

Types of Study Tools for Success

STUDY TOOL	PREPARATION STRATEGY	REVIEW STRATEGY <i>(Practice, practice, practice until you feel confident that you can remember the material during the test!)</i>
Highlighting	Re-mark text and star unknown(s)	Recite main points out loud
Text notes	Dig through the text & write main points with supporting details. Develop recall column.	Recite information, identifying connections between ideas from headings and/or recall columns.
Predicted questions in the margin	Predict test questions and underline the answers.	Recite the answers out loud.
Concept maps	Design & draw maps for connected information.	Sketch charts from memory.
Charts	Create charts with connected information.	Sketch charts from memory.
Geographic maps	Prepare a copy of your map(s) without the answers to be used as a self-test.	Recite and/or write the answers to your map. Check your answers against the original.
Study sheets	Dig through the text and your lecture notes to select, condense, & organize material under main topics	Recite the material or write it out.
End-of-chapter questions	Write out the answers.	Recite answers to the questions.
Word cards, question cards, formula cards, problem cards	Select information & write your cards.	Recite out loud or write them down. Shuffle your cards & retest. Test in reverse. Retest items you missed.
Study groups	Prepare materials as agreed to by the group.	Explain your material to the group & take notes on others' explanations. Discuss.
Self-test	Select information and construct your version of the test.	Take test (written or recited out loud). Retest.
Predict essay questions	Predict specific essay questions. Plan and prepare your answers.	Practice reciting main points and writing the answers.
List of 20, 30, 40+ Most Likely to Appear on the Test	Determine content and write out your lists.	Recite the list out loud. Write out items with which you have trouble remembering.

Adapted from: Van Blerkom, D. L. (2007). *Orientation to College Learning*, 6th Edition, (p. 237). Boston, MA: Wadsworth Cengage Learning