

Effective Test Preparation

Start studying for major exams one week before the test:

- Check the syllabus to see which chapters this test will include.
- Find study guides or learning objectives the Prof may have given out.
- Find all of your notes and handouts from these chapters.

*Note: If you are well-organized, these 3 steps should take 5-10 minutes.
If you are organizationally challenged, you may be exhausted from just trying to find all of these things, and this may be all that you accomplish the first day.*


Develop more than one method to study for exams:

- Different methods work for different subjects.
- Changing your study method keeps it interesting.
- Some methods work better for the way a particular Professor writes her exams.

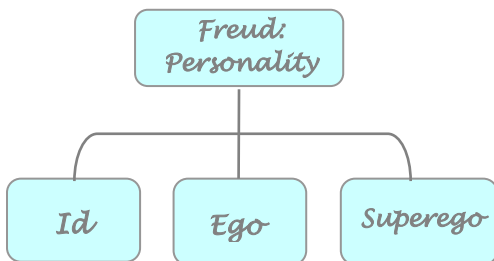
Any of these methods are effective to study for exams:

- Make flash cards or concept cards.
- Create 2-column study guides.
- Recopy notes onto maps, or diagrams.
- Make compare & contrast charts.

- part of an atom
- in nucleus
- positive charge

Ex: 

- = # of electrons
- = atomic number
- shares nucleus w/ neutrons



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Stage	Approx Age	Developmental Characteristics
Sensorimotor	0-2 yrs	Discover relationship between sensation & motor behavior
Preoperational	2-7 yrs	Use symbols (language) to represent objects, imagination
Concrete Operations	7-11 yrs	Master logic, "rational" thinking; understand cause & effect.
Formal Operations	11+ yrs (if ever)	Abstract thought, hypothetical reasoning, metaphors

Some other general study tips:

- Short blocks of time are more effective than long study marathons.
- After 50 minutes of study, take a 10-minute break.
 - During your break, get up and move around. DO NOT turn on the TV, YouTube or Facebook, or start a video/computer game. *Don't let your breaks drag out to 30 minutes or an hour!*
- When you get bored, change subjects.
- If you can't change subjects, change the way you are studying it.
- Be persistent. You actually have to train your brain to concentrate for longer periods at a time, and that takes practice!