

Organization, Rehearsal, Elaboration and Application Strategies

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Organization Strategies

- Summarize each day's set of notes (i.e. what are the most important points from lecture?) and create a digest for studying for the exam
- Create a review sheet using your materials
- Condense related information into charts
- Turn processes into pictures or flow diagrams

Rehearsal Strategies

- Actively reread your notes by trying to verbally recall information (cover the page and see what you can remember).
- Redo homework problems without your notes
- Create mnemonic devices to remember steps, items in a list, species names, etc.
- Reproduce diagrams or charts from your notes or the text

Elaboration Strategies

- Using a review sheet or list of concepts, explain each item aloud without the help of your notes or text. Compare your explanation to what is in your notes or text.
- Using a review sheet or list of concepts, jot down what you know. Compare that to what you SHOULD know.
- Work with a study partner and explain concepts to each other.
- Reproduce and explain diagrams from your notes or the text.

Application Strategies

- Do additional problems from the back of the book
- Redo your homework or review problems in a different order, mimicking the test conditions. How did you do?
- Redo as many homework or review problems as you can in the amount of time you have to take the test. How did you do?
- Connect what you're learning to the real-world---it helps you remember!
- Connect concepts to each other...How does X relate to Y?
- Go through your notes and invent plausible test questions
- For systems, explain what happens when there is a malfunction, mutation, etc.

This is not an exhaustive list. Think of other things that have helped you in the past and try those!