**STUDY SKILLS**

**Study Skills**

Study skills are approaches applied to learning. Therefore, ***they are any skills which boost a person’s ability to study, retain and recall information***. Such skills can be learnt in a short time and applied to almost all subject fields.

Study skills/strategies are approaches applied to learning or study in order to boost a person’s retention and recall of needed information to do well and excel in examinations.

There is an array of skills for teaching the process of organising and taking in new information, and retaining information. They include: rote learning, reading and listening, keywords, acronyms and mnemonics, time management, diagram.

An effective study skill/strategy enhances a student’s chance of not only passing examinations but making good grades.

**Study Strategy**

There are various strategies that can be applied in learning and these include:

1. Rote learning – memorisation is committing something to memory, that is, a deliberate mental process undertaken in order to store in memory for later recall of such items or information. For example, names, addresses, telephone numbers, pictures, diagrams, facts, etc. Basic approach to learning any information is simply to repeat it by rote, e.g., reading over notes, textbooks, or rewriting notes.
2. Reading and listening – listening to lectures and reading notes and textbooks. Also, peer communication.
3. Keywords – Notes on topics are condensed into shorter notes and further into key facts.
4. Diagram – Use of diagrams, drawings, symbols as reminders
5. Acronyms and mnemonics – organising and memorising information in form of mnemonics, e.g., the cardinal points of compass can be remembered using the phrase Never Eat Shrimps Wheat (NESW).
6. Time management – activities that achieve greater benefit are given greater focus. Avoid procrastination; it helps to prioritise.

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