

STRATEGIES for NOTE TAKING and STUDYING

Split Page Methods of Note Taking

The Split Page Method: Class lectures and your textbook--they're the primary sources of course content and you need to learn from both. So combine them with the split page method of taking notes. Just divide your notebook page in half lengthwise. Draw a line down the middle of the page. Take *class notes* on one side of the page and *outline* the text on the other side. When you study you'll have both. Class notes and text together, integrated. Some students find it helpful to add a third column for *questions* they need to ask the professor, oftentimes written to the left of the red-line margin on your paper.

The 1-5-2 Method: (Fig. 1a.) The 1-5-2 refers to the way you divide the space on your notepaper. Make two columns to the right of the red margin line, one that is 5 inches wide and another that is 2 inches wide. When you take notes in class, use the 5-inch column side for the *lecture notes* and the smaller 2-inch column as a *highlighting/outlining* system. Write main headings and important points in that column, including material you think you will be tested on. When you're finished, you should have a comprehensive page of information that you can quickly scan for important points. In the 1-inch column left of the red line margin you can write *questions* you feel that need clarification from the professor.

Figure 1a.

Ch. 7: The Cell, Membranes & Organelles

1.10.11

<p>* Why are prokaryotes the oldest org. on Earth?</p> <p>* If they have NO NUCLEUS does that mean they have no DNA?</p>	<p><u>2 Categories of Cells</u></p> <p>1.) <u>Prokaryotic</u></p> <p>↳ pro = 1st</p> <p>↳ oldest org. on Earth</p> <p>↳ "simple"; NO NUCLEUS</p> <p>ex: eubacteria and cyanobacteria (blue-grn algae)</p> <p>2.) <u>Eukaryotic</u></p> <p>↳ "eu" = true; HAS NUCLEUS</p> <p>↳ considered more complex</p> <p>ex: animal cells, plant cells</p> <hr/> <p>* Stromatolites - "algal mats" - oldest known prokaryotes on Earth; made up of cyanobacteria (bar stools)</p> <div style="text-align: center;"> </div> <p>layers of cyanobacteria grow near water surface b/c they use photosynthesis to make energy</p>	<p>I. Discovery of Cells</p> <p>A. Microscope</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. von Leeuwenhoek 2. cork → "cell" <p>B. The Cell Theory</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Virchow 2. Schleiden 3. Schwann <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. cell basic unit b. Cells make cells c. All life made of cells. <p>II. 2 Major Types</p> <p>A. Prokaryotes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. NO NUCLEUS <p>B. Eukaryotes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. HAS NUCLEUS
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Other Suggestions...

Color

When you are taking notes change the color of your pen OR use different color highlighters to underscore important test-related information. Be efficient about using this technique, though. If searching for colored pens becomes more important than listening to the instructor this strategy will backfire and quickly undermine your chances to learn. Your writing utensil(s) should not be a distraction.

Voice Recorder

If you have difficulty keeping up with writing notes in class, you may ask your instructor to use an audio voice recorder during lecture. You can listen to the lecture again at a later time and add material to your notes you may have missed in class.

Note Cards

Note cards are useful for more than just vocabulary. Write the term or phrase on one side of the note card and separate the other side into three segments (see below).

