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The text is designed for the use of college students taking a full year of general chemistry. It is very well written and has excellent format. Emphasis is placed on the structural basis of the properties of matter. Theoretical principles are introduced early in the book, and a continuous application of these principles is made to the descriptive chemistry of the metals and nonmetals. The solution of numerical problems is demonstrated well using methods which would provide an understanding of the system considered rather than memorization of formulas. Relevant study question and problems (without answers) follow each chapter. This book is a shorter and more compact volume than the authors' "General Chemistry—A Systematic Approach," but the arrangement and the treatment of the material are very similar. The condensation is accomplished by elimination of much of the historical material, by simplification of the derivations of certain laws, and by pruning of the descriptive matter. The number of illustrations is increased and should aid the student greatly in grasping concepts. The authors' aim, "to assist the teacher in conveying to the student a thorough understanding, based upon a real conceptual picture of the fundamental principles of chemistry," should be realized through the very logical arrangement and systematic treatment of the basic chemical concepts and many chemical facts.

JACK G. CALVERT