# Efficient CS Study Techniques





# What kind of test is it?

I split tests up into three different types:

- <sup>1.</sup> Memorization
- <sup>2.</sup> Application
- <sup>3.</sup> Both



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#### Memorization Tests

- □ **Active Recall**: Test yourself on material instead of just consuming it
- Teach Others: Explain what you're learning to anyone. Pro tip: make a study group and you can benefit from your friends' understanding and benefit from helping your friends understand.
- □ **Practice Problems**: Do practice problems so you can recall that time you applied the concept instead of just a random floating wird in your head.
- Mind Mapping/Pneumonics: Find a way to make abstract information more concrete by connecting it to things you already know or turning it into something easier to remember.
- □ **Regular Breaks**: Use techniques like the Pomodoro Technique (25 minutes of focused work followed by a 5-minute break) to avoid burnout and maintain high levels of concentration.
- Real-world Applications: Think about how the information will be useful to you in your career or later life and how you would use it. If there's a gap between the concept and real-world use, investigating how it could be helpful can really harden your understanding.



## **Application Tests**

- Know What You'll Be Tested On: Ask the teacher what you should study and what the test will look like.
- Practice Coding: Think of your own application of all of the concepts you've learned. You don't even need to program it necessarily, just planning it or writing the pseudocode will test your problem solving and point out where you are confused
- Code Reading: Practice reading and understanding code snippets. You can find these in textbooks or ask ChatGPT to come up with examples.
- □ **Debugging Practice**: Try debugging code, either your own or examples from textbooks or online resources. This can help in understanding common errors and how to fix them.
- Reason About Different Ways To Do Things: Compare and contrast different ways to solve the same problem you've learned. Ex: while vs for loop, semaphores vs monitors
- Mock Tests: Simulate test conditions by doing practice exams or problems within a set time limit.



### AI TOOLS!!!!

#### **USE YOUR RESOURCES**

- Quizlet Magic Notes!
  - creates flashcards for you from textbook, slides, or notes
  - also summarizes content
- Review with your smartest study buddy-ChatGPT (fact check tho if u dk)
  - can summarize chapters for you
  - can test you if you export a flashcard set from quizlet - and explain answers to you when you get stuck
  - can make up application problems for you
  - CAN CREATE A STUDY PLAN



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## SHAREOUT!

- · What works best for you?
- Do you have any favorite study tools or methods?
- · Do you have any test-taking tips?

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