

CULMINATING & EXAM WRITING STRATEGIES

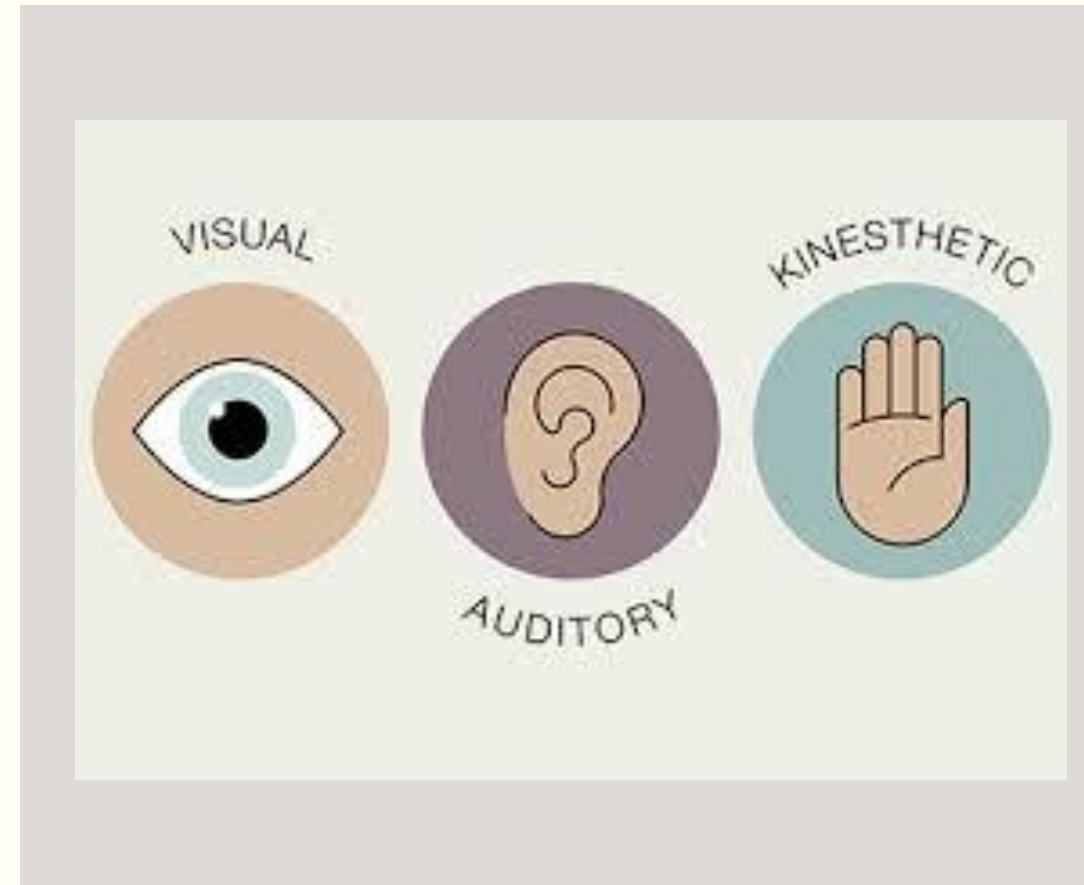
Brought to you by Assumption Student Success:

Mrs. Bedford and Mrs. Timperio



STEP 1 – HOW DO YOU LEARN BEST?

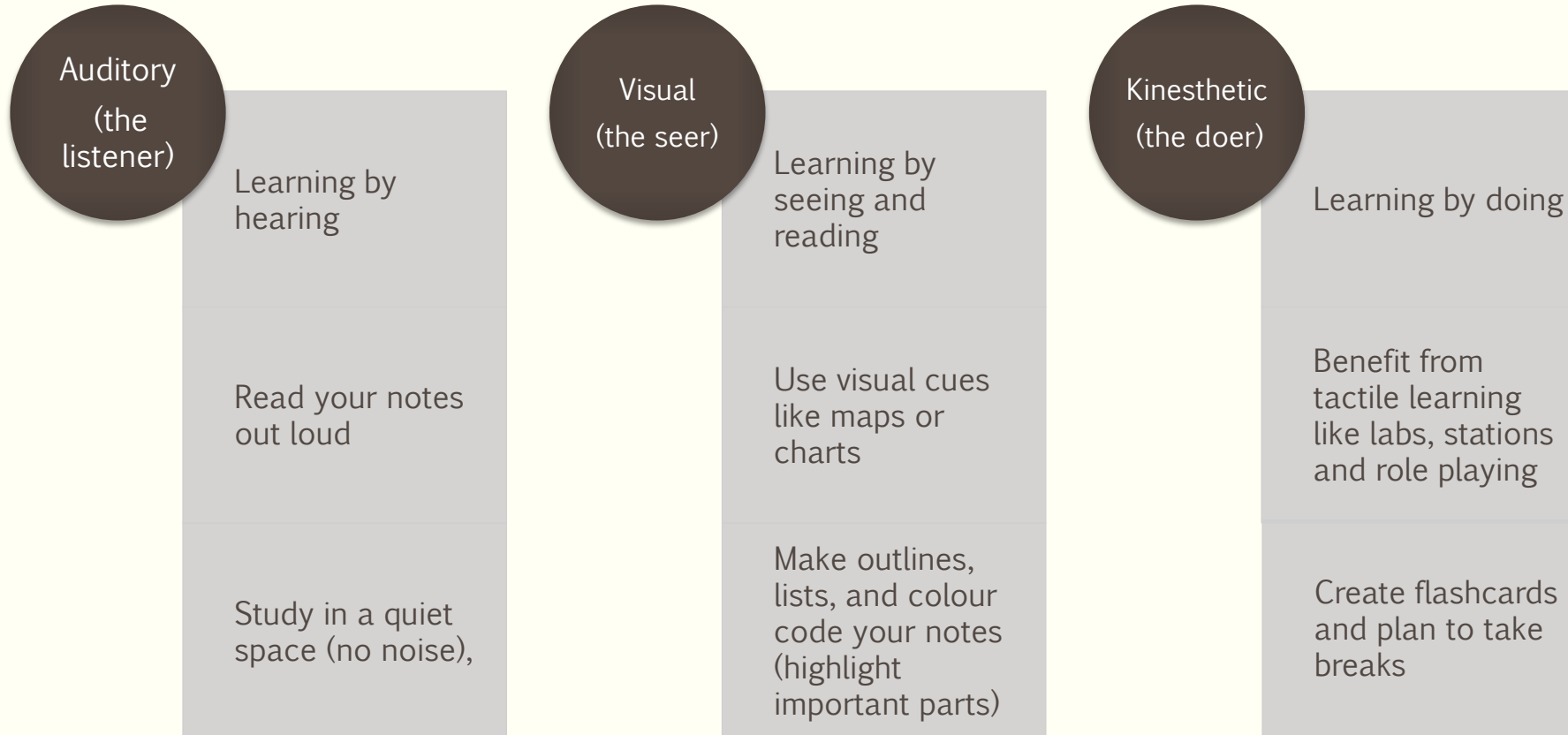
What is your learning style? Knowing this information will help you in completing those big assignments and preparing for big tests.



The Three Learning Styles

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_IopcOwfsoU

(video note – reading and writing is grouped with VISUAL for us)



IMPORTANT NOTE: Learning Styles/ Preferences do not represent limitations on an individual's abilities or intelligence level. It is simply an understanding of how you make sense of information (how you learn best). This means you can work and study better NOT longer.

Not sure what learning style you are ...

- Take this on line quiz to help you figure out your preferred learning style.
- It is only 5 minutes and is only 24 questions.
- In the end you will have a better understanding of the way you learn best!

Click here <https://www.jobbank.gc.ca/seeheardo>



What did you discover?



Did you find yourself struggling to choose an answer at times?

- There is a great deal of overlap between auditory, visual and kinesthetic preferences.

You draw on different preferences at different times.

- For example, in the classroom you prefer to listen (auditory), but when studying alone you prefer to make outlines (visual).

Everyone possesses a degree of each learning style.

- Capitalizing on your learning preference enables you to create the best learning and working environment for you to be successful!

Success Tips for Auditory Learners



In the class...

- ✓ Sit towards the front of the room, away from doors, windows, etc.
- ✓ “Subvocalize”: repeat info to yourself in a barely audible quiet mumble

Textbook Learning/Studying for Culminating and Exams

- ✓ Read aloud
- ✓ Work in quiet areas to minimize audible distractions
- ✓ If you study with music, select music with no lyrics and keep the volume down
- ✓ Make up rhymes/Jingles to remember information
- ✓ Talk to yourself about diagrams/Illustrations

Success Tips for Visual Learners



"When I see it, then I understand"

In the class..

- ✓ Sit towards the front of the room to avoid visual distractions and ensure clear view of lesson
- ✓ Listen to teacher and write down what you hear
- ✓ Use visuals like symbols/colors in note taking
- ✓ Ask teacher if visual info is available (PowerPoint slides to follow)

Textbook Learning/Studying for Culminating and Exams

- ✓ Create an outline of key concepts in graphic organizers
- ✓ Jot down questions/problems
- ✓ Remember key words using mnemonics or songs (ex. The rainbow colours Roy G. Biv)
- ✓ Highlight important sections

Success Tips for Kinesthetic Learners

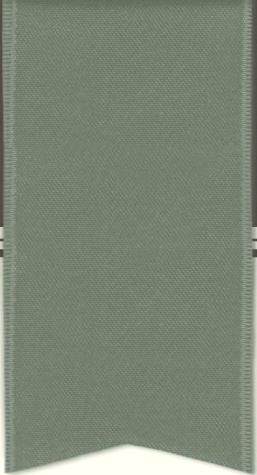


In the class...

- ✓ Ask questions and participate in discussions whenever possible
- ✓ Take a small object (ex. stress ball) to fidget with (not get distracted by)
- ✓ Consider talking with the teacher and asking if it is possible to incorporate a break if the lesson is going to be long. Use this time to stand up and stretch (not go on your phone)

Textbook Learning/Studying for Culminating and Exams

- ✓ Highlight, underline or make notes while you read
- ✓ Break reading up into small sections - Take short scheduled breaks between sections (again get up and move – no phone)
- ✓ Try talking to yourself as you study - Explain concepts out loud and so on
- ✓ Find a safe small space to move while you read over notes



STEP 2 – GET ORGANIZED!

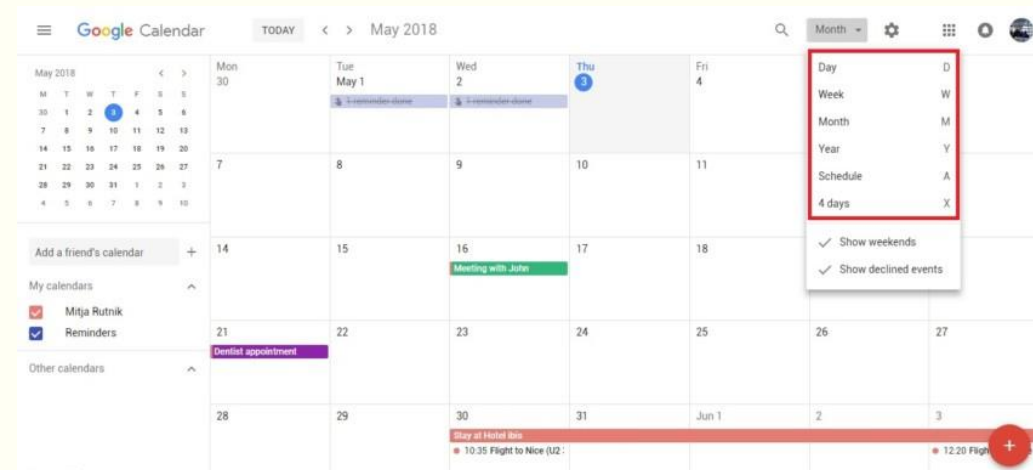
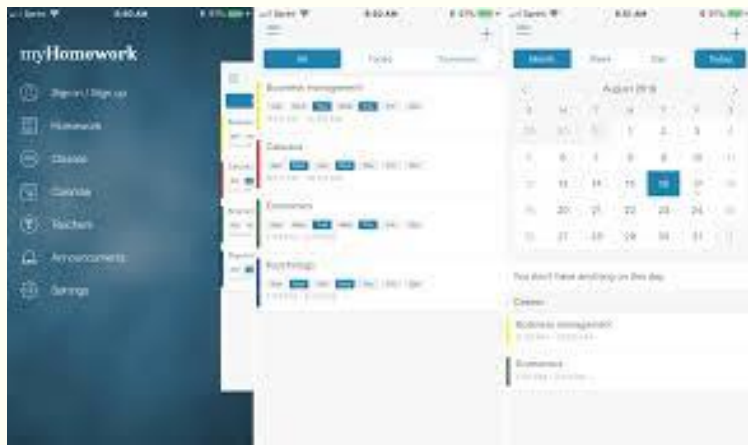
Download a digital planning app and use it!



Use a student planner to schedule study blocks and input culminating and exam days

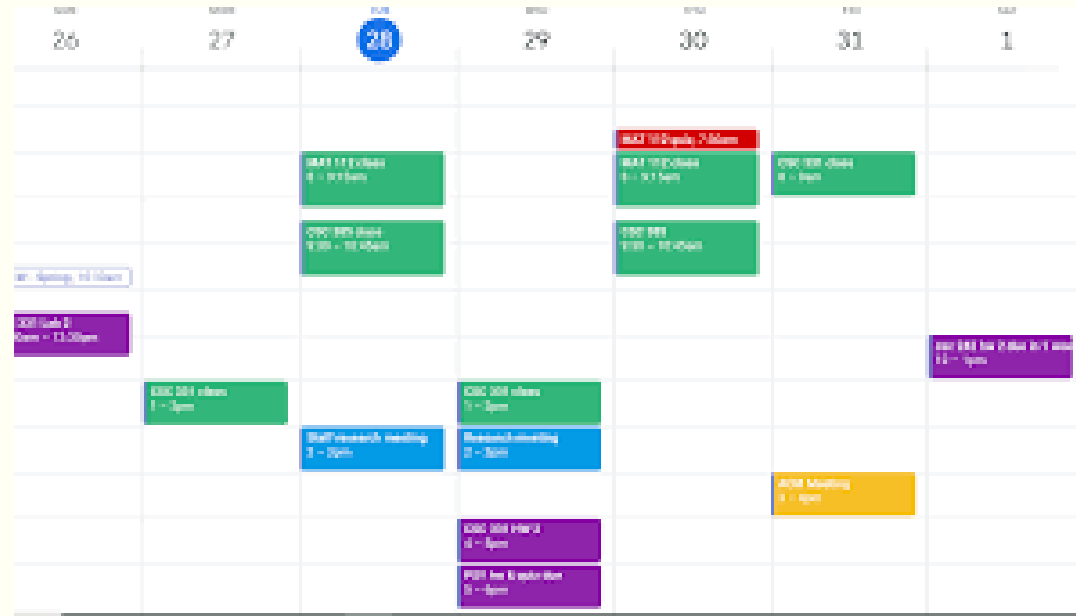
- There are many free planning apps to choose from.
- Pick one that will work for you that is easy and quick to use
- We like “myHomework Student Planner”.
- Alternatively, you can use the calendar feature attached to your school Gmail account.
- We find setting the calendar to monthly to be the best.

<https://myhomeworkapp.com/>



USE YOUR PLANNER!

- ✓ Now you need to use your planner!
- ✓ Enter in review questions you want to complete or sections you want to cover per study block, enter in culminating and exam days into your planner right away.
- ✓ Do not wait! Prepare early – trying to cram at the end just creates stress and anxiety.
- ✓ All learning styles will benefit from getting organized.
- ✓ Ask for help with time management if your feeling overwhelmed (teachers, Student Success, parents, etc.)





Things to keep in mind when creating your study plan:

- ✓ plan your work with a goal in mind ... what do you want to accomplish per study block?
- ✓ look at your student planner ... have you created a plan that makes sense for your learning style and subject needs?
- ✓ dedicate time each day toward completing tasks from your student planner.
- ✓ plan to work in increments of about 45 minutes - build in movement/nutrition breaks to maintain focus.
- ✓ Don't forget to refer back to your learning preference results – use the learning/studying tips from this section to make the most of your time (remember – work and study better not more!)

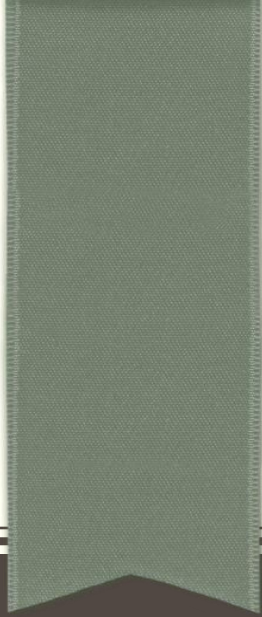
Create a check list and cross off completed work to track your progress!

ALWAYS WORK/STUDY IN A DISTRACTION FREE ZONE



AVOID DISTRACTIONS!

- Ensure you are in a distraction free zone while working and studying – no phone, Netflix, friends, siblings, etc.
- Stay on task to ensure your work gets done.
- Make the most of your time!



CULMINATING TIPS

WHEN IT COMES TO CULMINATING...

- ✓ Write the date in your planner.
- ✓ If possible, choose a topic that interests you.
- ✓ Ask your teacher if you are allowed to use your notes and/or textbook. Do you need to create a cheat sheet? Do you need to have formulas memorized or will they be provided?
- ✓ Read and follow all the directions carefully!
- ✓ Do not hesitate to ask your teachers questions.
- ✓ Most importantly – do not leave preparing for a culminating until the night before. Plan your time to start early.

Don't procrastinate!





EXAM TIPS

Prepare early NOT the night before!

WHEN IT COMES TO EXAMS ...



- ✓ Ask your teacher about details: Will formulas be provided, are cheat sheets allowed, will you need a calculator, will there be multiple choice, short answer etc.?
- ✓ Think about your learning preference/style when planning out your study blocks.
- ✓ Always study with a strategy (use tips from step 1 that fit your learning style – flash cards, highlighting notes etc.) and plan your time making sure to include breaks.
- ✓ Study at least 4 days in advance (look at your student planner for those exam days!).
- ✓ Do not study in front of a TV or while being distracted by your phone (remember – distraction free zone!).
- ✓ Make a list of questions you have for your teacher and ask them a few days before the exam (not the morning of).
- ✓ Review all of your quizzes and tests.

Once again ... Don't procrastinate!

LASTLY – DON'T BE SHY, ASK FOR HELP!

- ✓ Your classroom teachers and support team here at Assumption want you to be successful.
- ✓ If are struggling with your work, organization, time management, or the concepts in general ASK your teachers and/or support staff for help!
- ✓ Do not procrastinate.

