How To Study: 25th Anniversary Edition

25TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION

HOW TO STUDY

The Program That Has Helped Millions of Students Study Smarter, Not Harder

RON FRY

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Synopsis

How to Study reveals the study skills that all students need to know to be successful, whether the goal is landing a top scholarship, excelling in school, or preparing to return to school. This edition includes information on how to create an effective work environment, stand out in class, conduct research online, and much more. Fry also covers all the traditional elements of a winning study strategy, such as reading, writing, time management, memory, and test-taking skills. How to Study introduces a revolutionary study system, along with examples, that gives students the edge in any learning environment. How to Study also: Prepares students of all ages to excel in their classes by developing effective study skills. Shows students, in a quick, easy-to-read style, the essential skills that can be applied outside the classroom and later in life. Includes study tips for teaching and studying with young children; advice for fighting midstudy fatigue and boredom; tips for in-class learning; and more.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition
Listening Length: 6 hours and 44 minutes
Program Type: Audiobook
Version: Unabridged
Publisher: HighBridge, a Division of Recorded Books
Audible.com Release Date: January 4, 2016
Language: English
ASIN: B019HKRS9O
Best Sellers Rank: #336 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Nonfiction > Study Aids #502 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Nonfiction > Education #848 in Books > Education & Teaching > Studying & Workbooks > Study Skills

Customer Reviews

Obviously a number of reviewers have been helped by this book. It contains a lot of valuable information, including often-overlooked points such as evaluating and adapting to teachers’ varying styles. That said, I agreed with the reviewer who pointed out that most students who can navigate this book and "read and reread it many times" as the author recommends don’t really need a book of this sort. Those who cannot do so may find this book no easier to comprehend than their school assignments. On page 70, for example, the author gives this suggestion: "As you read, think of ways to organize the material to help your mind absorb it." That one skill alone takes many students years
to master. He follows this suggestion with: "I always liked diagrams with single words and short phrases connected with arrows to show cause-and-effect relationships." Again, a student who understands cause-and-effect relationships and can visualize the kind of diagram the author describes is already ahead of the game. Those who can't won't be helped by this suggestion.

The book uses a linear format of most of the suggestions given. Details and charts are given for creating task sheets, charting one's use of time, making a schedule, or writing an outline. But there are no instructions or illustrations for the use of graphic organizers, for example, which are helpful for visual learners in understanding text or plotting a writing assignment. Many more visual examples could have been provided that would make the text more useful. Struggling learners need information presented in more than one modality. Color would help.

This book should be on a required reading list for any student - traditional, non-traditional or anything else. Jam packed with awesome study tips and techniques it has the potential to make a huge difference in the degree of academic success a student can achieve. The chapter titles are deceptively dull: How to organize your studying, how to organize your time, how to conduct your research, etc. As Charlie Brown would say - Bleah!! It's all been done before! Well, it hasn't.

Along with some of the basic information (a quiet workspace, taking notes, research skills, etc) the book allows the reader to assess his/her own abilities and lack thereof and to work toward improving them. For example: In the section about How to Excel in Class the author gives excellent guidelines on how to figure out each teacher/professor; how to read their Verbal and non-verbal cues about what is important and what is simply chatter, how to know which professors welcome discussion and which do not, how to take and organise your notes quickly and effectively during a lecture and how to finish organising them quickly at the end of the lecture. All essential skills that students acquire piecemeal during their education. Each chapter does this - goes more than a step beyond a simple study guide. There's even a section on how to study with small kids for those of us who are parents! The book includes tips on forming study groups, organisational charts that can be copied, evaluations to figure out which techniques work best for you, etc. There have been many books written on test taking and this book includes a respectable amount of information on this as well.

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