

QTDASC





A COLORFUL INTERACTIVE NOTETAKING SYSTEM

Notes **MUST** be
handwritten,
NOT typed!


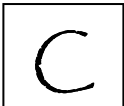
Supplies: You will need a notebook with plenty of paper, pens or highlighters in the following colors: red, green, purple, orange, blue, and black (you may choose different colors, but be consistent).

Before reading: Be aware of the pages assigned each night. It is important that you keep up with the assigned reading for the next day's activities.

When reading:

1. **IN RED**...pose the key question for the section you are reading by turning the dark bold headings of the major sections into questions. Put these red questions at the center of your notebook page. Underline or box them so they stand out. When you review, first try to answer these questions (in red) from memory. Practice recall.

2. **IN GREEN**...put the major terms that answer the question you posed. Often, but not always, they will be highlighted in bold print; make sure you include important people, research, and concepts as well. Put these at the far left of the page. When you review, to test your recall of the terms, people, research, etc., cover the definitions to see if you know them. Uncover and check your recall. **You will be given a list of terms for each chapter; you must number your terms in your notes to ensure that you cover all of them.**

3. **IN PURPLE**...next to the terms put their definition. Write in the center of the page whatever in the text you decide needs to be summarized or paraphrased or copied to explain the key terms, concepts, people. Copy important diagrams that summarize concepts. Circle the names of important researchers or key thinkers you find. When you review if you are unsure about a term or concept you can reread your explanations and definitions in your notebook without having to reread the text.

4. **IN ORANGE**...put your associations, questions, emotional responses at the far right of the page, next to whatever you have written from the text in purple. When you record your thoughts and feelings about what you are reading you more deeply process the information in a personally meaningful way. When you review some weeks or months later, these associations will help trigger memories of when you first saw the material, activating your context clues and your state dependent memory, insuring recall.


After reading:

5. **IN BLUE**...after you finish reading a major section, and the chapter, sum up in 5-8 sentences what have learned. Include your own main insights and feelings about what you gained personally from the chapter. Again, you are insuring the material is meaningful and relevant to you because you have made connections to your life experience. **The list of terms for each chapter will indicate where you should have a section summary.**

6. **IN BLACK**...write up your check-up questions. These could be fill-ins, multiple choice questions, or potential essay questions. When you review you could go directly to these check-up questions. Use them to drill yourself on the material or trade check-up questions with your study partner. **You must have at least 2-3 check up questions per section.**


Rationale for the colors: The brain likes contrast and novel stimuli. Color does that for the brain. If you find having that many pens a bother, then write your notes in the traditional black or blue, but then color each section with highlighters to get contrast – do not simply circle the sections!

Experiment with this system. Be creative! Make your notebook work for you. BE NEAT!