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## Captivating Lateral Thinking Puzzles (Mensa) by Paul, Sloane (2008)

*From Union Square Press*  
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**From Union Square Press : Captivating Lateral Thinking Puzzles (Mensa) by Paul, Sloane (2008)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Captivating Lateral Thinking Puzzles (Mensa) by Paul, Sloane (2008):

11 of 11 people found the following review helpful. Disappointing compared with previous editions.By ToonfanThere are very few gems in this edition of lateral puzzles by the same authors. Most of the puzzles are quite forgettable because they are too general (which means they can have multiple reasonable answers), too obvious, or simply just fact-based (which means you either know the underlying fact/trivia or not). The format is as follows: first the problems are presented, followed by clues, and finally the "definitive" answers. Here's an example of a not-so-satisfying puzzle: "A man is lying dead on a beach. What happened?" Well, there can be many reasonable answers to this question, but I bet you will not come up with the "definitive" answer which is not particularly clever and depends on your knowing a bit of historical trivia. I guess that's what's really missing is this set of puzzles. None of them are particularly clever.1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. More from the masterBy Morning StarI've got all his books, and I sometimes play on their website. These puzzles were mostly fresh and kept you guessing. Make another one soon!4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Nobody gets it right all the time---even SterlingBy Jerry GuildMy faith in Sterling has been shattered with this puzzle book.I have been a long time fan of puzzles and puzzle books for over 60 years and have a large collection of puzzle books somewhere between 700 and 800.I have several by these puzzlers,Sloane and MacHale,and many dozens by Sterling.In my opinion, Sterling leads the pack in publishing puzzle

books ,and has for a number of years.Not only in content but also when it comes to the quality of paper,printing,color and construction;Sterling have ,pardon the pun,been Sterling!! But this particular book is an exception.It still retains the standards in all respects --except content. It isn't a book of puzzles but a book of questions,most of which require no thinking or reasonable answer,but more in keeping with what one expects with a "knock Knock" joke.There are some which might be considered "Trivia" questions,but not puzzles. Most questions will leave one without any hope of answering,no matter how much one thinks about it;then you are directed to a few clues on a different page,which are as useless as the question;then one is directed to an answer,again on a different page,which can more aptly described as ridiculous than captivating.I must admit I shuffled back and forth to the end,and was only too glad when I was finally finished with it all. The experience was anything but captivating!!! So,if you have been a fan of puzzles from Sloane MacHale,Mensa,and Sterling;don't be surprised if you are disappointed with this tome.I bought this book without even thumbing through it because of previous books by these people;but had I only glanced at a few questions in the book;Iwould have passed on it.