

Taking Reading Notes

AP
HuG

You are required to take reading notes for the class. Reading notes are checked at the end of each unit. You may keep them in a notebook or loose leaf. They must be handwritten. Research shows that handwritten notes are better for retaining the information you read or hear. If you then want to type them up – that is your prerogative. You may take your notes in a way of your choosing. I will be looking for inclusion of the main ideas. Some of you have never had to take notes in this way before so here are some suggestions:

Preview

Start with previewing the chapter. This gives you a feel of what you will be reading about and what main ideas may appear in the reading. It can also help you decide how you want to set up/take your notes. To preview you should:

1. Review the headings
2. Read any objectives, reading questions, pause/reflection questions
3. Look at pictures, maps, graphs, charts
4. Think: What do I already know about this topic?

Taking notes

There are so many ways to take notes. Here are some suggestions:

1. Cornell Notes
2. double Entry Notes
3. Page Summary
4. Visual
5. Graphic Organizer
6. Post it notes

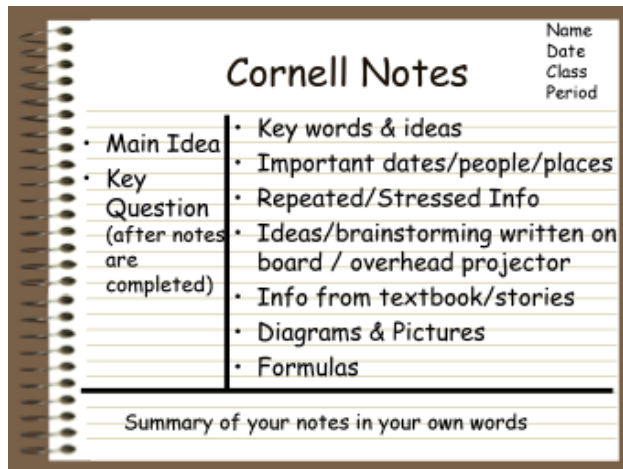
These methods are described on the back. I also pin different ways of studying/taking notes, etc on my pinterest board <http://www.pinterest.com/ms4452>

Cautions:

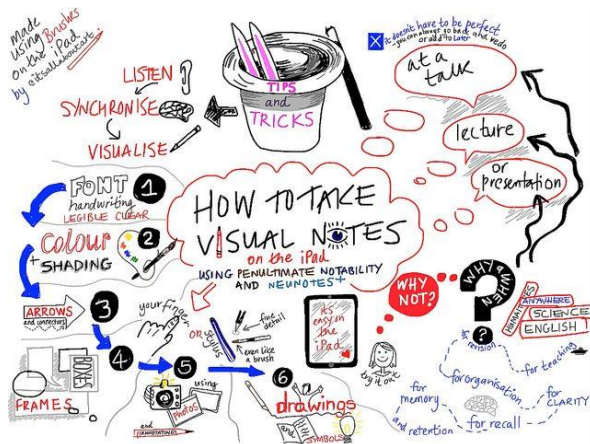
1. **Your notes should not be longer than the text**
2. Every word & detail is not important – you can always go back and look if you need to
3. Look for the main ideas – not all the examples, etc need to be written down
4. Don't be afraid to use color, charts, graphs, stick figures if they help
5. Make your notes valuable to you – otherwise they are a waste of time.
6. Always always always look at & analyze the maps –they help explain what you are reading and give you more examples.

Ways to:

- Cornell notes –



- Double Entry – divide your paper in half and then you can label the columns with one of the following combinations
 - Main Idea/detail
 - Direct Quote (quoting the textbook) and I Visualize or This reminds me of.. Or, this is important because... or I think this means...
- Page Summary – For every page of in the reading – stop reading at the bottom of the page and summarize what the page was about
- Visual Notes –



- Graphic Organizers – Venn Diagram, Web, Boxes, Chart
- Post it notes – Summarize main ideas on a post it note – one for each main idea. When you finish you can then lay them out and take a picture (now you'll have them to study from all the time)
- There are lots of other ways -