Skill Finder

This questionnaire is designed to give you an opportunity to determine which study skills you need to develop or improve. Read each statement. If the statement applies to you, check YES. If the statement does not apply to you, check NO. See the end of the questionnaire for instructions about how to interpret your results.

### Setting Goals and Using Resources

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### Listening and Note Taking

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### Time Management

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Memory and Concentration

Yes  No
☐  ☐ I can usually remember what I’ve studied well enough to get good.
☐  ☐ I associate new material to be learned with what I already know.
☐  ☐ I have a certain place where I do most of my studying.
☐  ☐ I am not easily distracted when there is something I need to study.
☐  ☐ I do not hesitate to ask questions in class

Critical thinking for Reading and Writing

Yes  No
☐  ☐ I relate what I read in textbooks to my own experience.
☐  ☐ I try to establish a purpose for what I read.
☐  ☐ When I look at a word, I can usually recognize the meaning of its prefix, root, or suffix.
☐  ☐ When I see an unfamiliar word, I often figure out what it means by looking at the context.
☐  ☐ I keep a list of special terms and definitions of words I need to learn for my courses.
☐  ☐ I have a study system for remembering words.
☐  ☐ I know what it means to be an active reader
☐  ☐ I look for main ideas when I read.
☐  ☐ When I read, I look for details that support main ideas and I underline or mark them.
☐  ☐ I know how to write a thesis statement and support it.
☐  ☐ If I have a composition to write, I have no trouble getting started.
☐  ☐ When I am writing, I usually have no trouble spelling the words I want to use.

Studying Math, Science and Literature

Yes  No
☐  ☐ I can usually determine the theme of a short story.
☐  ☐ I do all math problems at the ends of chapters whether they are assigned or not.
☐  ☐ In a math course, I usually know why I make the errors I make on tests
☐  ☐ If I am studying a foreign language, I make study guides and conjugation charts.
☐  ☐ I know how to prepare for my science class.
Using Textbooks Effectively

Yes  No
☐  ☐ Before I read a chapter, I look it over briefly to see what it is going to be about
☐  ☐ I am able to follow the writer’s ideas in a textbook chapter.
☐  ☐ I am able to maintain my interest in what I read.
☐  ☐ I read chapter headings and turn them into questions I answer s I read.
☐  ☐ I know how to use a glossary.
☐  ☐ I always take a few minutes to examine the tables and other visual aids in chapters I read.
☐  ☐ I use mapping techniques to organize information.
☐  ☐ I almost always underline my textbooks.
☐  ☐ I make from my textbooks to help me study.
☐  ☐ I review my notes before and after class.

Preparing for and Taking Tests

Yes  No
☐  ☐ I usually know what to study for tests.
☐  ☐ I am almost always prepared for tests.
☐  ☐ Taking a test does not make me nervous if I am prepared.
☐  ☐ If I don’t know the answer to a multiple-choice question, I try to guess.
☐  ☐ I do not usually run out of time when I am taking a test.
☐  ☐ It doesn’t bother me if someone finishes a test before I do.

Count the number of “no” answers for each section. If you have more than one per section, you may want to improve or develop the study skill or skills identified by the section heading. You may use the modules and information in this website to improve your skills.