

# Effective Study Skills

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**School**

**vs**

**College**

School

College

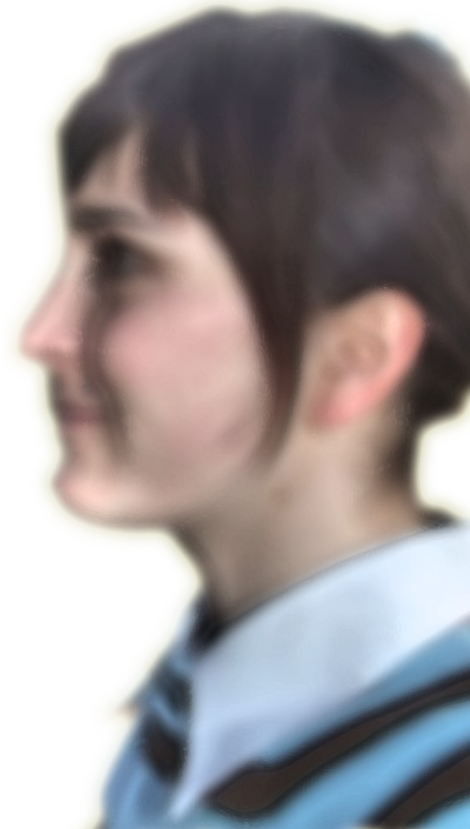


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**You can't cover everything**

**Plan in advance – have a strategy**

I'm just going to the library for 4 hours....  
(I'll work out what I'll study when I get there)



## School



Dependent on teacher  
Homework

## College



Up to you to make college:  
-interesting  
- active

# Active studying means

1. Working with the material to try to build understanding
2. Find a way process the information in a deep and meaningful way

# How?

Have a framework

- Think about the purpose of the study task
- Consider the best way to approach it
- Reflect and review

PSR

- Purpose – why?
- Strategy – how?
- Review – check!

# Active Learning

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**Hands-on Learning**

**Set up a Study Group**

**See your subject everywhere**

**Engage in Seminars**

**Get to Know Staff**

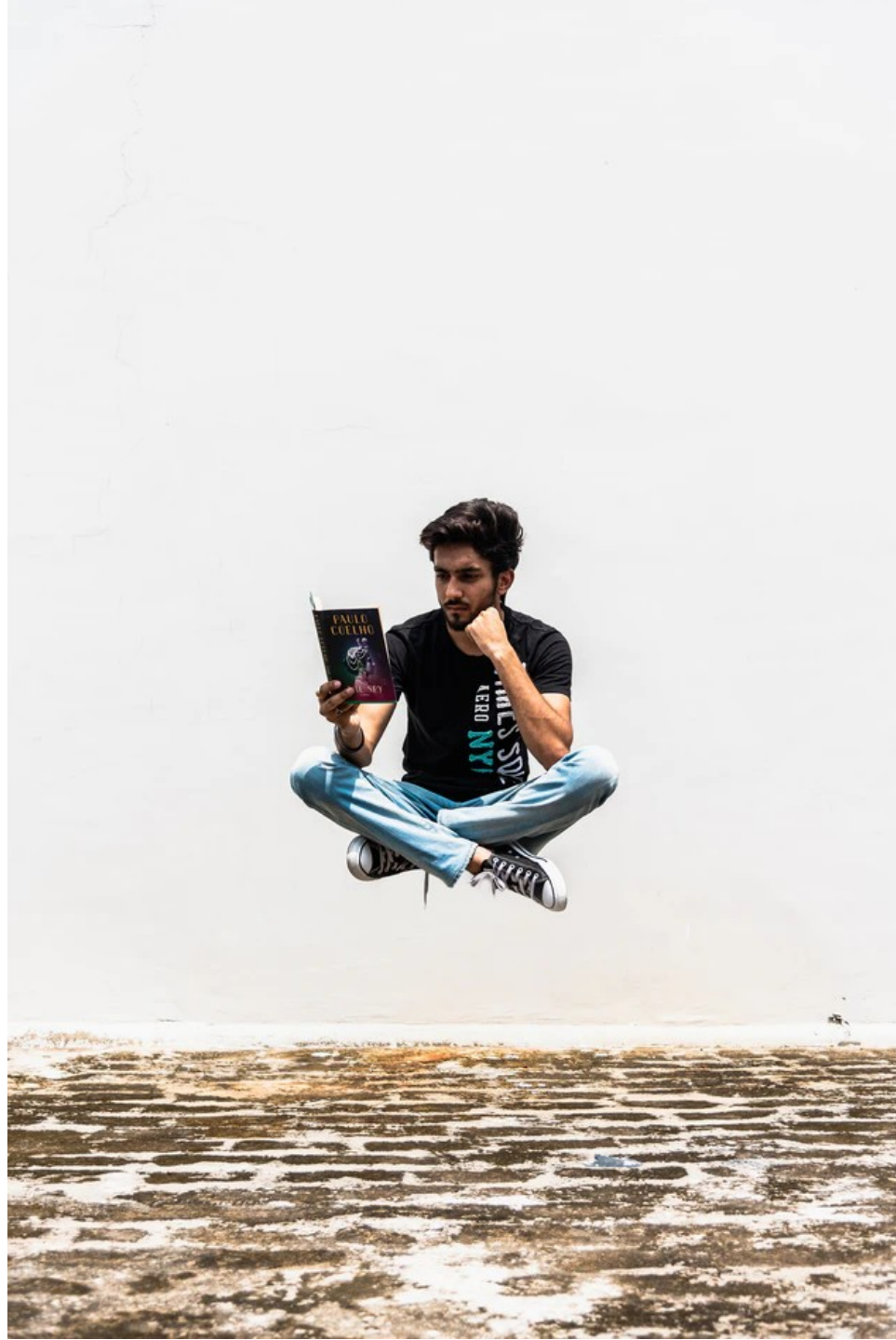
**Active Note-taking**

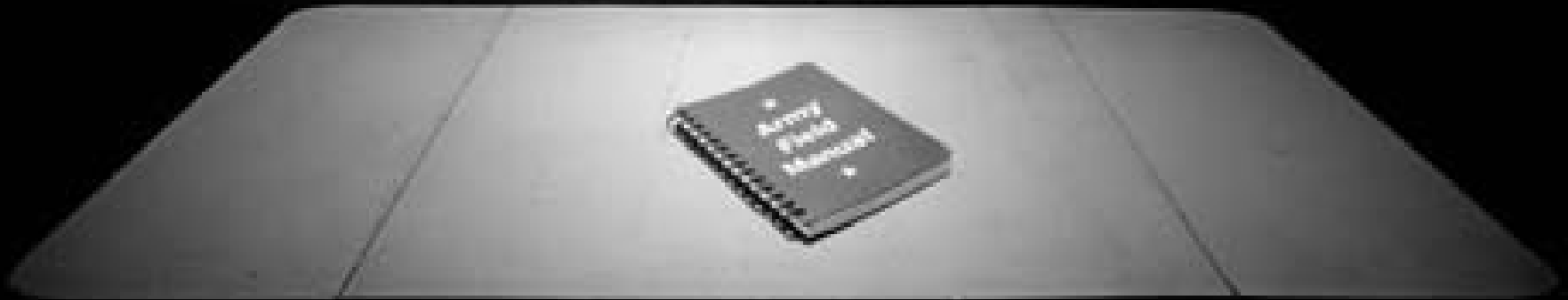


# Discussion (5 mins)

1. How do you study (reading/notes) ?
2. How do you read?
3. How do you take notes?

# Reading





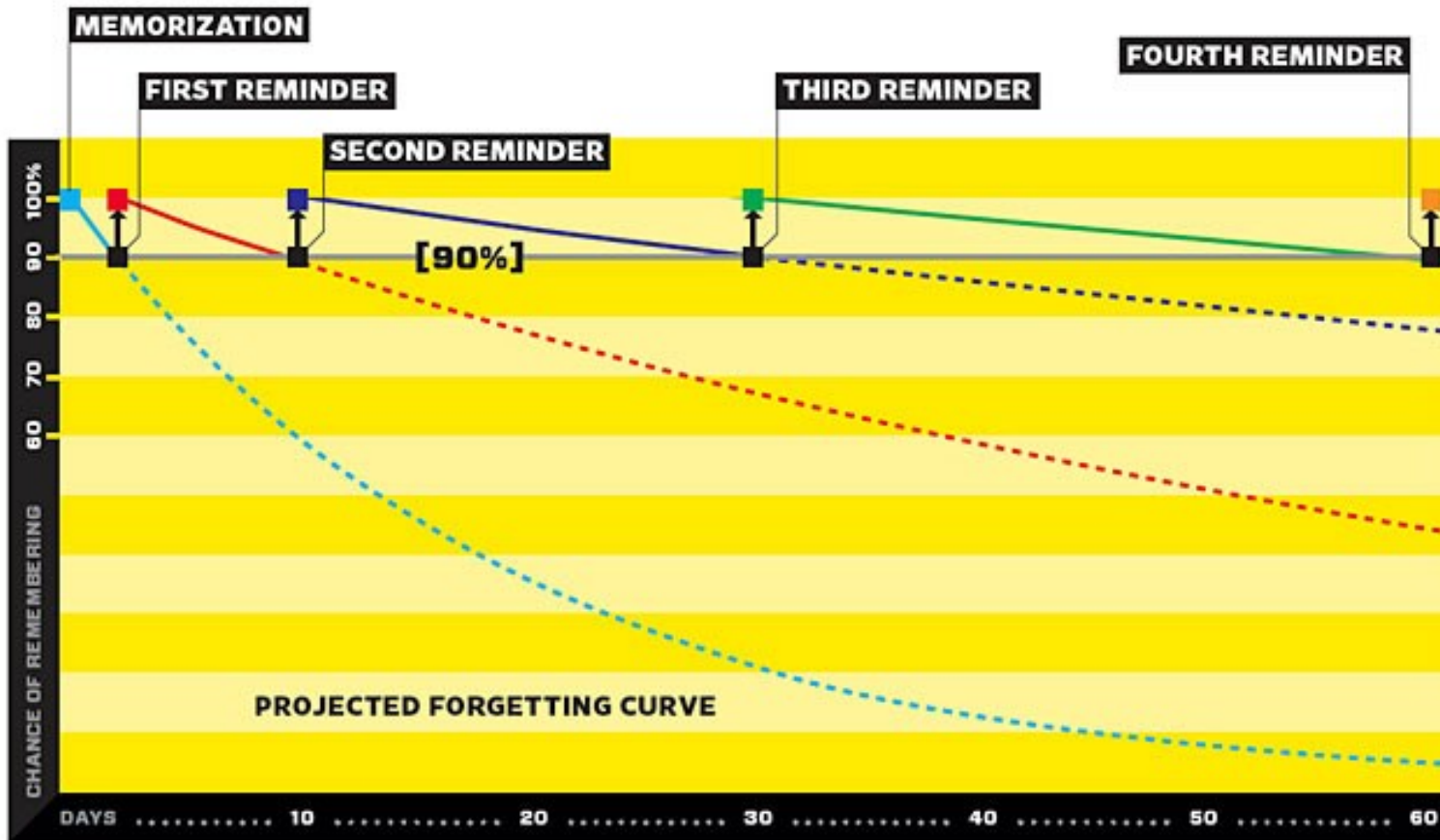
Good Reading is like Interrogation

# Get reading – actively!

## Purpose

- Strategies to suit:
  - Scanning
  - SQ3R
  - Note making
- Review

# Ebbinghaus Forgetting Curve



Schedule Time for Reviews

# Get Thinking - Reading

1. Asking questions
2. What is the point of view of author?
3. Evaluate evidence
4. Forming opinions

# Being Selective

- Ask lectures/tutors what is most relevant
- Be alert for hints and clues
- Ask fellow students
- Ask students in years ahead
- Share reading
- Preview or skim before in-depth reading

2

Reading List:

Judd, C., Smith, E. and Kidder, L. 1991 \*  
*Research Methods in Social Relations*. 6th ed. London.  
300.Jud (1 copy)

Moser, C. A. and Kalton, G. 1971  
*Survey Methods in Social Investigation*. London.  
300.723 Mos (10 copies)

Oppenheim, A. N. 1966, 1973  
*Questionnaire Design and Attitude Measurement*. London.\*  
011.422 Opp (3 copies)

Hoinville, G. Jowell, R. and associates. 1978  
*Survey Research Practice*. London.  
300.723 Hoi (1 copy)

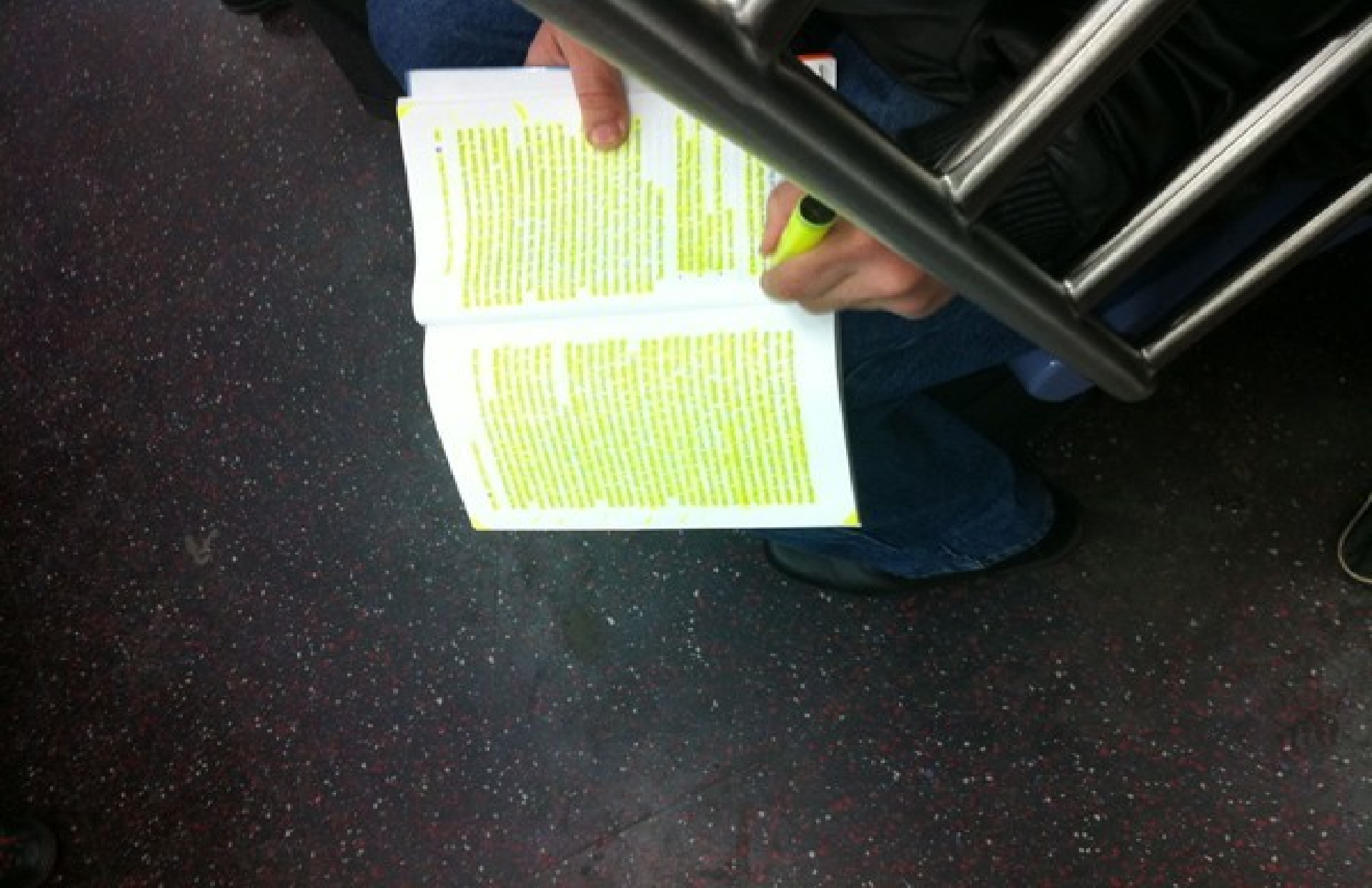
Rose, G. 1982  
*Deciphering Sociological Research*. London.  
301.072 Ros (4 copies)

Kurtz, N. R. 1983  
*Introduction to social statistics*. London etc.\*  
300.72 Kur (4 copies)

Blalock, H. M. 1960  
*Social Statistics*. London.\*  
301.072 Bla (2 copies)

ESRI Reports : Read at least one of these research reports based on a social survey.

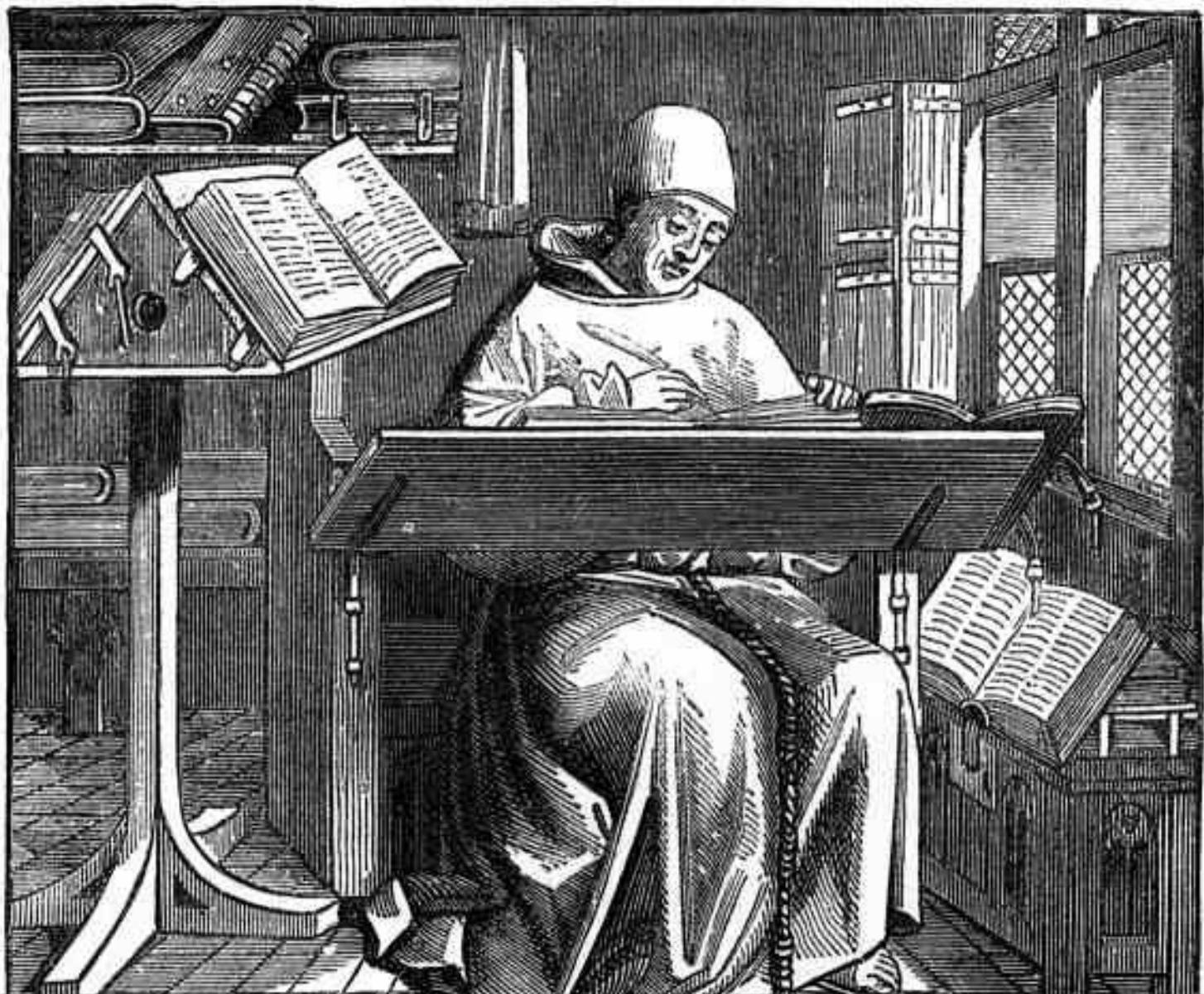




Taking Notes

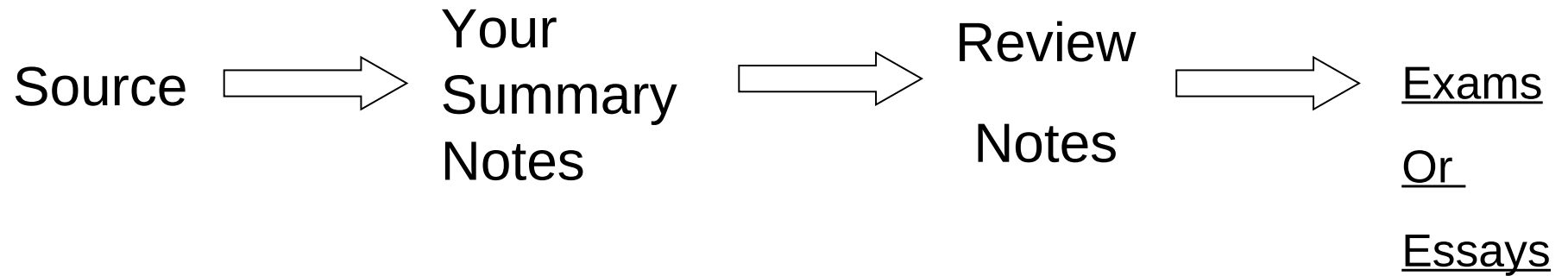


Ok, I'm finding it hard to concentrate, I'll make a good effort to make precise notes.



Perfect Copy

# Notes





You want to be looking at questions

# Types of Notes

1. Prose or summary
2. Outline or skeleton
3. Mind or concept maps
4. Cornell or 2 Column

How do you take notes?

## Be careful with $\tan^{-1}$

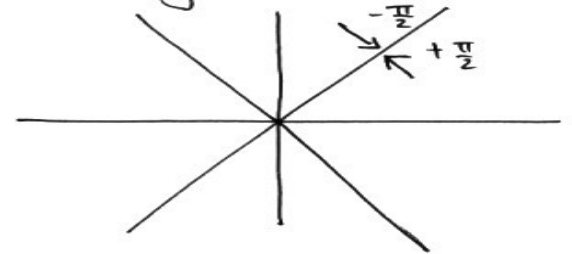
Because  $\tan^{-1}$  returns values between  $-\frac{\pi}{2}$  and  $\frac{\pi}{2}$ , the formula  $\arg(x+iy) = \tan^{-1}(y/x)$  only works if  $x > 0$ . This can cause problems in e.g. Qs 2vi and 10 of Complex Methods sheet 1.

2vi Where is  $u = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{2xy}{x^2-y^2}\right)$  harmonic and find an analytic function whose real part is  $u$ .

First we determine where it is definitely not harmonic. Consider the lines  $y = \pm x$ .

As  $(x,y)$  approaches the line  $y=x$  from below ( $x,y > 0$ ) (see picture), we have

$$\frac{2xy}{x^2-y^2} \rightarrow \infty, \text{ so } u \rightarrow +\frac{\pi}{2}.$$



If we approach from above,  $u \rightarrow -\frac{\pi}{2}$ , so  $u$  is discontinuous. Similarly in the other quadrants.

So we assume  $x^2 \neq y^2$ . If  $x = r \cos \theta$ ,  $y = r \sin \theta$  then  $u = \tan^{-1} \tan 2\theta$ , which equals  $2\theta$

provided  $-\frac{\pi}{4} < \theta < \frac{\pi}{4}$ . In this case, we can take  $f(z) = -2i \log z$ , where

$\log z = \log |z| + i \arg(z)$ ,  $-\pi < \arg(z) < \pi$  is the principal branch. Then  $f(z) = -2i \log r + 2\theta$ , so  $\operatorname{Re} f(z) = u$ .  $u$  is harmonic for  $-\frac{\pi}{4} < \theta < \frac{\pi}{4}$ .

If  $\frac{\pi}{4} < \theta < \frac{3\pi}{4}$  then  $u = 2\theta - \pi$ , so consider  $f(z) = -2i \log z - \pi$ .

If  $\frac{3\pi}{4} < \theta < \frac{5\pi}{4}$  then since  $u(x,y) = u(-x,-y)$ , we can consider  $f(z) = -2i \log(-z) = -2i \log r + \underbrace{2(\theta - \pi)}_{=u}$

The case  $\frac{5\pi}{4} < \theta < \frac{7\pi}{4}$  can be treated similarly.

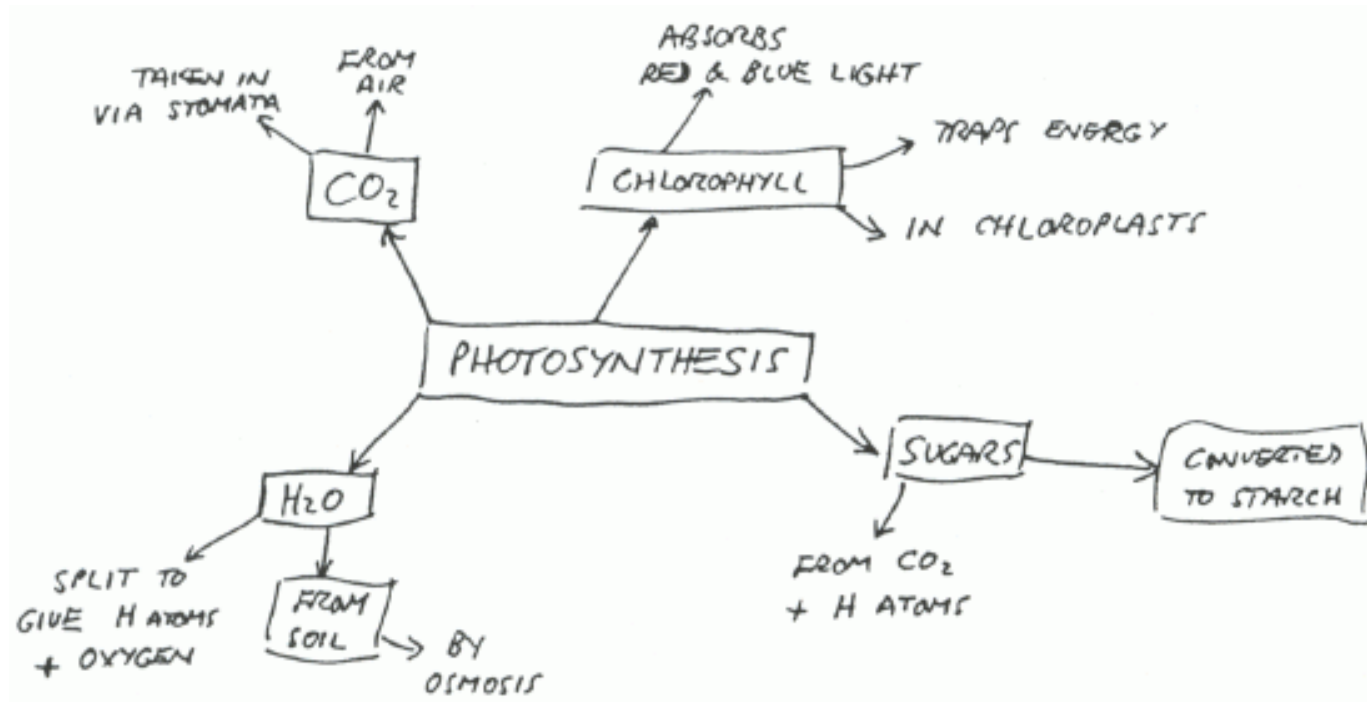
# Outline

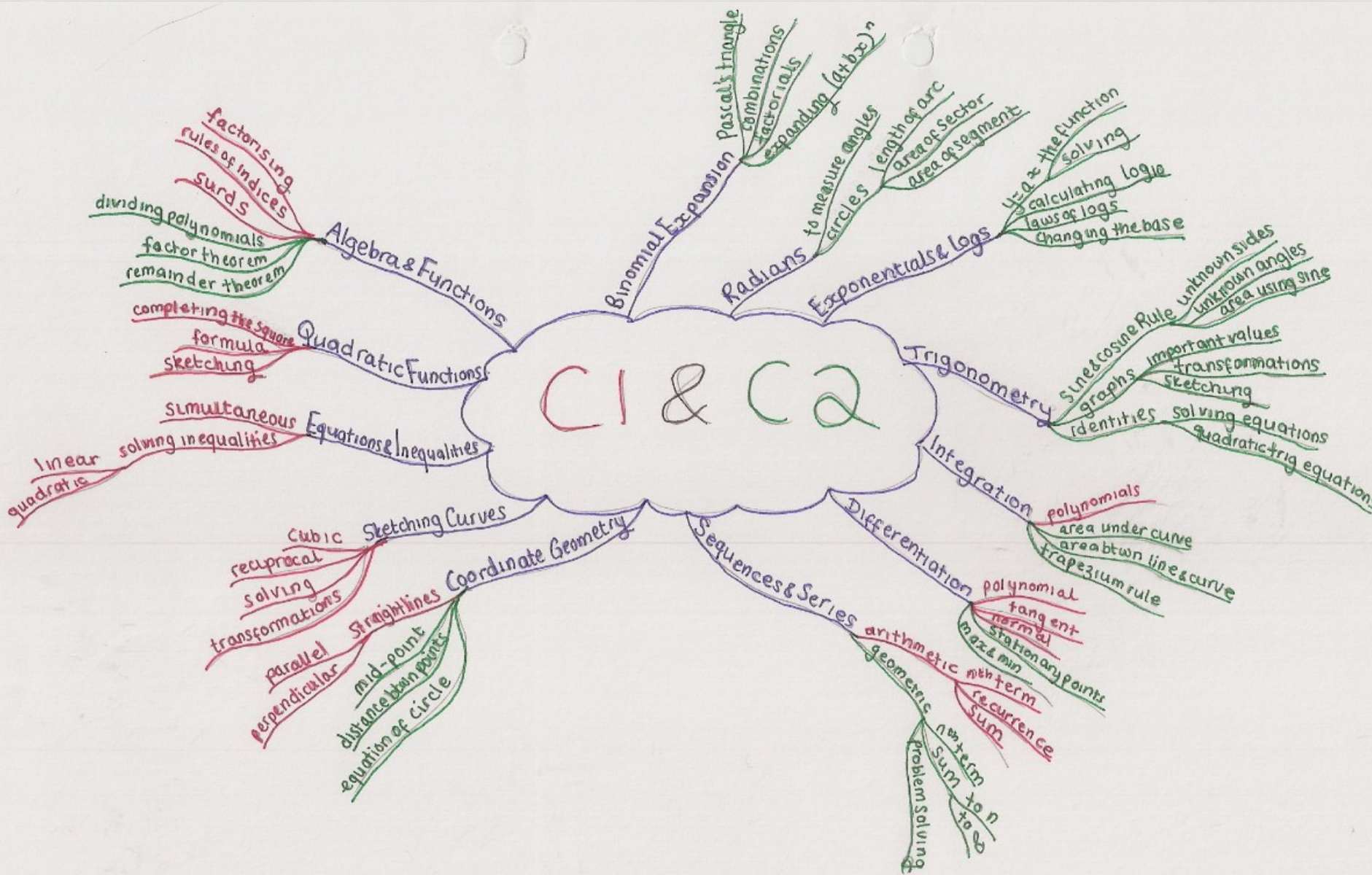
## The Art of Reading Actively

- A. Active = purposeful, critical, questioning.
- B. Look for Main Ideas
  - 1. Survey (SQ3R) for general ones (Ch 5)
  - 2. Read paragraphs for more specific ones
    - a) Each para usually has one main idea.
    - b) Usually in topic sentence (1st or last?)
- C. Look for Important Details
  - 1. e.g. proof, example, support for main idea
  - 2. Usually at least one per main idea
  - 3. Which do I consider important?
- D. In hunt for main idea and important details:
  - 1. Watch for signposts
    - a) Visual (layout, etc)
    - b) Verbal (cue words)
  - 2. Study diagrams, etc.
  - 3. Don't ignore difficulties
- E. Evaluate the text
  - 1. Be sceptical (Expect the author to prove)
  - 2. Compare with my own experience
  - 3. What do I get from it?
  - 4. Discuss with other students
- F. Make Notes:
  - 1. If I need them (for my purposes)
  - 2. At Recall stage (of SQ3R)
  - 3. Compare with other students'.
- G. Concentrate:
  - 1. By seeking understanding (not memorisation)
  - 2. and see Chapter 4 hints.
- H. Vary reading speed:
  - 1. according to purpose
  - 2. but not at expense of understanding.

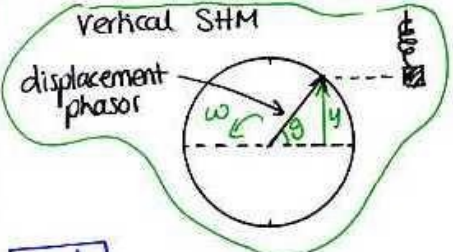


# Concept Maps





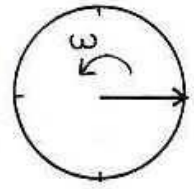
Mind Maps



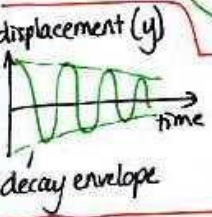
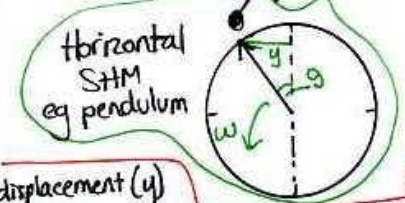
$f = \frac{1}{T}$

$\omega = 2\pi f$

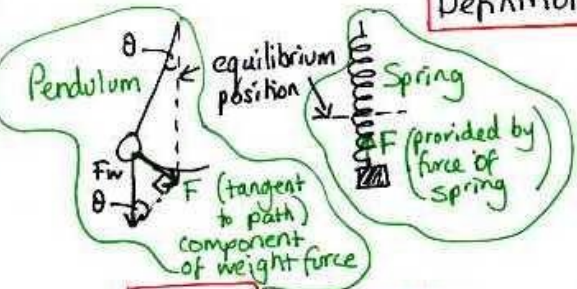
$\omega = \frac{\Delta\theta}{\Delta t}$



$\omega = \text{angular frequency}$



Reference Circle



Vectors -  $F$  and  $a$  opposite direction to  $y$

for  $F, v, a, y$  for pendulums and springs

Definitions

Motion repeats

force is proportional to displacement, and in the opposite direction (as  $F=ma$  this is also true for acceleration)

$a = -\omega^2 y$  and as  $F=ma$  also  $F = -\omega^2 y \times m$

NOT SHM if the force is not changing eg only force acting is gravity

These can be proved by using the reference circle.

Equations

Starting at the equilibrium position,  $y$  increasing

$y = A \sin \omega t$   $v = A \omega \cos \omega t$   $a = -A \omega^2 \sin \omega t$

Starting at maximum displacement

$y = A \cos \omega t$   $v = -A \omega \sin \omega t$   $a = -A \omega^2 \cos \omega t$

Period

= time for one oscillation (left to right and back again OR up, down and back up)

$T = 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{L}{g}}$

pendulum

$T = 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{m}{k}}$

spring

Know what affects the period of each eg. pendulum  $T$  not affected by mass

Maximums

from equations max when  $\cos \omega t$  or  $\sin \omega t = 1$

$y = A$

$v = A \omega$

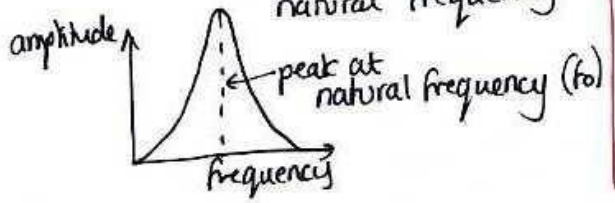
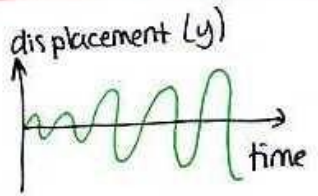
$a = -A \omega^2$

Damping

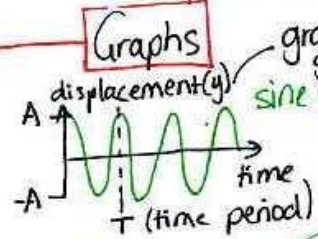
Due to energy being converted to heat, because of friction & air resistance.

Resonance

Energy is added by applying a force. Gives large amplitude if it is in time with natural frequency



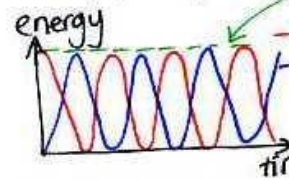
Graphs



$E_p = \frac{1}{2} k y^2$   $E_k (\text{kin}) = \frac{1}{2} m v^2$

$\Delta E_p = m g \Delta h$

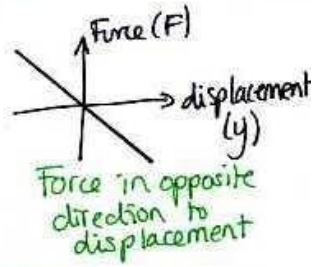
Total energy is constant  $E_T = E_k + E_p$



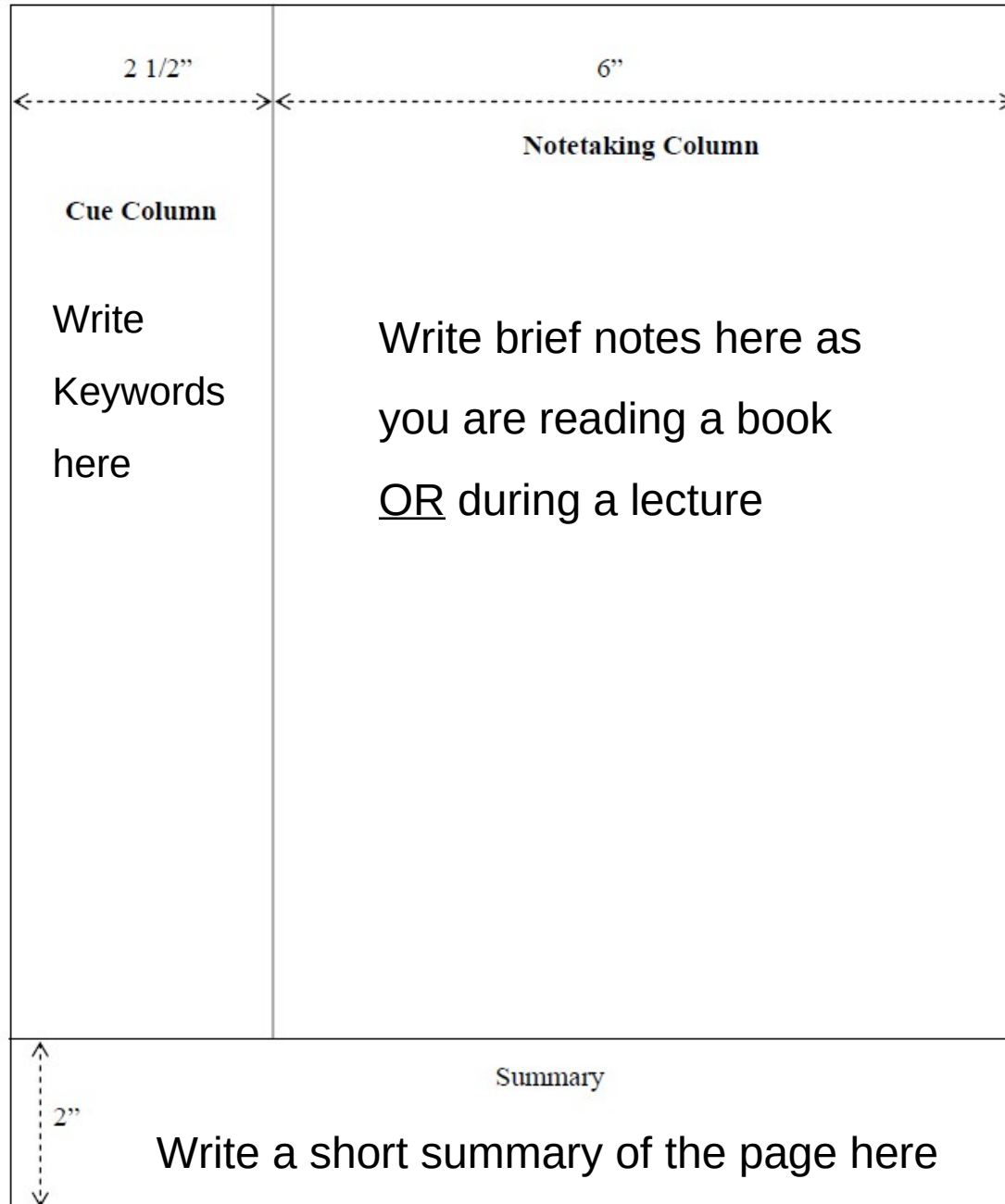
gravitational potential for a pendulum

elastic potential for a spring

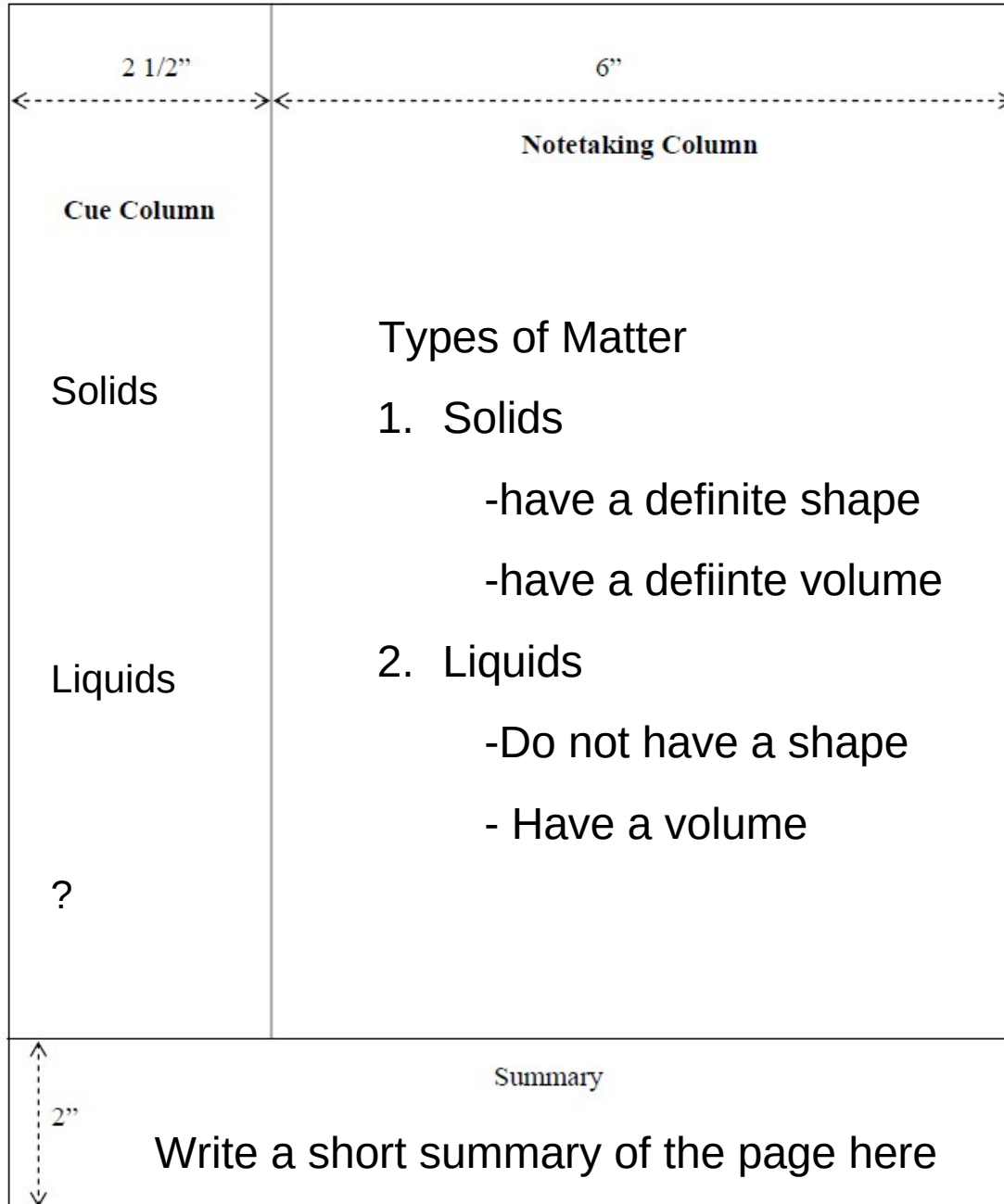
Total energy = max kinetic energy = max potential energy



# The Cornell Note-taking System



# The Cornell Note-taking System



# Executive Summary

A

Short summary (paragraph)  
How convincing did you find  
the author's argument?

B

What are the 4 honest signals?  
Briefly describe them.  
What is mood contagion?

# Student Learning Development

Thank you for your time

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<http://student-learning.tcd.ie>

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Student Learning Development (SLD) website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Home, Undergraduate, Postgraduate, Staff, and About. Below the navigation bar, a search box is visible. The main content area features a large image of an open book and the text: "Student Learning Development offers advice, resources, individual consultations, workshops and much more to help you improve your academic performance and reach your potential." Below this, there are three columns of links for Undergraduates, Postgraduates, and Staff. The Undergraduates column includes links for Subjects, Attend Workshops, and Individual Help. The Postgraduates column includes links for Subjects, Attend Workshops, and Individual Help. The Staff column includes links for Refer a Student, Learning Resources, and Request a Workshop. To the right of the main content, there is a section for Upcoming Events, listing events for Monday, February 22, Thursday, February 25, and Thursday, March 4. Below the main content, there are four promotional boxes: "Getting Published" (Try our podcast on getting papers published), "Exams" (Try our online workshop), "Exams" (Try our interactive video on Exam Stress), and "Get Organised" (Improve your self-management skills). At the bottom right, there is a "Vote" section with a list of options: Writing, Exams, Self-Management, and Presentations. Below the "Vote" section, there are links for Podcasts and Email Us. The footer contains a Sitemap link, a link to Student Learning Development (Email), and the text "Last updated 22 January 2010".

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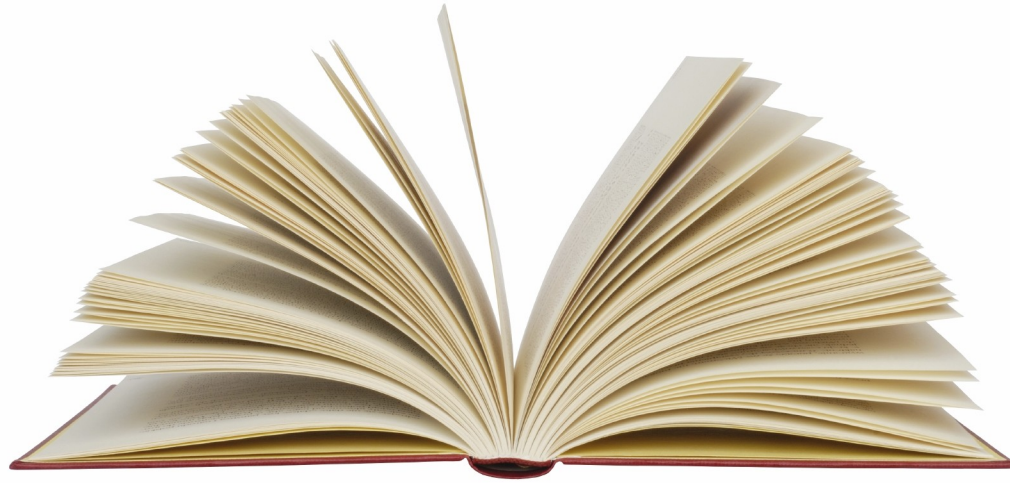
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**Any Questions?**