How to upgrade my learning method

In the ninth grade, I encountered a significant academic challenge in my approach to learning, particularly in science.

At the outset of the semester, I harbored the belief that my previous learning methods were foolproof. As a high school student, I assumed my customary strategy of comfortably listening to lectures without actively engaging with the material would suffice. The practice of not taking detailed notes seemed effective as I could effortlessly grasp concepts and theories during class. Post-lecture, I would diligently complete my assignments, leaving weekends for leisure, dismissing the need for further review or additional study materials. This approach, I believed, would undoubtedly lead to success in examinations.

However, reality proved me wrong, and I faced a rude awakening during the midterm exam. Despite my initial confidence, I barely passed the exam, and the moment I received my test paper, a wave of panic engulfed me. This unexpected setback left me questioning the efficacy of my previous learning methods.

In the following week's science class, I found myself in a state of confusion, unsure of how to rectify my study approach. Seeking inspiration, I observed my fellow students, particularly those who excelled in the subject.

One such student was Ali, an old friend and elementary school classmate, known for his consistently good grades. However, this time, even he had fared poorly. To my surprise, Ali, seemingly attentive in class, was covertly reading comics under his handouts. This revelation exposed his lack of engagement during lessons, emphasizing that intelligence alone was insufficient without active participation in class.

Observing another classmate, Miya, revealed a contrasting study strategy. Miya, a diligent student, took detailed notes during lectures and was observed studying with focus in the library. Her commitment to academic excellence was evident, as she not only completed assigned homework but also sought additional learning resources, dedicating extra time to review and practice.

Comparing our academic outcomes, it became evident that our grades correlated with our study habits and attitudes. Ali's neglectful approach resulted in failure, my passive acceptance of classroom learning yielded marginal success, and Miya's proactive and persistent dedication resulted in near-perfect marks.

This realization led me to a conclusion that, while unpalatable, underscored the essence of high school studies – success is not solely determined by innate intelligence but by a combination of hard work, proactivity, and persistence. Merely coasting through classes and sporadically studying would not yield optimal results. Instead, adopting a planned approach, investing time daily, engaging in additional exercises, and absorbing knowledge progressively emerged as the keys to academic success.

In light of these insights, I find myself contemplating a shift in my study habits. The wishful notion of a magical "memory bread" that could effortlessly transfer knowledge to my brain seems enticing. However, the reality demands a more structured and disciplined approach to learning.

As I navigate the challenges of high school, this realization serves as a catalyst for change in my learning strategy. Success requires a holistic commitment to studying diligently, engaging proactively with the material, and persistently investing time in academic pursuits. This newfound understanding motivates me to strive for excellence, transcending mere intelligence and embracing a more comprehensive and effective approach to learning.