



The Learning Centre

UNLOCK YOUR POTENTIAL



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What is Active Learning?

- Active learning means participating in activities that actively engage the brain
- Activities that require students to discuss, practice and review new information are more effective than passive strategies where a student simply reads information.
- In short, this means you are more likely to understand and remember what ***you actively do***.
- This is also important when you are then asked to apply the new information in written assignments such as case studies or essay topics ***to show your knowledge***

Student activity and collaboration

Active engagement with course material is vital for learning. This is based on research that demonstrates how learning is not only more likely to occur but is more enriched (qualitatively better) when students go beyond the passive tasks of listening, reading or viewing. Active engagement can be facilitated through individual as well as collaborative activity as shown in *Figure 6*.

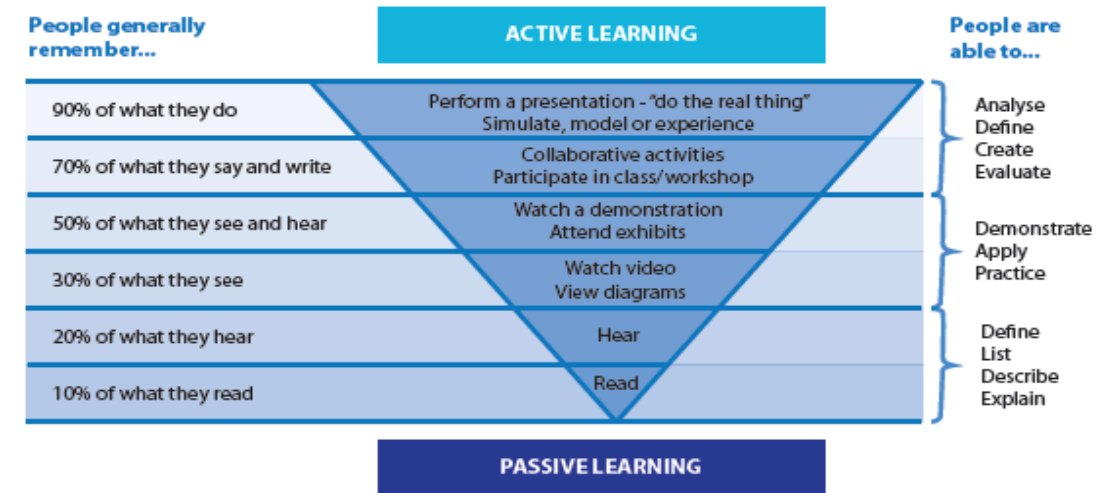


Figure 6: Active versus passive learning

Source: Adapted from <http://www.edutechie.ws/2007/10/09/cone-of-experience-media/>

Active Learning Strategies

Social Strategies

- Form a study group with other students
- Explain what you've learnt to someone else
- Write down what you think will be on the exam and check with friends
- After lectures ask your friends what they thought the key points of the lecture were
- Talk about your understanding of new topics you encounter



Reflective Strategies

- Write class summaries
- Reread your notes and think of further study questions
- Rewrite material in your own words
- Lecture in your head to an imaginary classroom, explaining all the key points
- Write your own exam questions



Active Learning Strategies

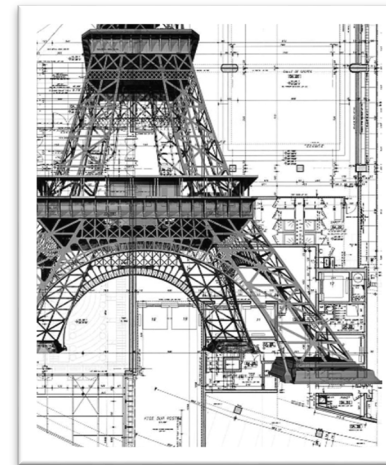
Concrete Strategies

- Apply concepts to a real world example
- Ask the lecturer for specific examples of concepts and procedures
- Research a real world case study
- Apply theory to real cases



Exploratory Strategies

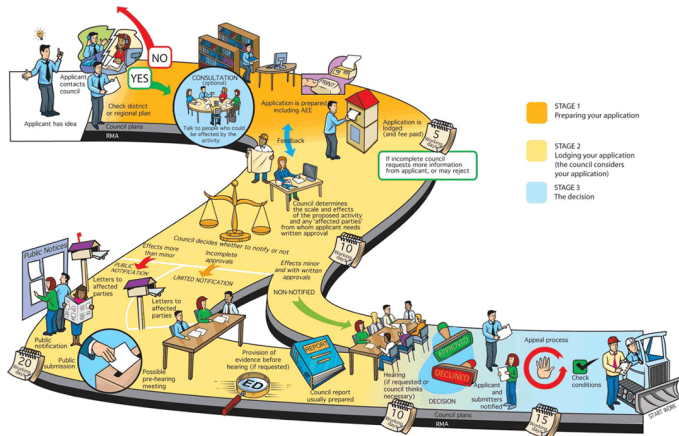
- Link theories and interpretations with factual information
- Think about wider application of theories
- Think in terms of problem and solution, how can you solve the problem?
- Research more information using the library databases



Active Learning Strategies

Visual Strategies

- Find charts and diagrams which explain the information
- Watch videos that explain new concepts
- Draw concept maps
- Make your own concept trees and diagrams



Written Strategies

- Write class summaries
- Outline new material in a logical step by step sequence
- Relate new topics to old ones
- Talk or about your understanding of new topics you encounter
- Make textbook chapter summaries



Active Learning Strategies

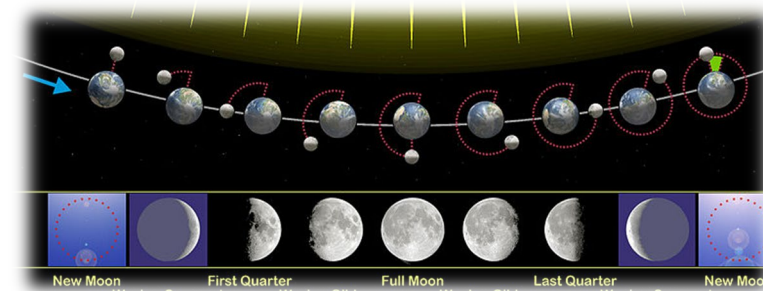
Global Thinking Strategies

- Think about the big picture – how does a theory effect the larger environment?
- When you study, skim read the chapter to get a wide understanding first
- Research the major theories or schools of thought on each topic



Sequential

- Break new information into steps
- Outline the logical order of each step
- Break each step into sub-steps
- Break down sub-steps into smaller steps if necessary

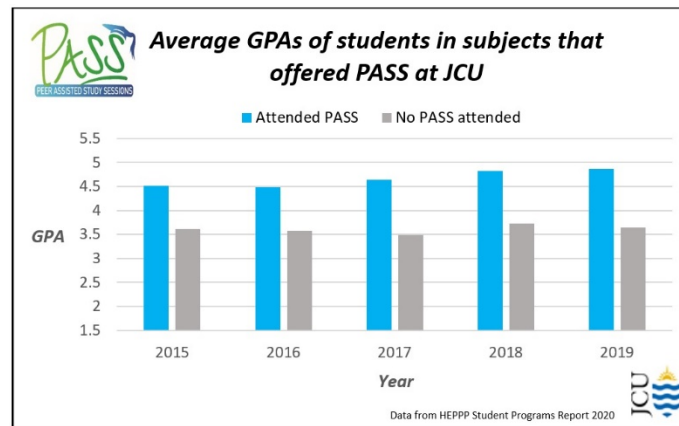


Top 10 Active Learning Study Tips

1. Make a weekly study planner and keep to it. Make a semester planner with due dates.
2. Make a study guide for each subject using your notes from lectures, textbooks, journals, wider reading and so on. Regularly review it and organize it by topic.
3. Make a knowledge tree for each subject. Write key topics or issues (on 2 pages max). Put it on a wall so you will regularly see it. Add to it regularly as your knowledge grows.
4. Keep a copy of all the problem questions from lectures, textbooks and so on. Use these questions as exam practice.
5. Regularly review your notes – about once a week. This will help you realise any weaknesses in your understanding well before the exam period.

Top 10 Active Learning Study Tips

6. Study for periods of 30-60 minutes with a 5 to 10 minute break.
 7. Use multiple approaches to study. Teach a friend, explain a theory to your parents, do a practice exam, practice problem solving, rewrite your notes, make diagrams, make mnemonics and rhymes.
 8. Make or join a study group for your subject.
 9. Show relationships between ideas and theories by making a concept map.
 10. Review the feedback on your assignments and try to understand why you received the marks you did.
- Super Tip: Attend PASS



The Learning Centre

Short Courses

maths refresher
Does the thought of maths make you nervous?
Been a while since you've practised your maths?
We encourage you to attend!

Academic Writing Workshop
This interactive workshop is designed to address the skills needed to research and write academic assignments. Each session includes practical exercises and a chance to ask questions. Don't miss out on this opportunity. Book your place now.

ENGLISH FOR ACADEMIC PURPOSES
THIS COURSE IS INTENDED TO ASSIST STUDENTS FROM DIVERSE CULTURAL AND LANGUAGE BACKGROUNDS TO DEVELOP ENGLISH FOR ACADEMIC PURPOSES AND UNDERSTAND THE AUSTRALIAN ACADEMIC CONTEXT.

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REGISTER:
http://careerhub.jcu.edu.au

Sat 9th August
9am - 3pm
TVL: Building 26
CNS: D3.054

SATURDAY 29TH JULY
9:30AM - 2:30PM
TSL: SA 0516
CNS: D3.054

Register at:
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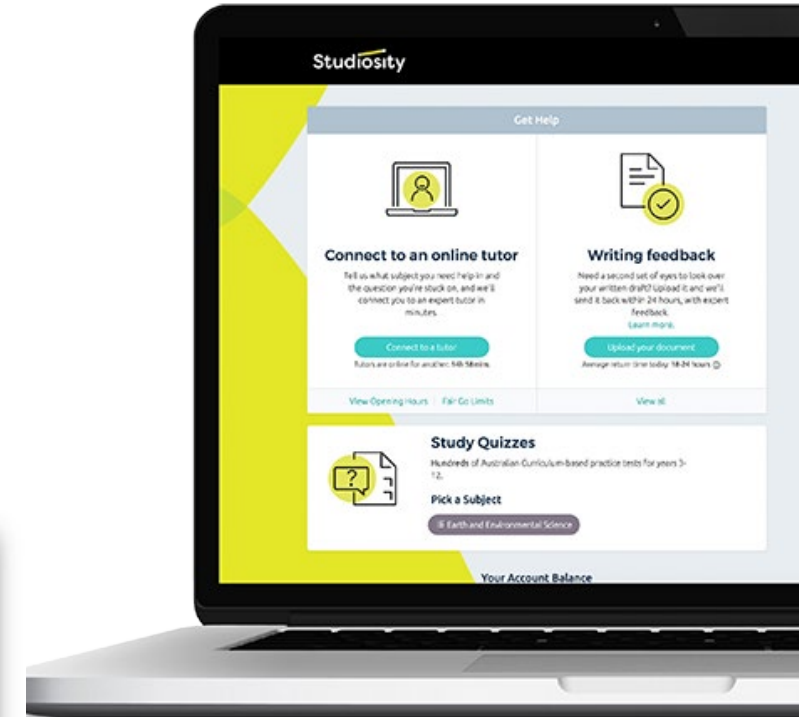
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The Learning Advice Desk

Seek advice from experienced peer advisors about:

- Managing your time
- Study strategies
- Planning your assignment
- Organising your ideas
- Editing strategies to help you edit assignments

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Math and Statistics
Downloads

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Getting Started

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- New to uni? Here's what you need to know
- Managing your time efficiently
- Weekly and semester planners
- Active learning
- Getting online
- Group work
- Resources for postgraduate students

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Learning Advisor Consult 1-1 via website