

## TEXTBOOK STUDY METHOD INVENTORY

### HOW MANY DO YOU DO?

- Use any recommended organized method for studying textbook assignments, such as SQ4R.
- Read textbooks at a different speed than you read fiction and light magazine articles
- At the beginning of the course, preview your textbooks by skimming the table of contents and analyzing the format of the book.
- Know whether your textbooks are up to date or obsolete.
- Know how to identify and use the special typographic helps, such as italics, headings and subheadings in your textbooks.
- Read the preface, foreword and introduction to your textbooks.
- Use the summaries in your textbooks.
- Know what a glossary is and how to use it.
- Use the index to look up ideas, dates and names you should know.
- At the beginning of the course, preview the index to review the textbook's contents.
- Before you begin studying, preview each chapter assignment by reading the first and last paragraphs and by changing headings into questions.
- Use the pictures, graphs, and maps to clarify the text assignment.
- When you have trouble understanding or learning an assignment, try to find a less difficult or differently written book on the subject.
- When the textbook material seems easy or is a repetition of what you already know, try to locate a more advanced book on the subject.
- Know specifically why you are reading an assignment.
- After an initial reading, mark your book with significant marginal summaries, brackets, boxes or sequence numbers.
- Make notes on your textbook reading.
- As you study an assignment, frequently recite the material to yourself.
- Study both your textbook and lecture notes when preparing for exams.

#### **Rate Yourself**

15-19 Excellent

12-15 Very Good

9-11 Average

6-8 Below Average

- 5 Poor

Adapted from *Study-Reading College Textbooks* by Frank L. Christ (SRA)  
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