

Cornell Notes Example

RECALL COLUMN

Use this side to:

- a) Identify** places to revisit, gaps where you need clarification, or questions you have from lecture
- b) Create** questions to study from (based off of the information on the right)
- c) Highlight** keywords
- d) Make connections** to other material either from your experience or from the textbook.
- e) Reduce ideas** to concise summaries and important topics.

NOTE-TAKING COLUMN

Use this side to:

- 1. Record:** During the lecture, use the note-taking column to record the lecture using telegraphic sentences
- 2. Questions:** as soon after class as if possible, formulate questions based on the notes in the right-hand column. Writing questions helps to clarify meaning, reveal relationships, establish continuity, and strengthen memory. Also, the writing of questions sets up a perfect stage for exam-studying later.
- 3. Recite:** Cover the note-taking column with a sheet of paper. Then, looking at the question or cue-words in the question and cue column only, say aloud, in your own words, the answers to the questions, fact, or ideas indicated by the cue-words
- 4. Reflect:** Reflect on the material by asking yourself questions. For example: "What's the significance of these facts? What principles are they based on? How can I apply them? How do they fit in with what I already know? What is beyond them?"
- 5. Review:** Spend at least ten minutes every week reviewing all your previous notes. If you do, you'll retain a great deal for current use, as well as for the exam.

Adapt this to problem-based notes!

If you're taking notes that include practice problems (Math, Physics, etc.), use your Recall column to work the problem out, and your Note-Taking Column to explain all of the steps!

SUMMARY

After class, use this space at the bottom of each page to summarize the notes on that page. Putting notes into your own words, and consolidating ideas, is a fantastic way to begin learning the information. You're making connections, identifying gaps in your knowledge, and setting yourself up to study the material with a better awareness of where to start and how to focus.