

► We still have spots for 9th-12th grade at The GREAT Academy & our Bridge to Success Program. If you have any questions please feel free to contact TGA or just come by & pick up an enrollment packet!

► Parent meeting night this month will be on Thursday, November 21st at 6:30 PM

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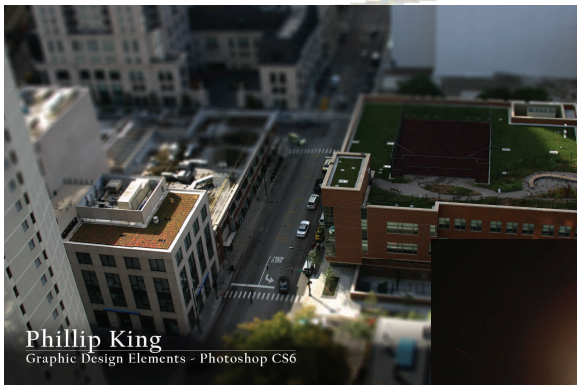
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Great Things

THE GREAT ACADEMY—MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



Phillip King
Graphic Design Elements - Photoshop CS6

Audio / Visual Department Graphic Design Class

TGA Would like to recognize two students for fantastic work in the our Graphic Design Class. Philip



Isaac Germany-Ramirez
Graphic Design Elements - Photoshop CS6

Tilt Shift Project

NOTICES

We celebrated a very successful Character Counts week October 21st through 24th! TGA students participated in activities that encompassed all the pillars of character & it was a wonderful reflection for everyone!

Friday, November 22nd, TGA will be hosting Fire Awareness & Prevention. School attendance is required.

Thanksgiving Break is coming up at the end of November!

TGA will be closed Wednesday, November 27th through Friday, November 29th for the Thanksgiving holiday!

Do you have Internet at home? Comcast offers a deal for students that receive free or reduced lunches. If you qualify you can get the internet in your home for just \$9.95 a month! Stop by TGA for more info or to pick up a flyer!

Lunch Break!

Do you know if your student is bringing lunch on a daily basis? While TGA provides a healthy breakfast for all students, we do not provide lunch. Students are to bring their lunch & many of them are not doing so ON A DAILY BASIS. Please make sure that your student has a healthy lunch to bring to school to fuel the mind for optimum learning!

What's your favorite Color?

One fateful morning during morning memo a very important question was posed to Mr. Matthews...What's your favorite color? To the surprise of students & teachers his answer was, "Success. Success is my favorite color!"

Success comes in many different forms & through many different mediums. What color is your success? What color do you think of when you think about succeeding. Succeeding as a student, a friend or a citizen. What color are you at right now & what can you do to become the color of your

NOTE TAKING

At The GREAT Academy (TGA), one of the normative expectations is that students take notes in their Edgenuity courses, with the exception of Math, Physics, & Chemistry, for which students may take notes in a spiral notebook. Normally, teachers hold students accountable to this policy by requesting to see a student's notes whenever that student asks for help, a retake, or to have a test unlocked. If a student has the required notes the teacher will comply with the request, but if that student does not have such notes, the instructor will require that the student complete them. Unfortunately, over the past few weeks I, along with TGA teachers, have observed that quite a few students are failing to comply with the note-taking requirement. Many students have objected to the policy with statements such as, "I already understand this material," or, "I don't need notes," or, "This is a waste of time." In response to these objections, I think it would be useful to review how effective note taking increases student performance.

Of the many reasons that a student would want to take notes, I will list several of the most important. The first is that while taking notes, students must remain more focused on the lesson than they would otherwise be. It is very easy to drift off or to focus on distraction during a lecture, & note-taking helps to eliminate such problems. Second, because note-taking activates multiple senses, it makes it more likely that students will retain information if they take notes. Not only is the student hearing the material, but also seeing it as the information is put to paper. Third, note taking helps students to organize information in a manner that is specifically accessible to them as individuals. Fourth note-taking activates higher level thinking skills which are necessary for academic success. The student learns to evaluate which parts of the lesson comprise main ideas, & which parts are made up of lesser details. As a result of these & the many other ways in which note taking helps to foster learning, students who take notes are 34% more likely to retain information from a lesson than students who do not (Howe, 19719, in Longman & Atkinson, 1999).

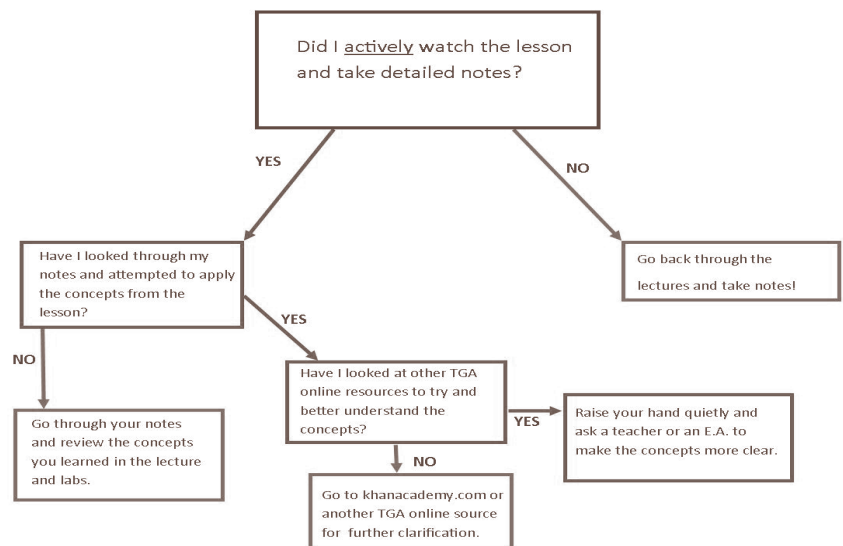
Because taking notes offers so many benefits, it's important that students understand what good note-taking is & is not. One mistake that students often make is that they try to copy down everything a teacher says or writes during a lecture. A better approach is to write down the main ideas, important definitions, or key examples. A related problem is that students often copy notes from Edgenuity without actually listening to the lecture; the result is that they fail to absorb the

material. One solution to this is to pay careful attention to a portion of the lecture without taking notes; then re-watch that section while actively taking notes. Another problem that students often encounter is that their notes are disorganized &, thus, hard to use during assignments & assessments. It best to organize notes in an outline format & to do so using bullet points, Roman Numerals, letters, numbers, & indentations. Finally, I highly suggest that when recording notes on paper, an individual section or notebook be dedicated to each subject. One should not find, for example, Chemistry & Math notes in the same section of spiral notebook or three-ring binder. By understanding the importance & proper methods of note-taking, students of TGA will be better equipped to experience academic success, & our school will be more likely to earn that A for which we are all working.

- ◆ Takes notes during ALL lectures and lessons!
- ◆ Ask for help before you get to a quiz!
- ◆ Quizzes and Tests are not the time for instruction; it is the time to engage your knowledge and what you learned.
- ◆ Actively listen to your lectures and take notes. Ask about something you don't understand while you are learning the lesson.
- ◆ If the Edgenuity lecture presents the lesson in a way that is unclear check into [khanacademy.com](https://www.khanacademy.com) or other resources to see if they are presented in a way you better understand.
- ◆ Do not expect to sleep or day-dream through lectures and then be successful in your activities or tests.

BEST EDGENUITY PRACTICES FOR STUDENTS

Asking for help flow chart...



The GREAT Academy

6001-A San Mateo Blvd NE
Albuquerque, NM 8710

NOVEMBER: Service learning event

Roadrunner Food Drive!

November 4th-24th

Students can donate canned, non-perishable food & our goal is 200 cans!