

How to Study

- Plan a regular time to study
- Choose a quiet desk or table where you will not be distracted. Find a Spot that has good lighting.
- Gather all the books, pencils, and paper you need to complete your assignments.
- Decide on a goal. For Example: "I will finish reading and taking notes on Chapter 1, Section 1, by 8:00."
- Take a 5 to 10 minute break every hour to keep alert.
- If you start to feel sleepy, take a short break and get some fresh air.
- Assignments can be broken into short blocks to help you study better
- Use Advocacy to clarify with the teacher

How to do a Textbook Assignment

Preview

Read and think about the chapter title, the title of the sections, and headings and subheadings of the sections. Study and understand the picture, timelines, and other visual devices and their titles and captions. What do you already know about these topics?

Create questions that start with who, how, why, in what way, and so on. These can guide your notes.

Read

As you read, look for the answers to your questions. Also, look for how the text explains and illustrates the chapter, title, and section and subsection headings.

Always find the meaning of unfamiliar words.

Note Taking

Below are two good examples of note taking: Paragraph Shrinking and Outlining. Paragraph Shrinking is summarizing each paragraph into one central idea of sentence.

Example:

Peasants formed the largest group with the Third Estate, more than 80 percent of France's 26 million people. Peasants paid about half their income in dues to nobles, tithes to Church, and taxes to King's agents. They even paid taxes on such staples as salt. Peasants and the urban poor resented the clergy and the nobles for their privileges and special treatment. The heavily taxed and discontented Third Estate was eager for change.

The Third Estate, forming the largest group comprised mostly of peasants, was the most heavily taxed and eager for change.

Outlining:

Use the title of the chapter as your main heading, then breakdown the information by section headings and subsections.

Example

I. The French Revolution Begins (Chapter Title)

1. The old Order (Section Heading)

A) The Privileged Estates (Subheading)

First Estate = was formed by the Roman Catholic Church and made up about 1% of France's population. They paid little tax to the govt.

Second Estate = made up of rich nobles and made up about 2 percent of the France's population. They paid little tax to the govt.

B) The Third Estate

Review

To review, immediately after finishing try to answer your questions without looking at your notes. Try it again a couple days later. Along with reviewing the text use your notes to study for an exam or quiz.