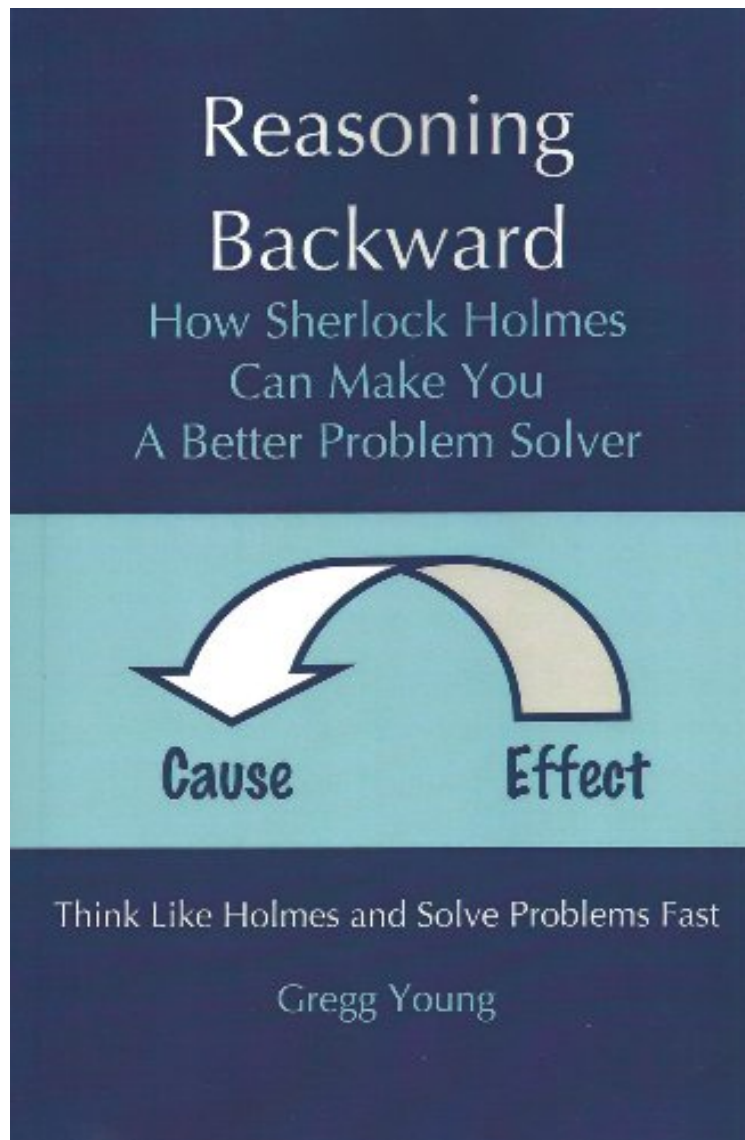


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## Reasoning Backward: How Sherlock Holmes Can Make You a Better Problem Solver

Gregg Young

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**Gregg Young : Reasoning Backward: How Sherlock Holmes Can Make You a Better Problem Solver** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Reasoning Backward: How Sherlock Holmes Can Make You a Better Problem Solver:

1 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Disappointing. By Tim Nelson The book doesn't teach you anything.

Very disavowing.

In solving a problem of this sort, the grand thing is to be able to reason backward, Holmes explained. That is a very useful accomplishment, and a very easy one, but people do not practice it much... Most problem solvers reason forward from cause to effect. They brainstorm root causes by asking, What could be the root causes? Then they start guessing, which is slow and ineffective. This approach rarely finds every root cause, so it rarely develops complete solutions. The best strategy reasons backward from effect to cause, using Sherlock Holmes strategy of observation and deduction. Problem solvers ask, What is different when problems occur? Reasoning backward is four times more effective than reasoning forward. One set of problem-solving tools based on Holmes strategy delivers superior results, but it is not well known. Reasoning Backward introduces Holmes strategy and these tools for the first time. Now, anyone can become an exceptional problem solver.

The key ideas in this book can dramatically improve quality and profitability in almost any business. Brian Tracy, Author, Reinvention This book takes us to the next level, with analytic rigor and focus, leading to a new level of performance. Prof. David Reibstein, The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania A handy, concise and informative sourcebook... Expertly organized, a clear road map for dramatic improvement... Kathleen Bader, Former President and CEO, NatureWorks LLC, and Director, Textron Inc. A one-of-a-kind breakthrough strategy for problem solving is thoroughly and understandably presented in this book... The Holmes strategy provides tools for analytically achieving the most effective problem solving skills... The author has provided a new, valuable and proven resource for businesses and education. The books tools will provide users superior advantages in business and life choices. Recommended and ed in the Mindquest of Books, Lightword Publishing A fine pick with plenty of useful wisdom... Reasoning and thinking come into play far more than one would expect in life. This book is a guide to empowering ones critical thinking skills to execute them well in everyday life. These deduction skills are made famous by Sherlock Holmes in criminal mysteries, but Gregg Young shows where they can be used in life. "Reasoning Backward" is a fine pick with plenty of useful wisdom. Midwest Book s Never be stuck again! Now you have a Gameplan and a Toolbox to solve those sticky problems! Don Linsenmann, Vice President Six Sigma, DuPont Gregg Young aka Sherlock has a way of taking the complex and making it seem logical, manageable and interesting. His ability to engage his audience in what to some is a dry if not mystic technology and make it relevant is a valuable tool in engaging people in the techniques of problem solving. Kathleen Bader, Former President CEO, NatureWorks LLC, and Director, Textron, Inc. Our organization has benefited significantly from a relationship with Gregg Young. Greggs approach to problem solving is unique, and his best practice tools provide a practical, yet powerful framework for solving real world problems. Mark Vrana, Vice President, Technology and Quality, Franklin International, Inc. Gregg makes a compelling case for the effectiveness of using the Best Practice tools to significantly reduce waste and cost. I really appreciate the tone of the bookthe openness to share what he has learned to help anyone become successful without holding back anything. Randy Spitzer, Author, Take Responsibility Whether you're looking for a dynamic and engaging speaker, or a writer who takes quality and critical thinking processes from complex to simple, Gregg Young is your man! His Sherlock Holmes metaphor for critical thinking is both entertaining and thought provoking. His enthusiasm is contagious. Gregg transcends the norm, moves us beyond routine problem-solving, and leaves us ready to go out and tackle problems armed with both tools and confidence in using them. Nancy L. Ohle, Managing Partner, HRPartner, LLC Author Gregg Young pinpoints one of the most important skills anyone can masterhow to identify and solve problems. The student who excels at those can write his or her own ticket. Joseph G. Lehman, P.E., President, Mackinac Center for Public Policy Young provides a fresh and insightful approach to problem solving that should significantly improve the effectiveness of most operations. As Sherlock Holmes, Young presents a witty, stimulating and thought provoking case for reasoning backward to solve problems. Its quite elementary, you know! Dr. Richard Dolinski, Former Vice President of Quality Performance at Dow Chemical; Founder and President, The Legacy Center for Community Success The tools Gregg presents in this book give projects the starting jolt they need to be successful. Carl Cordy, Six Sigma Master Black Belt, Visteon Corporation, and Author, Champions Practical Six Sigma Summary The lessons from this book will open the eyes of every problem solver: you have to start at the effect-side of the problem and not just starting guessing about possible causes! It will help our engineers to become more effective quality improvement sleuths! Jo Mooren, Quality and Reliability Consultant, Philips Applied Technologies, Eindhoven, The Netherlands Having been trained in DMAIC Six Sigma Processes, I was used to approach of testing the Xs to determine which ones are critical. However, I found your approach of comparing the best Ys to the worst Ys to find clues about the critical Xs to be quite intriguing. It enables you converge onto the problem much faster. Ed King, Technical Specialist: Electronics Instrumentation Engineering, Yazaki North America For over 10 years the Author has been a mentor in the area of quality with excellent results. Mr. Young exudes quality in all he does. He is a true student of the quality process and his energies and knowledge have transferred to my team and organization. Mike Shea, former President, Arnold Center, Inc. "I have known Gregg Young for almost twenty years and have always viewed him to be a leading edge thinker... This book will afford the reader a chance to get to know Gregg." Dr.

Timothy G. Nash, Vice President, Graduate and Specialty Programs, Northwood University Gregg Young hit a home run with this book! It is the perfect handbook for any business student or person who desires to improve his or her abilities to think and solve problems. It is easy to understand, filled with every day work problems. I dare say the average person should be able to apply Youngs techniques and improve his or her life! Sharpen your pencil and skills as you examine clues and work backward from effects to causes! Janie Guill "Problem solving is an essential skill to student success. Through descriptions and examples of best practice tools used successfully in industry, Reasoning Backward helps students solve problems rather than guess their way through problems. Toni Krasnic, Author, Concise Learning Gregg provides the important best practice tools, the rest of the story on quality. Apply these lessons and prosper. Mark McKinley, President, McKinley Technologies This book is filled with excellent, practical, powerful tools that are sure to help individuals and enterprises achieve greater success. John Miller, Adjunct Professor, Lawrence Technological University; Managing Partner, NuVu Data Services "Young provides a clear explanation for the different results that have been achieved when using different quality improvement processes, and more importantly he shows exactly how to get the results every leader was seeking in the first place when they launched these initiatives." Eric Balinski, Managing Director, Goodrich Capital and Co-author, Value Based Marketing for Bottom-line Success We could do with a lot more high school students able to use and explain what is in this book. I like especially that its improving my own thinking. Any teacher who applies even the basic ideas will find fresh ways to improve their instruction, and students mastering it will have a lifetime resource." John Jensen, Ph. D. I have been privileged to hear Mr.Young deliver his messages on several occasions. His depth of knowledge and his passion for the subject matter creates interest from the audiences. Sharon Miller, President, ITH Staffing