

Example Commonplace Notes

This document is an example set of notes designed to test the Instant Study Buddy app. It contains vocabulary, phrases, quotes, and thought frameworks.

Vocabulary

Profundity — noun — deep insight, intellectual depth, or great intensity of thought, knowledge, or emotion. Example: The philosopher's writings were filled with profundity.

Cogent — adjective — clear, logical, and convincing; appealing effectively to reason. Example: She presented a cogent argument that persuaded even her strongest critics.

Ubiquitous — adjective — present, appearing, or found everywhere at the same time. Example: Smartphones have become ubiquitous in modern life.

Motif — noun — a recurring element, theme, or idea in a work of art, literature, or music that has symbolic significance.

Exhume — verb — to dig out or remove something buried, especially a body from the ground; more broadly, to bring something forgotten or hidden back to light.

Phrases & Expressions

Second-order thinking — considering not just the immediate effects of an action, but the subsequent consequences.

Skin in the game — having personal risk or investment in an outcome.

Zoom out — to take a broader, long-term perspective on a problem.

Quotes

“The unexamined life is not worth living.” — Socrates

“What we think, we become.” — Buddha

“All models are wrong, but some are useful.” — George Box

Thought Frameworks

Inversion — Instead of asking how to succeed, ask how you might fail and then avoid those behaviors.

Opportunity cost — Every choice excludes alternatives; evaluate decisions based on what you are giving up.

First principles thinking — Break a problem down to its most basic truths and reason up from there.