**Fletcher’s tips for effective studying….**

If you are struggling with remembering what is learned in class, here are some tips to help you out.

1. **Listen while in class**. Try to picture the stories I tell in your head to make them interesting.
2. **Do the work while *focusing* on the work**. When doing classwork, your attention should be on the classwork. Otherwise you will remember a random conversation with your peers instead of why the Fundamental Orders of Connecticut are important.
3. **Take your spiral home**. Anything I ask you to put in the spiral can help you study, but you have to read over it!
4. **Read the textbook**. Seriously. If you read it, you will better understand the material. The textbook is written for 8th graders and may better explain ideas than I can.
5. **Take notes**. While reading the textbook, summarize the chapter sections and write down key terms (they are usually bold).
6. **Make flash cards**. Write down vocabulary terms, key terms from the textbook, and major ideas. You will know what is important. (It is usually what I ask you to write down while taking prezi notes.) This can be done the old fashioned way or with **Quizlet** (a website that also lets you play games and quiz yourself over the content).
7. **Pace yourself**. Cramming the night before is stressful and not effective for remembering things. Instead work throughout the week. (perhaps 30 min 3 times a week). To better do this I recommend making a weekly hw/study schedule that creates a routine.
8. **Test Yourself.** Go over the flash cards and see how you did. Teach back to a peer or family member (if you can explain things and answer their questions, you know the material. If not—you don’t know the material). If no one wants to be taught US History, talk to yourself!
9. **Move around and change things up.** If you always try to memorize info in the same place in your house (or a classroom), you will begin to associate the knowledge with the location. When you go to a new place sometimes your mind will blank out. The solution is to move when you study and vary the locations where you study.
10. **Get lots of rest.** After a good study session, sleep helps glue the info in place. See if you can recall any of this info when you wake up!

**Above all else, you must attempt to VISUALIZE what it is you are learning**. Connect it to a movie you’ve seen or a book you’ve read. These images will make it more interesting and help it be memorable.

These tips can work in other classes too!