

Study Skills

CFAA Tutor Training



EAST TENNESSEE STATE
UNIVERSITY

Study skills are...

- The habits you need to learn effectively
- Critical for performing well in college
- Strategies that can accelerate your learning
- Important for success in life
 - People who can learn new skills quickly, retain information, and apply knowledge in innovative ways stand out



*First, I am your professor, not your teacher. There is a difference. Up to now your instruction has been in the hands of teachers, and a teacher's job is to make sure that you learn... **However, things are very different for a university professor. It is no part of my job to make you learn. At university, learning is your job — and yours alone.** My job is to lead you to the fountain of knowledge. Whether you drink deeply or only gargle is entirely up to you.*

--

Dr. Keith Parsons, University of Houston



Study Skills Myths

- I don't need to read my textbook.
- Studying for 8 hours right before the test is \geq studying 1 hour per week for 8 weeks.
- Good notetaking involves writing down as much as possible of what the professor says during class.
- The best way to study is to review your notes from class.
- My instructor will only ask test questions about the material we cover in class.
- The more I study the higher my grade will be.



My college motto:

- Study smarter, not harder.



Study Skills Timeline

Before

During

After

Before Class

- Reading the textbook
- Outlining material
- Generating questions

During Class

- Attention
- Participation
- Note taking

After Class

- Studying
- Memorization
- Test prep



Before class...

- Reading the textbook—Actively!

SQ3R Method by Francis P. Robinson



S

1. Survey

Scan the text and pay attention to:

- Layout;
- Chapters;
- Sections;
- Graphs;
- Pictures;
- Highlighted words;

Q

2. Question

Ask yourself questions about the text.

Ask yourself what you already know about the text and what your goal is.

Try to understand what it is that the author wants to convey.

3

3. Read

Read the text actively while keeping the previous steps in the back of your mind. Write down additional questions and try to answer asked questions.

R

4. Recite

Repeat (aloud) in your own words what you have read. Ask your self questions about the text, explain to someone what you have read and try to write a summary.

5. Review

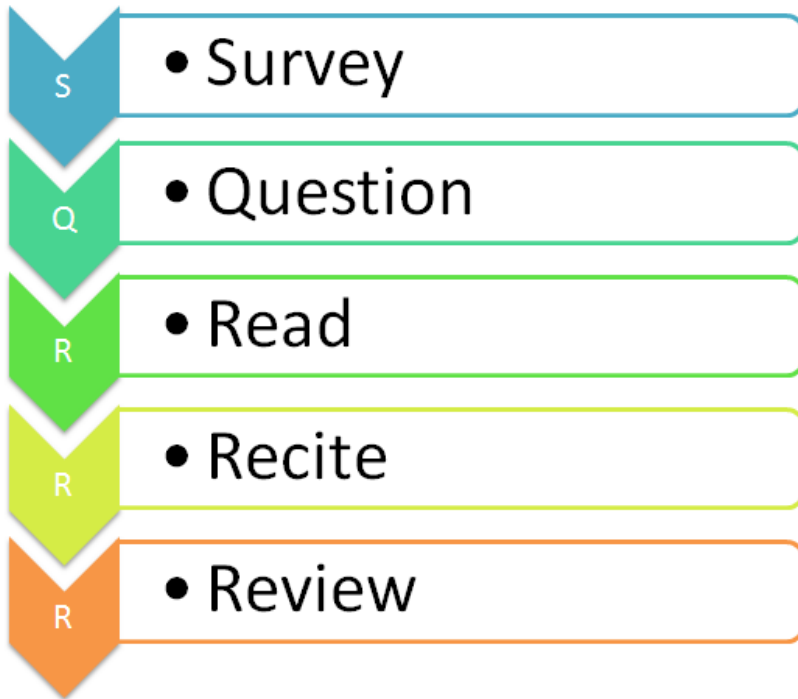
Read all the relevant parts again. Go through your notes and questions again. Pay extra attention to the parts you find difficult.

Read more: www.toolshero.com



Active Reading Exercise

SQ3R



- Practice SQ3R on the first page of the handout provided (5 mins)
- Do not turn to the back page.
 - What questions did you come up with?
 - What questions do you still have?



Before class



Before

Before Class

- Reading the textbook
- Outlining material
- Generating questions

5 minutes

- Create an outline of the topics on the second page of your handout.
- Add some details to your outline so they resemble notes.
- Come up with a question you could ask (or one that might be answered) during lecture.
- Be prepared to share.



During class

During

During Class

- Attention
- Participation
- Note taking

- Active listening:
 - Set yourself up for success.
 - Get the most out of your time.
 - The best seat in the house (front & center).
 - Eliminate distractions.
 - Dare to speak.
 - Take notes (cont.)

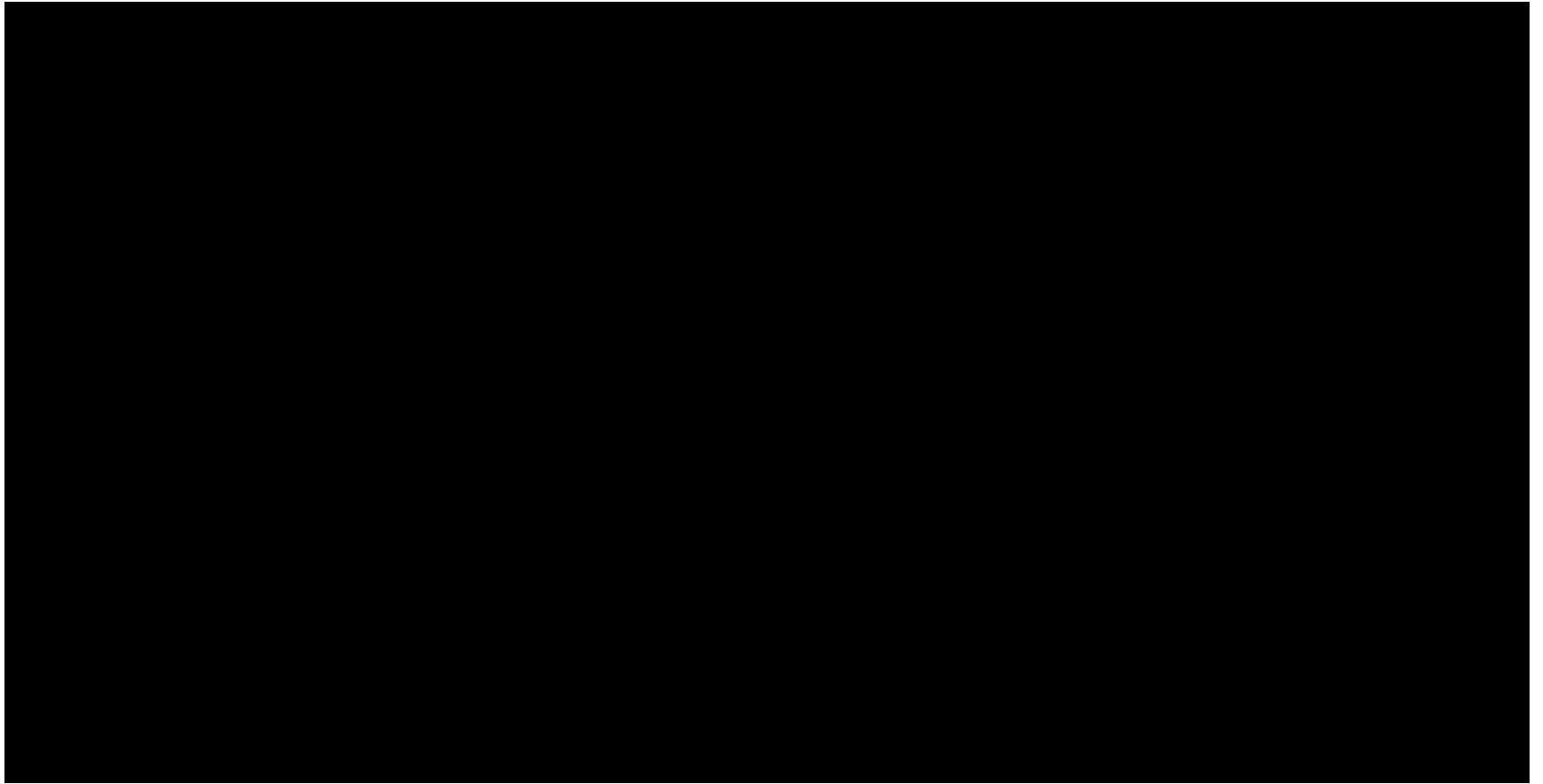


Take Notes

- Research suggests handwritten notes contribute to success.
- If possible, print slides/class notes beforehand.
- Use a strategy.
 - Outline
 - Cornell
 - Mind map
- Collaborate with classmates.



Take notes!



After Class

- DO something with your notes.
 - ASAP after class, do something with your notes.
 - Elaborate
 - Reorganize
 - Re-write (type if you must)
 - Color code
 - Highlight, bold, underline



After

After Class

- Studying
- Memorization
- Test prep



Pair up.

- Let's *do something* with your video notes.
- Working with a partner, review each other's notes.
- Combine your notes and elaborate on what you wrote to make a “super set” of notes. (3 minutes)
- Using your “super” notes, reorganize and format them in a way that is appealing to you. (2 minutes)
- Share.



After Class

- Studying Guidelines

- Make a study schedule.
- Studying for a test should start on the first day material is presented.
- **Study in shorter periods, more often.**
- Combine all your material (texts, notes, supplemental resources) into one organized study guide.
- Study the material in different orders.
- Use tricks: mnemonic devices, word associations, rhymes, songs, rehearsal and elaboration, etc.
- Anticipate what test questions a professor might ask about the material.
- Study with friends and classmates. **Quiz** each other.



My **BEST** advice

- Avoid cramming
- Time management
- Organization
 - Planner, cell phone, binders
- Schedule your studying on a weekly basis
- Use your time effectively
- If you have a question, ask!

