

PRR for Natural Sciences

www.utexas.edu/student/utlc



Do you have too much to read? Do you get easily distracted when reading? Do you forget what you have read soon after you've read it? Do you get lost when reading difficult, dense material?

IF YOU REPLIED YES TO ANY OF THE ABOVE, READ ON!

BEFORE EACH CLASS

(night before or morning of)

PREVIEW TEXT

- 1) Look over sections to be covered in next lecture. Read the introduction, sub-headings, words in bold-faced type, first sentences of each paragraph, diagrams, charts, and conclusion or summary. (10 minutes)
- 2) After previewing, ask yourself: What is this mainly about? About how long will it take to read?
- 3) If time allows, look over previous lecture's notes. You can do this while waiting for class to start.



BENEFITS

Quick and easy
Makes reading material in depth easier
Prepares your mind for lecture (framework)



DURING LECTURE

LISTEN, PARTICIPATE & TAKE NOTES

on everything the professor says, not just what is written down. Put BIG question marks next to items you need to look up in your textbook or ask about in the next discussion section. Leave space between topics or leave the facing page blank to add notes from textbook and discussions.



AFTER CLASS (within 24 hrs)

READ

the section(s) covered in the previous lecture, with lecture notes OPEN. Only read one small section at a time, in an active mode, asking a question before each paragraph (using sub-heading or first sentence for clues) then trying to answer it while reading. Follow each section with a recall exercise.

REVIEW

your lecture/text notes, flashcards, lists, charts, diagrams. Reorganize material so that it makes sense to you. Talk over concepts with your study partners. Synthesize material from different chapters before the exam by making concept maps, charts, and making up difficult test questions. Visit your TA/professor's office hours to clear up questions.

WEEKLY



RECALL

by going back over the material you just read, each small section at a time. Suggested recall activities:

- 1) Add notes from text to lecture notes to fill in gaps from lecture, clarify definitions & concepts, and elaborate on points brought up in class. Use different colored pens for lecture and text notes.
- 2) Make flash cards or a list of key terms and their definitions.
- 3) Highlight main concepts and key terms.
- 4) Add diagrams, charts, figures to lecture notes.



BENEFITS

Reading retention will be high in short & long run.
Saves time by not having to re-read text for exam.
Gets you to prepare review materials and clarify lecture notes while you read.

IMMEDIATELY AFTER EACH SMALL SECTION

