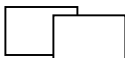


ACTIVE STRATEGIES

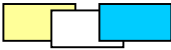
ACTIVE READING


1. Highlight (main ideas in one color, details in another)
2. Text mark (sticky notes)
3. Cornell notes (two-column)
4. Visualize (picture what you are reading – make a movie in your head)
5. Key words (write three key words to sum up a paragraph or section)
6. Ask ?s – Does this make sense?

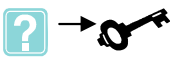
ACTIVE STUDYING

 **Flashcards**—for vocabulary, write the word on one side, the definition on the other. Quiz yourself or play concentration/memory with two sets of the cards: match the definitions with the terms

Color-coded cards—color-coded cards can be used to learn information contained in a chart or information that needs to be grouped together (preparing for compare and contrast questions). Put one piece of information on each card. For each type of item, use the same color. On the back of each card put a number to group items that are related. (i.e. #1 on all items in first row of a chart). Study the groups of information together until you think you know them. Then mix them up and try to associate the pieces that go together (i.e. all the ones).



 Use a **graphic organizer** to organize information for essay questions. Outline information from the chapter. This helps organize your thoughts and prepare you for comparing and contrasting ideas covered in the chapter.

Make a **practice quiz** and **answer key**.  The act of making a quiz gets you thinking about what questions might be asked about the information. Taking the time to look up the answers for the answer key makes that information “stick” in your mind better. Put the quiz aside for a day and then test yourself.



Explain the concepts you are learning to someone else. If you are able to fully explain something to another person, you understand the concept.

Practice drawing any diagrams that are included in the information being tested. Draw other pictures to help you visualize difficult concepts.



Develop mnemonic devices to help you remember information. (nine planets—Martha Visits Every Monday and Just Stays Until Noon Period.)



Rewrite your notes or, better yet, turn them into a **study guide**. Color-code them. Draw pictures. The more you use the information, the more easily you will be able to recall it. When possible, rewrite notes using the Cornell Method (2 columns) so that you will also have a study guide when you are finished.

HOMework

1. Write HW in your planner. (Your boss is not going to post your tasks on a website or remind you to complete them.)
2. Use the homework site as a back-up.
3. Use classmates as back-up. Keep their phone numbers in your planner.
4. There is RARELY a valid reason not to have homework completed.

My Homework Mantra

Your homework is not finished until

- your papers are in your binder
- your binder and your books are in your backpack, and
- your backpack is at the door.