



Avoiding academic mistakes



Most common assessment preparation mistakes

1. Not enough time to prepare
2. Doing the wrong work (not enough time on practice)/not enough practice papers
3. Not correcting past mistakes
4. No plan
5. No goal



Things to start doing

- Develop/ use study notes
- Schedule
- Use different types of study that work for you (low vs high yield)
- Correct mistakes/ misunderstandings immediately



Study notes vs class notes

Q: Why is using class notes only not an effective study strategy?

Answer:

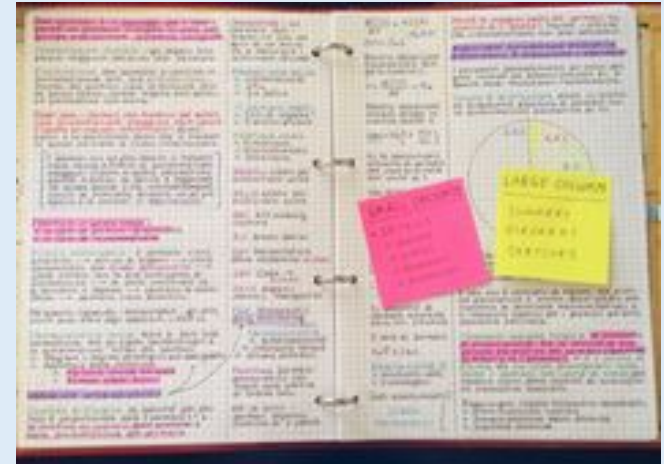
- Re-reading notes taken throughout the year is not effective
- Notes need to effectively summarise all content with no missing pieces in a manner that makes sense.
- Notes need to be usable – clear, concise & complete



Study note examples

Can be built based on:

- Topic
- Unit objectives
- Cognitions
- Subject matter
- Key terms



Can look like:

- Typed/handwritten
- Visuals, text, summaries
- Mind maps, flowcharts or mnemonics
- Colour coded

UNIT 4 AOS 1 - HOW ARE SPECIES RELATED?

CHANGES IN THE GENETIC MAKEUP OF A POPULATION

Evolution: The gradual change in heritable traits in a population over time.
Gene pool: all the available alleles for a gene within a breeding population of organisms.
Allele frequency: the relative frequency a version of a gene (allele) has within a population.

An organism may carry one or more versions (alleles) of a gene for the same characteristic. Individuals with different versions of the same gene are said to be heterozygous for that gene. The combination of all the genes a person has, and their interactions with the environment result in that person's phenotypes.

Mutation rate is set in an unchanging environment.

CHANGES IN ALLELE FREQUENCIES

MUTATIONS: any change in the genetic code

- Create **new alleles** when they occur within a gene
- Two types of mutations:
 1. **POINT MUTATIONS:** changes to a single base pair
 2. **BLOCK MUTATIONS:** changes to entire segments of DNA

POINT MUTATIONS

Types of point mutations:

- Silent mutations: base substitution mutations that lead to no change in the amino acid sequence of the corresponding protein
- Missense mutations: a mutation that causes a different amino acid to be added to the polypeptide chain
- Nonsense mutations: mutation that results in a premature STOP codon
- Frameshift mutations (base addition and deletion): a change in the reading frame (e.g. due to the insertion or deletion, but not a substitution)

BLOCK MUTATIONS

Types of block mutations:

- Deletion: a portion of the chromosome is removed
- Duplication: a part of the chromosome is copied, resulting in a chromosome having two or more copies of that section
- Translocation: part of two chromosomes are swapped
 - o Reciprocal translocation - two chromosomes exchange material

CHROMOSOMAL ABNORMALITIES

then replaced in reverse order

- Inversion: part of one chromosome is removed and added to a different chromosome

CHROMOSOMAL ABNORMALITIES

Normal karyotype

Triploidy - Polyploidy

Trisomy

Aneuploidy

Monosomy

- Karyotype: a way of displaying a person's chromosomes
- Aneuploidy: where an individual possesses an abnormal number of chromosomes
- Monosomy: an organism has a diploid (2n) chromosome number, but one is missing its homologous partner (2n-1)
- Trisomy: an organism has a diploid (2n) chromosome number, but one has an extra homologous pair (2n+1)
- Polyploidy: where an individual carries 3 or more complete sets of chromosomes

NATURAL SELECTION

The process by which heritable traits increase an organism's chances of survival and reproduction - these traits are favoured over less beneficial traits.

- Process results in the evolution of the organism (i.e. adaptive evolution)
- Acts on phenotypes (organism's observable characteristics) **NOT** genotypes (the set of genes the organism carries)
- NS is fought about by a range of selecting agents (i.e. any factors that affect the survival/fertility of members of a population such that variation is

LEVELS OF SELECTION

- **Stabilizing selection:** against a phenotype occurs when any organisms with a given phenotype cannot reproduce because of death before reproductive age is reached or because of sterility.
- **Partial selection:** against a phenotype occurs when mating involving that phenotype produce on average fewer viable and fertile offspring relative to other mating.

GENETIC DRIFT: no apparent reason causes a change in allele frequency.

- Far more prominent in smaller populations than large populations
- Can make less suitable alleles more common in a population simply by chance

Extreme examples of this are the **founder effect** and **bottleneck effect**

act on populations. Examples include:

- **physical agents** (e.g. climate change and food shortages)
- **biological agents** (e.g. infectious diseases,

FOUNDER EFFECT: where members of a larger population establish a new population in a new (biologically) isolated area. The gene pool of the new population is limited to those the founder carried (reduced genetic variation).

CHANGES IN THE GENETIC MAKEUP OF A POPULATION

ALLOPATRIC SPECIATION

- Occurs when a population of a species becomes geographically isolated, resulting in **no gene flow between them and other populations**
- Keep in mind, this must be permanent, because a temporary barrier may result in too short of a time for speciation to occur.

Factors that can split a population into geographically isolated groups may be:

- **physical acting** (e.g. habitat fragmentation owing to clearing or construction)
- **biological acting** (e.g. change of a river course)
- **slow geological processes** (e.g. uplift of mountains or rising sea levels)

The steps of speciation:

1. **GEOGRAPHICAL ISOLATION:** a permanent geographical barrier forms (e.g. a mountain or river), separating one part of the population from the rest - prevents gene flow between the 2 populations
2. **SELECTION PRESSURES:** the 2 populations experience different selection pressures and mutations, resulting in changes to their gene pool and allele frequencies
3. **DIFFERENCES ACCUMULATE:** over many generations the differences accumulate, to the point where if they came into contact again, they would no longer be able to produce viable, fertile offspring - they're now separate species

Mutations

	Variation within a population	Variation between populations
Mutations	Increase	Increase
Genetic drift	Decrease	Increase



Not enough time to prepare

How much Hw/study should I be doing?

Rough guide 2.5 hours per subject per week (15 hours a week minimum)

eg. 4:30-6:30pm each weeknight; 2pm-7pm Sunday's

- Year 11: develop/ trial study strategies that suit you & assessment
- Year 11 term 4 → Yr 12 term 2: 75/25 assessment v long term exam prep
- Year 12 term 2 on: 50/50 assessment v long term exam prep

Not enough time to prepare

OK. I'm going to finish
my report in an hour,
study for math, take a
break, and then start
next week's reading.



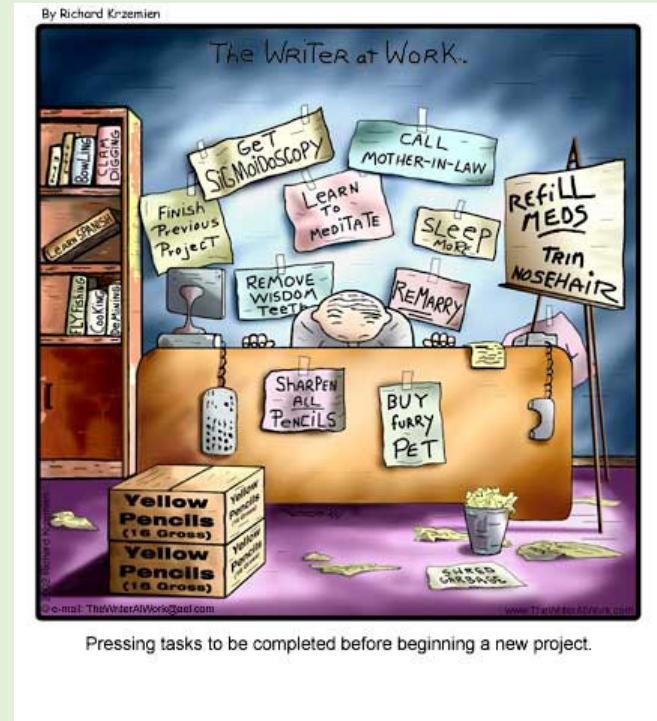
5 hours later...
I DIDN'T GET
ANYTHING
DONE.



Not enough time to prepare

Set your study routine.....

1. Create a study timetable and refer to it regularly
2. Facilitate a space conducive to study (quiet, removed from younger siblings, no television, good for posture)
3. Have short intermittent breaks with healthy snacks and water
4. Turn off your phone/social media
5. Start somewhere. Anywhere. Summary video, write a to-do list, open the textbook.
6. Stop and reset; get enough sleep





No plan

So much assessment so little time

There is a big difference between being busy, and being productive

- This is a large body of subject-specific knowledge and skills you need to learn, understand, recall and apply successfully in the external assessment
- Need to learn how to transfer new information into long-term memory to reduce cognitive load



No plan & Doing the wrong work

Types of study

Low/medium yield practice

- Exercise the memory: Quick, regular, low-stakes questions and quizzes
 - flash cards (digital/written), quizzes (online, textbook, resources), discussion points (peers, family)
- Practice problems and writing prompts deliberately have you engage with information
 - writing questions from notes, practice tests, practice handwriting over a variety of topics





Optional resources

- study stack <https://www.studystack.com/>
- quizlet, <https://quizlet.com/en-gb>
- Studiosity <https://www.studiosity.com/student-resources>
- student quizziz <https://quizizz.com/join/>
- ATAR Notes <https://atarnotes.com/>
- Past exams
<https://www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/senior/see/subject-resources> AND
- <https://tutorsfield.com.au/articles/past-exam-papers/>



No plan & Doing the wrong work

Engage with Practice questions

High yield practice

- External exams: 23 Oct – 14 Nov 2023:

*Year 12's Practice questions should be completed every week from **now***

*Identify the types to practice:

- MC - Humanities, Science, maths, HPE
- Short response
- Extended response –all subjects: know the subject specifications of the items



Not correcting past mistakes

Debrief exam prep/assessment completion

“If we embrace and even study errors..... students may actually learn more” —Dr. Amy L. Eva

How productive was your study/time spent on the assignment?

- It is important to complete tasks such as note-taking, memorisation or planning as soon as possible and move on quickly to high-end gains such as practice papers, revision questions or writing the assignment.
- You need to debrief after the results have been received to reflect on your preparation, to consider areas for improvement and then to set goals or actions to achieve this.



Not correcting past mistakes

Use feedback to correct mistakes

Upon receiving an exam or assignment back many don't adequately engage with any feedback offered- particularly with lower results or if unhappy with results

Top performing students seek to maximise any feedback they receive, especially negative or constructive feedback through:

- Identifying mistakes
- Understanding where marks were lost
- Completing any incorrect questions for a second time
- Pursuing further feedback on those questions.



Not correcting past mistakes

Debrief exam prep/assessment completion

Spend time to consider & reflect

Your debrief should include:

- Your goal & whether you achieved it
- How long you spent on certain aspects (exams: 3 phases/ assignment: planning and writing or different parts/sections)

Reflect:

- What could you have changed/improved in your preparation
- Identify the 3 most important things you could immediately implement

Elevate Exam Debrief

Subject: Maths Mark: 85%

Did I achieve my goal? Yes / (No)

Total hours spent studying: 30

Total hours spent making notes: 15 Percentage: 50%

Total hours spent memorising notes: 9 Percentage: 30%

Total hours on practice papers: 6 Percentage: 20%

Exam Preparation Health Check:
Enter the amount of time you spend on each task as a percentage

A top performing student's study profile will be split like this:

Number of practice papers completed: 2 (Your target is 5 practice papers per exam.)

What could I have changed or improved in my preparation? (eg: Were you cramming the night before? Did you do enough practice papers? Did you get feedback for all of your practice papers?)

→ Too long spent on making notes on formulas
→ Could have done more practice papers

What could you have improved in the exam room? (eg: Did you spend enough time planning? Did you read every question carefully? Did you run out of time?)

→ Allocate time more effectively between questions
→ Move on from questions I am working on for too long and cannot answer.

The 3 things I can immediately change or improve are:

Action / Change	Deadline	Completed?
<u>5 PRACTICE PAPERS</u>	<u>14th MARCH</u>	
<u>RE-DO MATHS EXAM</u>	<u>24th FEBRUARY</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<u>GET EXAM RE-MARKED BY TEACHER</u>	<u>26th FEBRUARY</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



Overall Tips and Tricks

- Decide how you will organise **study** notes
- Know when assessment is due and plan work accordingly
- Incorporate different strategies
- Schedule time for practice
- Complete practice questions (multiple times)
- Correct mistakes

- Practice handwriting! You will need to
handwrite!

