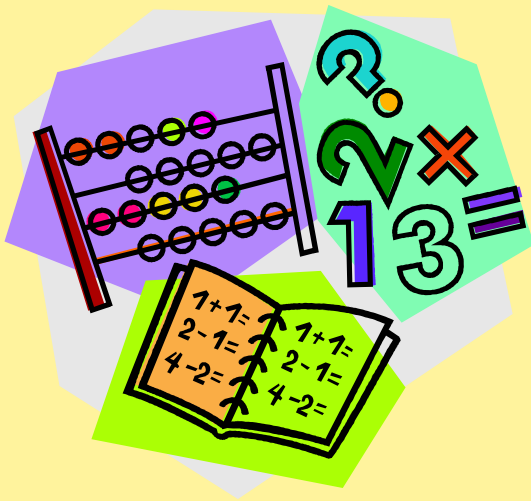


STUDY STRATEGIES AND CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS



PRESENTED BY: DR. JADE J. O'DELL



HMMM...PLEASE TELL ME...

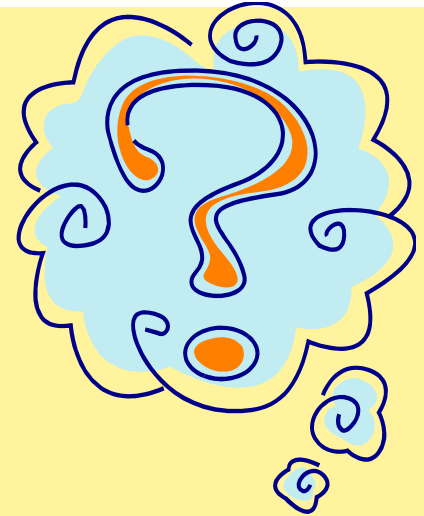


**WHAT DOES
STUDYING HAVE TO
DO WITH THINKING?**

Critical thinking means....



- Thinking about thinking
- Searching
- Making associations (former knowledge)
- Explaining
- Analyzing - Looking for options
- Problem solving
- Thinking “outside the box” & thinking about something from many angles



In the classroom, critical thinking involves:



- Restraining emotion (allows objectivity)
- Looking at things differently (thinking beyond the obvious)
- Analyzing information (break it down!)
- Asking questions (promotes knowledge, helps solve problems)
- Problem solving (identify it, narrow it, look for and develop alternatives)
- Fact vs. opinion (can it be proven?)
- Seeking truth (where is it?)



SO AGAIN, I ASK....



- WHAT DOES STUDYING HAVE TO DO WITH THINKING?

**STUDYING involves
THINKING (lots of it!)**

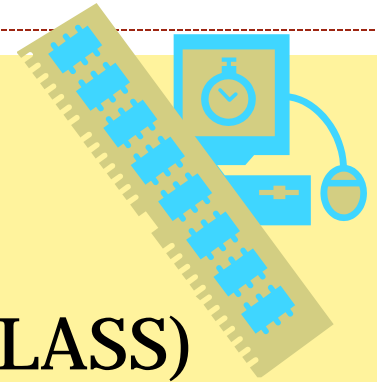
***** Allow yourself to ENJOY the
process of thinking and learning**



TO STUDY WELL, YOU MUST CONSIDER:



- ENVIRONMENT
- INFORMATION
- EXPECTATIONS (OF SELF, TEACHER, CLASS)
- MEMORY – your brain is like a funnel of information....you must learn how to organize and filter it!



SHORT TERM MEMORY VS. LONG TERM MEMORY



- Sort term memory, a.k.a. working memory: holds a limited amount of info
- Long term memory: holds lots of info, like a flash drive; takes effort to store info into long term memory; consists of info you've been hearing over and over
- Must review info within 36-48 hours of hearing/learning it in order to store it into your long-term memory, review class notes/material within this amount of time!



How do you remember information?



- **VCR3**
 - Visualize
 - Concentrate
 - Relate (make associations/
critically think)
 - Repeat
 - Review



Memory Helpers and Hindrances

Helpers

- Proper sleep
- Proper diet
- Physical Exercise
- Mental Exercise
- Positivity
- Environment
- Study breaks
- Repetition/visualization



Hindrances

- Distractions
- Alcohol
- Drugs
- Stress
- Close-mindedness
- Inability to distinguish important facts from unimportant facts



TRUE OR FALSE?



**“TO KNOW IT IS TO
MEMORIZE IT!”**

**“TO LEARN IT IS TO KNOW
IT!”**

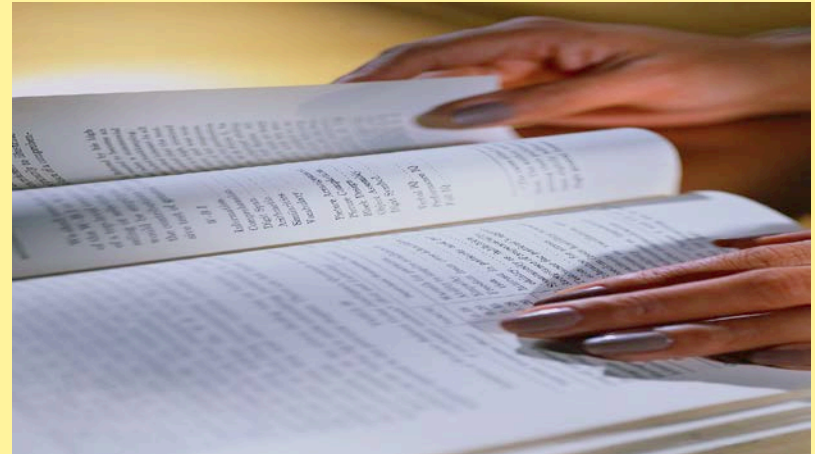
**(When you know it, you can study it and remember
it!)**

Three Useful Study Strategies:

1. SQ3R



1. **SQ3R: Scan, Question, Read (& annotate), Recite, Review**
 - Works best with scanning and reading textbooks



2. MNEMONICS



- Works best to study lecture notes and textbook notes
- Examples of mnemonics:
 - Jingles/rhymes
 - Sentences
 - Words
 - Storylines
 - Acronyms

Sentences/Rhymes/Words/Acronyms



- **Sentences:** create a sentence with the first letter of each word of list of things you need to remember...think about the planets...
- **My Very Elderly Mother Just Sat Up Nights**
- **Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune**
- **Jingles/Rhymes:** think of commercials, songs...use information you need to study and apply to the beat of your favorite song – ABCs
- **Words** – think of remembering the great Lakes: HOMES = Huron, Ontario, Michigan, Erie, Superior
- **Acronyms:** First letter of each word and form a word:
- **FANBOYS** – For, And, Nor, But, Or Yet, So

3. Cooperative Learning



- Cooperative Learning is collaborative and group learning...
- A study group has the following:
 - 5-7 people
 - People who take notes
 - People who ask questions
 - People who will work diligently
 - People who are doing well in the class



In a Group, You Must...



- Develop “rules” for the group & pick a leader
- Ask questions
- Compare & share notes/ideas/understandings
- Drill and test each other
- Make predictions together
- Brainstorm
- If someone in the group is NOT following the rules of the group, they must go!



When You Don't Have Time....



- Don't blame your teacher
- Read quickly (remember SQ3R): Headings, highlighted info, introduction, conclusion, first & last sentence of each paragraph
- Make connections (think critically)
- Use study guides, old tests & quizzes
- VISUALIZE IT
- REPEAT, REPEAT, REPEAT!!!
- Choose info wisely – cramming means choosing what you think is most important – **YOU CANNOT REMEMBER EVERYTHING WHEN YOU PROCRASTINATE!**



SUMMARY



- Learn it, don't try to memorize – it's impossible!
- Focus on the prize
- Think about what YOU want out of your class
- Don't wait....review every day & when it is time for the test, you will not have to study, you will simply re-review!
- THINK as you study...it will help you better understand & remember

Questions?



- Questions? Comments?
- What can you add to this presentation?
- Study tactics that work for you?
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