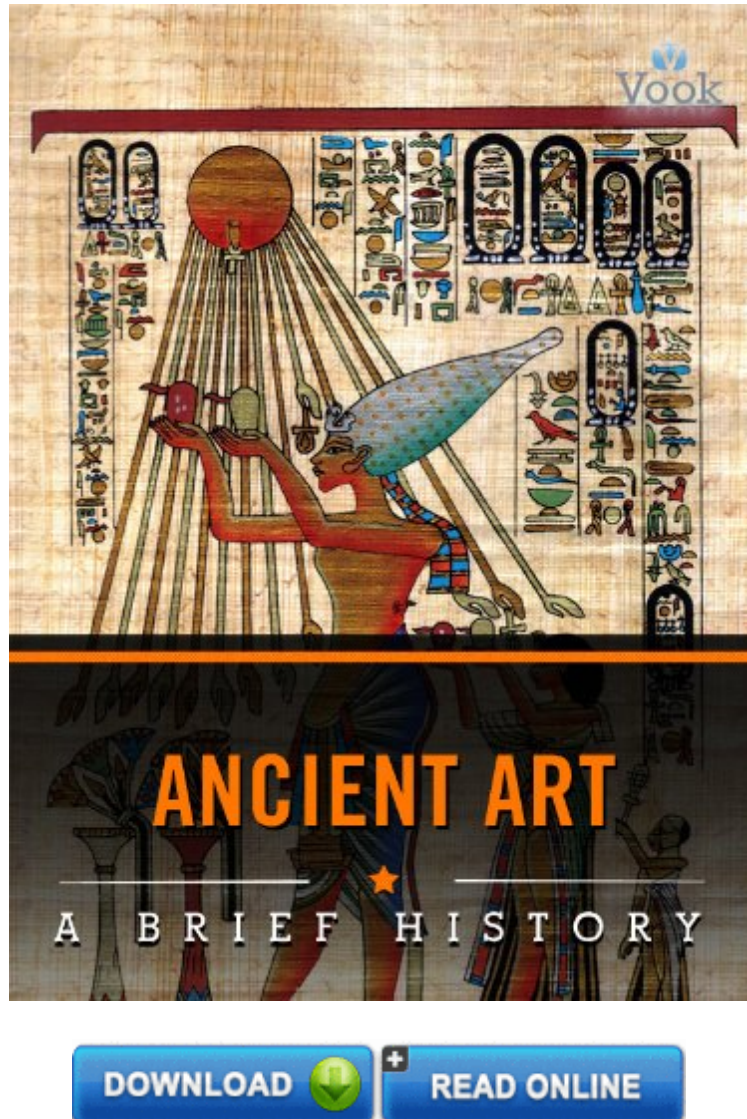


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## Ancient Art: A Brief History

*Charles River Editors*

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**Charles River Editors : Ancient Art: A Brief History** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Ancient Art: A Brief History:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. A very short history By S. Warfield This very concise history of ancient art is fine for readers who know absolutely nothing about art in the time periods covered in this brief book. For someone who wants an introduction that is basically a short outline then that is what they'll get. The book is not meant to be in any way comprehensive or even a good look at the ancient art of Sumer, Greece, Rome, or Egypt. However, if someone is interested enough and wants to learn a little about it, they will come away knowing that Roman architecture was very influenced by Greek architecture, and that the Colosseum was commissioned in A.D. 70. It had Doric, Ionic, and Corinthian styles of columns. It will not define these, however. Ancient Mesopotamian and Persian art are included, as well as a small chapter on the pyramids at Giza. I found several mistakes in reading this and editing could be better. If you are very interested in art history and want a comprehensive book on the subject, rather than this

very short outline I'd suggest Janson's History of Art. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Doesn't really fill any niche  
By Ann F  
This book, written at what I'd guess is a middle school level, tries to cover an immense amount of ground in very little space. As a result, it's full of generalizations and skips tremendous amounts of material. The choices of illustrations are truly odd. For example, there are several paragraphs devoted to the Willendorf Woman (aka the Willendorf Venus) but no photos. For the same amount, I'd recommend getting a decent used copy of a more thorough book or simply pointing them to the many websites from major museums for free. The convenience of having this text on a Kindle doesn't offset the lack of color illustrations or enough content to be truly informative or good enough writing to capture the imagination.  
8 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Beyond brief, more like misleading  
By Abby S.  
While I appreciate the limitations of space in an abridged format that is attempting to cover something ridiculously large as ancient art, this book dangerously misleading. The summaries are flawed in that they select a small portion of a civilization's visual record and assign a conclusion for the entirety based on it. Ex. Under Roman Art they discuss verisimilitude during the Republican period completely ignoring the idealism of the Imperial portraiture. Even more confusing is the choice of artworks used as examples. The Colossus of Rhodes (Greek case study) when there is no surviving image. Really? While the canon may need revising some of these are poor selections for underscoring the point being made. The scope is too large and the text is too brief to provide an adequate and accurate understanding.

"Ancient Art: A Brief History" presents a comprehensive look at Ancient Art in a compact format. This digital compendium serves as a reference to the most significant works produced by early societies from 3,000 BC to 500 AD. The creations range from wall etchings to temples and statues widely studied and revered today. You'll discover the history behind some of ancient art's most enduring wonders, including: The Caves of Chauvet, Stonehenge, The Colossus of Rhodes, Roman Arches, The Scarab, Tell Asmar, The Parthenon...and more.