

# How to Prepare for Science Tests

## How Schoology is Organized:

1. There is one folder for each unit.
2. Within each folder, I post all pertinent information, notes, activities, etc. for each day. They are posted by date and topic. Any worksheet or activity that has been completed will have the answer key posted as well to aid students in their practice.

## How to tackle the study guide:

My study guides are split into two sections: Skills and Vocabulary.

### Skills

The study guide includes a list of skills students need to have to succeed on their tests. These skills have already been practiced in class. Therefore, to reinforce their knowledge of topics covered in these skills, students should:

1. Practice and review activities completed in class. Students can go to Schoology to access any of these if they do not have them.
2. Review quizzes. The quizzes include many questions similar to those on the test. Students are given their quizzes the day after they take them and we review them in class.

### Vocabulary

The vocabulary includes important words that have been reviewed throughout the unit. Memorization of definitions is only expected if specified; however, being able to use and identify the words when used in the proper context is crucial. To practice vocabulary, students should:

1. Review notes. Students' notebooks are not checked or graded; however, they are encouraged in class to take notes themselves or write down any important information. To aid students, any notes I've written on the board are posted on Schoology.
2. Review any vocabulary foldables/activities completed in class (if applicable).
3. Review vocabulary referenced in textbook pages (posted on Schoology).

Part of the learning process for students in science is *investigating* answers to scientific questions themselves. For this reason, I do not hand out answers to my study guides. Instead, I leave time for questions during class about the study guide, and students are more than welcome to come to my office during office hours to double-check their answers. For every test, at least one day is set aside for review. We will spend more time in class in preparation for the final.

## How to practice/prepare for the test:

Students can use the following study strategies:

1. Study sessions should be broken down into 15-20 minutes. Studying for three hours straight is NOT helpful to your brain :)
2. Make sure to take small 5-minute breaks in between study sessions. I do not suggest scrolling on your phone within these breaks as a 5-minute break could easily turn into an hour.
3. **DON'T CRAM THE NIGHT BEFORE.**
4. Use at least two of the following types of learning in each study activity:
  - a. Kinesthetic (Do)
  - b. Auditory (Hear)
  - c. Visual (See)
5. Make a quiz for yourself and/or friends.
6. Spend time reviewing *without* your notes or resources in front of you as you will not have them for the test.
7. Set a goal for each study session. (i.e. Do you want to focus on a specific topic? Do you want to spend time figuring out what parts of the study guide you are/are not confident in?)
8. Traffic Light Method: When you first start your study guide, highlight the things you need to review in red, the things you kind of need to review in yellow, and the things you are confident in and don't need to review as much in green.
9. Brain Dump: Use this strategy at the beginning and end of each study session. Set a timer for one minute and, without your notes, jot down everything you know about the topic you are studying.
10. In need of more resources outside of class for review? *Khan Academy* and *Crash Course* have some excellent videos across all topics. (You can use these for any class!)
11. See me during office/tutoring hours with any questions!