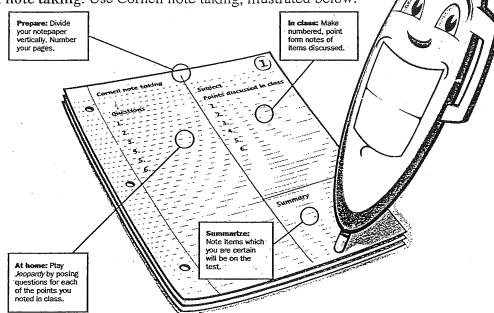
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Study Tips

1. Write it down. Don't just listen to lectures, take notes. You'll score 50% higher on tests.

2. Cornell note taking. Use Cornell note taking, illustrated below.



- 3. Always study with questions. Students who write down questions while they read are much more likely to retain what they read.
- 4. Use coloured pens. Choose a different colour for questions, answers, summary and underlining highlights.
- 5. Instant replay. Reviewing your notes within 48 hours of taking them can boost the ability to recall by 25%.
- 6. Use memory tricks (mnemonics). If you want to remember the names of the five great lakes, link one to each letter in the work HOMES: Huron, Ontario, Michigan, Erie, Superior.
- 7. Keep it cool. The ideal temperature for learning appears to be 17°C.
- 8. Take brain breaks. Take "brain breaks" so your study session has more beginnings and endings when you learn best.
- 9. Get up on your feet. Get up once in a while during your study sessions so that more oxygen reaches the brain.
- 10. Study to a deadline. Students will get more done in less time if they set a specific time in which to study or complete homework.
- 11. Binders are better than notebooks. Research indicates students who use a ring binder achieve a 25% higher grade-point average than students who use a spiral notebook.
- 12. The "master binder." Students who have a single binder for all subjects have a much easier time being organized than those who have a separate binder for each subject.

- 13. Use an agenda book and a weekly time chart. An agenda book allows for easy review of assignments at the end of the day. But remember, having an agenda book isn't enough. It only helps if you actually use it!
- 14. Make memory and mastery cards. M&M cards feature a question on one side and the answer on the other or, for instance, a French word on one side and the English equivalent on the other.
- 15. Study out loud. Asking and answering questions out loud activates more channels of the brain than studying silently.
- 16. Put parents on the team.
- 17. Sit at the front of the room.

 Surveys indicate there is up to a full letter grade difference, on average, between students who sit at the front of the classroom and those who sit at the back.





- 18. Tackle the tough subjects first.
 Start your homework with the subject you like the least or find the toughest.
- 19. Turn it off. Do not do homework with the TV or stereo on.
- 20. Turn it on. Research indicates that listening to Baroque music (i.e. Telemann, Scarlati, Vivaldi and Bach) while you work improves memory and has a calming effect that boosts productivity.

Reference: "20 Study Secrets of Successful Students." By Hardip Johal with Terry Small, The Province Newspaper, November 5, 2000.