The work presents the basic concepts of a degree-level inorganic course in a concise format. It serves as an introduction to the inexperienced reader concerning the general tenets of the field of inorganic chemistry. In this capacity it succeeds in offering a foundation upon which to advance one’s understanding of the guiding principles. As such it is a supplemental work and is intended to facilitate acquisition of the concepts presented in a college lecture setting.

Since the passages are terse, considerable detail remains unexplained. In particular molecular orbital (MO) theory, symmetry and point group theory are insufficiently discussed or neglected entirely. Knowing that these areas are highly important in the overall elucidation of inorganic systems, more attention should be paid in order to further unify the reader’s comprehension. The aforementioned topics are indispensable in that they form the basis of probing structural properties, reactivities and assigning periodic trends, among many other features, that rely on this information as a means of characterization.

There is an attempt to describe atomic characteristics of metals and nonmetals, their hydrides and organic compounds, halides and oxidized forms. Though the adumbration functions as an overview, the text leaves much to generalizations easily found in beginning texts, and therefore not quite specific enough to make the transition from elementary to intermediate/advanced treatment of these compounds/complexes.

As an initial outline to the concepts of inorganic chemistry it seems to suffice but only at the level of a student new to chemistry. No spectroscopic techniques are addressed throughout, which again limits this work to the beginning-chemist. The theoretical framework of inorganic chemistry is used by spectroscopists to devise methods of observation to reinforce, refocus or reconstitute the same framework.