

# Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Explaining Modern Technology .....</b>	<b>1</b>
	What Socrates Would Ask Me.....	2
	Omitting Irrelevant Subjects Is an Art.....	5
	No One should Be Afraid of Formulas.....	7
 <b>Part I: Fundamentals of Mathematics and Logic</b>		
<b>2</b>	<b>Mathematicians Are Humans Like You and Me – They Count and Arrange .....</b>	<b>13</b>
	What a Number “Sees” When It Looks into a Mirror.....	14
	Sets Are Everywhere .....	25
	Functions Tell Us How to Get Results .....	31
	“Come Closer!” Is What Limits Want .....	40
	An Eye for an Eye and a Tooth for a Tooth – That’s the Principle of Equations .....	44
<b>3</b>	<b>Mathematicians Are Nothing Special – They Draw and Compare .....</b>	<b>53</b>
	How Mr. Euclid’s Ideas Have Grown Up.....	53
	How the Fraction “Zero Divided by Zero” and the Product “Infinity Times Zero” Are Related.....	64
	Relations Which We Can Deduce, but Not Really Understand.....	74
<b>4</b>	<b>When It Helps to Ignore Any Meaning .....</b>	<b>81</b>
	Where Discretionary Powers Are Not Allowed.....	81
	Games Which Can Be Played without Thinking .....	83
	How Logical Thinking Can Be Replaced by Pattern Recognition.....	87
	Detours Which Are Shorter Than the Direct Route .....	98
	How We Can Enter into Four- or Higher-Dimensional Spaces Using Simple Steps .....	100
<b>5</b>	<b>About the Methods for Computing the Future.....</b>	<b>109</b>
	Attempts to Reduce Expectations to Numbers .....	110
	How We Can Calculate the Number of Possible Cases .....	112
	What You Can Do If You Don’t Want to Know All the Details .....	118
	How to Handle the Situation When the Cases Are No Longer Countable.....	125
	Statistics Are More Than Just Listing the Results of Counts.....	129

<b>6</b>	<b>What Talking and Writing Have in Common .....</b>	<b>131</b>
	How Speech and Writing Are Interrelated.....	132
	What Grammar Has to Do with the Meaning of Texts .....	133
	How to Control Conversations in Order to Make Sure All Participants	
	Get a Fair Chance to Say Something .....	141
<b>Part II: Fundamentals of Natural Sciences</b>		
<b>7</b>	<b>What the Moon Has to Do with Mechanical Engineering.....</b>	<b>147</b>
	What Galileo Galilei Could Teach Us without Upsetting the Pope .....	148
	What Sir Isaac Newton Found Out about Forces and Moving Bodies	
	on Earth and in the Sky .....	153
<b>8</b>	<b>How Albert Einstein Disregarded Common Sense.....</b>	<b>173</b>
	How Meters and Clocks Were “Relativized” and the Speed of Light	
	Was Made the Standard Reference .....	173
	How the Beautiful World of Mr. Newton Got Bended .....	189
<b>9</b>	<b>How a Few Frog Legs Triggered the Origin of Electrical</b>	
	<b>Engineering.....</b>	<b>207</b>
	The Tremendous Consequences of Accidental and Simple	
	Observations .....	208
	How Mr. Maxwell Transferred His Ideas from the Bath Tub to Free	
	Space.....	216
	How the Feasibility of High Voltage and Radio Waves Became	
	Evident without Experimenting .....	227
	What We Get by Multiplying or Dividing Volts, Amperes and Similar	
	Things .....	233
<b>10</b>	<b>Small, Smaller, Smallest – How the Components of Matter Were</b>	
	<b>Found.....</b>	<b>241</b>
	How the Age-Old Assumption That Matter Is Composed of Atoms	
	became Experimentally Relevant .....	242
	What Can Be Deduced from the Assumption That Gases	
	Are Small Balls Flying Around .....	248
	How Particles Which Had Been Called “Indivisible” Broke Apart.....	258
<b>11</b>	<b>How the Difference between Particles and Waves Disappeared.....</b>	<b>267</b>
	How Waves Can Be Forced to Show Us That They Really Are	
	Waves .....	267
	How It became Necessary to Consider Rays of Light and Heat as	
	Flying Packets of Energy .....	271
	A Theory Which Could Be Confirmed, but Stayed Inconceivable.....	281
	Phenomena Which Even Einstein Thought to Be Impossible .....	302

<b>12 How “Recipes” in the Cells of Living Organisms Were Found and Can Be Rewritten .....</b>	<b>309</b>
How Organization and Life Are Connected .....	309
How the Living became “Technological Matter” .....	316
Like the Mother, Like the Father - How Inheritance Works.....	317
How New Recipes Can Be Smuggled into Living Cells.....	338
How to Provide Evidence Confirming “Who It Was”.....	341
 <b>Part III: Fundamentals of Engineering</b>	
<b>13 Why Engineers Are “Playing with Models”.....</b>	<b>347</b>
What Engineers Are Needed for.....	347
A Look into the Toy Box of Engineers.....	352
How the Sine Function Makes the Jobs of Engineers Easier.....	377
<b>14 Everything becomes Digital – Really Everything?.....</b>	<b>389</b>
What Zeros and Ones Have to Do with Digital Systems.....	389
Why Engineers Want to Digitize as much as Possible .....	398
Computer Hardware: How Digital Systems Which Execute Programs Are Built .....	411
Computer Software: How Programmers Can Tell Their Computers What They Expect Them to Do .....	421
An Engineering Job Which Is Not Yet Adequately Done .....	434
<b>Concluding Remarks.....</b>	<b>437</b>
<b>Acknowledgments.....</b>	<b>439</b>
<b>References.....</b>	<b>441</b>
<b>Name Index.....</b>	<b>443</b>
<b>Subject Index.....</b>	<b>445</b>