

## ACTIVE LEARNING<sup>i</sup>

Test yourself by putting a check next to the study methods you currently use:

1. Write summaries in your own words of text or notes
2. Write questions to summarize notes or text
3. Make up notecards to summarize notes
4. Develop a chart to organize material
5. Construct possible quiz questions
6. Recite out loud
7. Teach the material to someone else
8. Write in the margins of your text
9. Read quietly
10. Listen to tapes of a lecture
11. Reread lecture/notes or a textbook chapter
12. Recopy lecture notes
13. Read someone else's lecture notes

### Active Versus Passive Learning

The first eight methods listed are active learning methods. They engage you in an active way with the material you need to know and help you retain it for later use. If you currently use them, keep up the good work!

Methods nine through thirteen are passive learning methods. If you use them alone, you will be less likely to retain the material you are studying. They can easily be turned into active learning methods.

Passive		Active
• Reading notes or textbook quietly	—————→	• Prepare summary questions
• Rereading notes before exam	—————→	• Quiz yourself from prepared questions
• Rereading text before exam	—————→	• Annotate in margins to summarize main ideas
• Memorizing definitions	—————→	• Recite out loud a sentence using term in context
• Recopying notes	—————→	• Annotate from text and write questions to summarize notes
• Reading someone else's notes	—————→	• Prepare outline from text and talk to instructor

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<sup>i</sup>Reference: Loyola University Chicago, Learning Assistance, 2005

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