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The Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum’s Panza Collection Initiative (PCI) is a collection of over 350 minimal, post-minimal, and conceptual works. Object Lessons: Case Studies in Minimal Art is a decade-long case study on the historical and technical aspects of this collection that discusses pieces from four of the collection’s artists—Dan Flavin, Donald Judd, Robert Morris, and Lawrence Weiner. The book outlines the history of the collection in the context of the period, including its controversial acquisition. Chronological overviews of the four works selected for this study are accompanied by detailed illustrations, diagrams, and technical details. Full-page, color photographs throughout the book include installation and detail views.

The narrative of Object Lessons is neither as vivid nor direct as one of Flavin’s neon lines, and instead inundates the reader with a surplus of information. Occasionally, theoretical discussion is interwoven with historical details of the physical installation, which may cause the average reader to be overwhelmed. For researchers of museum studies, the American minimalism movement, or the Panza collection this would be a significant resource. While the amount of historical detail and explanations are excellent, the context is presented in a somewhat disorganized fashion. This is partially
remedied by the detailed index. The book concludes with a bibliography, extensive artist correspondence notes, collection checklist, and index.

The book is a beautifully constructed hardback with quality paper stock and clear color photographs. Due to the in-depth historical and technical examination of the four objects, this study is most suitable for graduate students, faculty, and researchers of art history, conservation, or museum studies.