

# STUDENT-TO-STUDENT TIPS ABOUT PASSING YOUR COURSES

## TIPS ABOUT PREPARING FOR TESTS:

- Keep up with your reading assignments so that studying for a test will be the reviewing of familiar material. Frantic last-minute cramming of new material usually results in faulty remembering.
- To avoid completely rereading textbook assignments later, prepare them for reviewing by underlining key words and phrases and outlining underlined material.
- Do not be afraid to ask questions about material you do not understand. You cannot remember something unless you first understand it.
- Review each course at least once a week during the semester. Reread class notes, workbook exercises, outside reading notes, textbook underlining, etc.
- In reviewing, spend most time on the material that is least familiar, but review briefly the material that is most familiar.
- In reviewing, prepare a list of likely test questions and make certain that you can give the correct answers to each in your own words.
- Keep, correct, and review returned quizzes and exams. Check with your instructor if you are uncertain about correct answer to a question that you answered incorrectly.



- Study your instructor’s “test technique” so you will know what type of objective question he/she favors and what kind of essay answer he expects.
- Concentrate on remembering specific details (who, when, where) when studying for an objective test; concentrate on understanding broad concepts (what, why, how) when studying for an essay exam.
- Study and practice on questions from your textbook, workbook, previous exams, and other sources also available to your instructor.
- Where possible, ask the instructor what materials will be covered on an examination- textbook assignments, class lectures, outside readings, movies and filmstrips, laboratory experiments, etc.
- Complete long-term projects well in advance of scheduled exams so that your time will be free for intensive reviewing.
- To minimize study fatigue, break intensive study sessions with a 5-10 minute rest periods every hour.
- Review likely test questions with other students in small study groups of two to four members after each has first studied independently.
- Do not endanger your health and test grade by using “No-Doz” or Pep Pills to stay all night “cramming” for an exam. You will be able to think more logically if you get a reasonable amount of sleep on the night before a major test.
- Review for problem solving tests by memorizing formulas and equations, as needed and working examples of each type problem likely to appear on the test.

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