

Partial List of AP Reading Strategies

- 1) Annotate – write relevant notes/questions/comments in the margins of the text
- 2) Underline/Highlight – use one of these methods to identify the most salient information from the text
- 3) Notecards – place key terms/ideas/names on one side of the card and an explanation on the other side and review
- 4) Traditional Notes – place a key word on the left hand column of the paper and relevant information to the right
- 5) Study Partner – find a classmate and discuss the subject matter and/or quiz one another
- 6) Twice Through the Text – read all the way through once, only write notes the second time through
- 7) Mnemonic Devices – use memory tricks to help remember difficult definitions, lists, names etc...
- 8) Chunk/Divide – make a calendar assigning exactly how many pages to read each night
- 9) Published Notes – find a good review book to supplement textbook reading
- 10) Power Summaries – read a paragraph and then paraphrase it and condense it to a single sentence
- 11) Graphic Organizers – use webbing, Venn diagrams etc... to assist in remembering the relevant information

see
back



World History Advanced Placement

Notecards

Also can use
"Quizlet" app
for digital flashcards

The purpose of notecards, or any other learning aid, is to gain a familiarity with the subject and keep it fresh over a long period of time. History is a subject, not unlike foreign language, which must be relearned and used in order to be understood. Teach your students not to memorize. Memorization will not be helpful on the essay portions of the exam. Create connections with notecards. Develop a facility with their use.

Students who do well on notecards, keep up with them, take them seriously, and consistently study with them do well on the AP exam.

Steps

1. Have students make notecards from a list provided by you, the text, or on their own. Cards can be 3x5, 4x6, or any other size. They should be uniform.
2. The front of the card should have the concept or phrase, where in the text it came from, and any additional connecting device, such as a theme, habit, or thread.
3. The back of the card should have a complete thought that corresponds to the concept or phrase on the front.
4. While studying with the stack, the student should make three piles:
 - a. Cards that they immediately recognize and can immediately answer
 - b. Cards that they recognize eventually and can eventually answer
 - c. Cards that they do not recognize
5. Students should then reshuffle groups b and c, and start over again. The idea is to get all cards into group a. When that is completed, they should move on to another set of cards.
6. Students should never use the notecards for more than 15 minutes at a time. Tell them to take a break and do something completely different for another 30 minutes and then come back to the cards. I usually tell them to eat, get a drink, walk to the bathroom, do different homework, or even watch some TV or listen to the radio or read. They'll be much more successful if they limit their time with the cards.

Theme 1-Trade
Habit-Comparison

Bentley, p. 423

Samarkand

Capital of Tamerlane's empire
Trading center for Central Asia

Put these
flashcards
onto a ring -
can trade w/
friends to
study