

TIPS AND TRICKS

Note-Taking & Study Hacks Edition

- **Note Taking Methods:**

- Cornell Method: Divide your page into 3 sections → notes, cues, and summary
- Outline Method: Bullet-point hierarchy (main topics → subtopics → details); best for lecture-style classes
- Charting Method: Make columns (date, event, cause, effect, significance); perfect for history/science
- Sentence Method: Each new idea is a different sentence; useful for dense material
- Mind Maps: Visual diagrams that connect ideas; ideal for big-picture subjects like literature or biology
- Digital Notes: Tools like Notion, OneNote, or Google Docs for organized, searchable notes.

- **Active Learning Hacks:**

- Feynman Technique: Teach the concept in simple terms as if it were to a 6th grader
- Blurting Method: Close your notes and write down everything you remember, and then check what you missed
- Spaced Repetition: Review notes multiple times over increasing intervals (Day 1, Day 3, Day 7, etc.)
- Active Recall: Quiz yourself with flashcards or self-made questions
- Concept Maps: A visual diagram of all the different relationships within the ideas
- Test Yourself: Take practice quizzes or tests in an environment like your classroom to see your performance

- **Organizing Notes:**

- Use headings, bullet points, and color-coding for clarity
- Highlight only 10–15% of the text
- Create a “Summary Page” at the end of each unit with formulas, themes, and/or must-know facts
- Store everything in one place (binder, digital drive) to avoid scattered notes

- **Memory Retention:**

- Chunking: Break large info into smaller groups
- Mnemonics: Create acronyms, rhymes, or visuals (PEMDAS → Please Excuse My Dear Aunt Sally)
- Dual Coding: Combine words + visuals (flowcharts, timelines, sketches)
- Sleep & Spacing: Study in smaller chunks across days, not cramming
- Environment Shift: Reviewing in different places strengthens recall

- **Final Tips:**

- Rewrite/reorganize notes after class to reinforce material.
- Form study groups — explaining out loud locks in learning.
- Use Pomodoro (25 min work, 5 min break) to avoid burnout.
- Review consistently — short, daily sessions beat last-minute cramming.
- Notes are best when processed, not copied