5 Methods for Note-taking

Chances are, you already have a preferred method for note-taking, but what if there is a method, that you don’t know about, that works even better than the one you use?

The purpose of this lesson is to have you understand and practice using all 5 note-taking methods. At the end of this lesson, you might find a method that works better than the one you currently use.

Note-taking is an essential skill for students who wish to attend college or university. In university, professors are reluctant to give students ‘handouts.’ They expect you to take notes, and use those notes to study for quizzes, tests, and exams. If you want to do well on the test, your notes need to be good.

How do you take good notes? The following video will demonstrate how to use the 5 methods for note-taking in order to be efficient, and obtain all the information you will need:

1. “5 note-taking Methods” Video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AffuwyJZTQQ&t=31s>

2. “5 note-taking methods” handout (physical copy you can put in your binder)

<https://www.gvsu.edu/cms4/asset/91D2F15F-DAF4-C2F7-B659ECCACE9E7375/1five_methods_of_notetaking.docx_updated_7-09.pdf>

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Now that you know the 5 methods, you will practice using each of them.

1. Watch the video “Why Human Evolution Matters” and take notes using the “outline” method. Do this on a lined piece of paper. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AHz74SD0Nc0&t=132s>
2. Watch the video “Mesopotamia” and take notes using the “Cornell Method.” Do this on the “Cornell Method” handout. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sohXPx_XZ6Y&t=26s>
3. Watch the video “The 7 Years War” and take notes using the “Mind-Map” method. Do this on a blank piece of paper. <https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=the+7+years+war>
4. Watch the video “The First Movie Camera” and take notes using the “Flow Method/Chart Method.” Do this on a lined piece or blank piece of paper.<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pKSmcmueTbA&t=217s>
5. Watch the video “The Medicine Wheel” and take notes using the “Sentence Method” <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ppSDjjU7KAw>

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Exit Question: Which method do you prefer and why?