



Improving Those Study Skills

Students who perform well academically have usually mastered 5 key study skills:

- They listen actively
- They are involved in class discussions
- They take good notes
- They get the most out of the reading assignment
- They prepare effectively for exams

Active Listening

- Sit near the front of the room, if possible. This cuts down on the possibility of distractions.
- Focus on what the teacher is saying and not what is going on around the rest of the room.
- Try to make connections between what you are hearing and things that you already know.
- Take notes of the important information to review later
- ASK QUESTIONS when you do not understand

Be Involved in Class

- Be prepared for class
- Participate, do NOT dominate
- ASK QUESTION (Yep, it's listed again. It's that important!!)
- Verbally summarize what the teacher has been said, especially for information that is difficult to understand.

- Respect the opinions of others

Note Taking

- Write neatly so you can read it later to study
- Write only main points and do it in your own words. This will help you remember it better.
- Listen for key words or information that is repeated multiple times
- Use abbreviations and symbols that make sense to you in order to cut down on the amount you must write. This allows you to pay attention to more of the what the speaker says.
- An outline format can be a very useful way to take notes.
- Look over the notes again that day to check if they make sense

Get the Most From the Readings

- Skim before reading to get an idea of what to expect
- Pick out the main ideas while reading
- After reading, discuss what you read. This will help you better remember what you have read. It will also allow you to better understand areas that you may not have understood.
- Skim material when looking for a specific answer
- Slow down when reading complicated information
- Re-read if you did not understand what you just read
- Look up or ask about vocabulary that is difficult to understand

Prepare for exams

- May highlight important ideas in the notes
- Could write summary of major ideas that will be on exam
- Review notes multiple days before the test, not just cram the night before. Multiple short study sessions are better than one long one.
- Discuss the exam with the teacher and ask what to expect.
- Use flashcards or develop acronyms to help remember memorization of specific facts.

