Ten studying tips that can be applied to writing papers and homework:

Numbers and tip titles are taken verbatim from: <https://www.topuniversities.com/student-info/health-and-support/exam-preparation-ten-study-tips>

The explanations have been adapted to reflect writing assignments (Lewandowski). Anything taken from the source is credited:

1. Give yourself enough time.

Writing takes time and effort. Good writing takes strategy and practice. To complete the writing process and ultimately creating effective, proper, and amazing works, time must be taken to complete the assignment well. Time management is key here. We all have busy lives, but a good grade, although not life-changing/threatening, can matter in the long run in semester grades and transcripts.

1. Organize your study space.

Ask yourself questions like: Do I have enough space to spread out so I’m not too cluttered? Do I have enough light and am I comfortable? Are distractions limited to nearly nothing?

As well, when writing, students need a place where the best writing can be done. Only a writer knows where that can be.

1. Use flow charts and diagrams.

This can be very beneficial to writing as outlines, idea maps, and structure layouts all apply to the writing process. Remember these tools can benefit and excel your writing to new levels. Outlining and mapping may seem like extra work or tedious, but these tools can ultimately change your outcome from a C to a B or a B to an A.

1. Practice old exams.

When writing, take some time to look back on your past writing. What mistakes did you make and what will you remember for next time? It’s important to not only keep writing, but implement important concepts presented in classes and errors to further better your writing.

1. Explain your answers to others.

When writing, you may want feedback from others. This doesn’t always mean for someone to look over your paper to them. Discussing an idea you have may help you process your thoughts as well as them bringing in new concepts that you didn’t think about. Also, being able to even read your paper out loud to others will help you catch mistakes as well as the listener pointing out troubling or confusing spots.

1. Organize study groups with friends.

This point connects with the last point, but this also can apply in other ways when it comes to writing. Having others to collaborate with and discuss new ways of thinking can bring new perspectives and concepts to the table, which can enhance and round out any paper.

1. Take regular breaks.

Even though most students want to get stuff done at one time and get it over with, this isn’t the best idea when it comes to writing. As Top University analogizes, “If you were training for a marathon, you wouldn’t try and run 24 hours a day!” It makes sense. You want to work up to your finished product. The same applies to studying and writing. While writing there will be breaks. Sometimes you need a few breaks in between writing paragraphs, or a day or two to leave the work and come back with fresh eyes. The routine is all personal preference, but taking a break from the point of the assignment sheet being given until mere hours before the designated deadline is probably not a good idea.

1. Snack on ‘Brain Food’.

This is also a personal preference. Keeping a clear mind is tough when the tummy is talking. having quick, healthy foods to snack on will keep the mind and body at ease and productive. Top Universities says to stay away from junk food and chose foods like fish, nuts, seeds, yogurt, and blueberries, which aid in concentration and memory. But I think anything that isn’t candy or oily or bad for you would suffice as well as give you more options to choose from.

1. Plan Your Exam Day.

To reflect writing, I would say “Plan Your Deadlines”. Place coordinated deadlines throughout the allotted time to write your paper to hold yourself accountable. Having stepping stones for your paper can boost the quality of your overall writing and end up being the difference between grades. Allow time for mess-ups, revisions, going back multiple times, deleting, or even having to redo sections or entireties of a paper. Putting a paper off until last minute can have you ending up with a product that is subpar or even off the assignment’s goal if rushed. Planning out the paper can benefit the integrity of the overall assignment.

1. Drink Plenty of Water.

Top University advises: “As a final tip, remember that being well-hydrated is essential for your brain to work at its best. Make sure you keep drinking plenty of water throughout your [writing and studying]…”

I hope these tips and advice for better writing benefits you and improves your writing in the long run. With these study and writing tips, writing, whether academic or personal, can improve greatly. Even if it results in more work, remember that school and education is an investment and should be a top priority as it paves the path to your future. Good luck and happy writing! ☺