

# \* Why take Focused Notes?

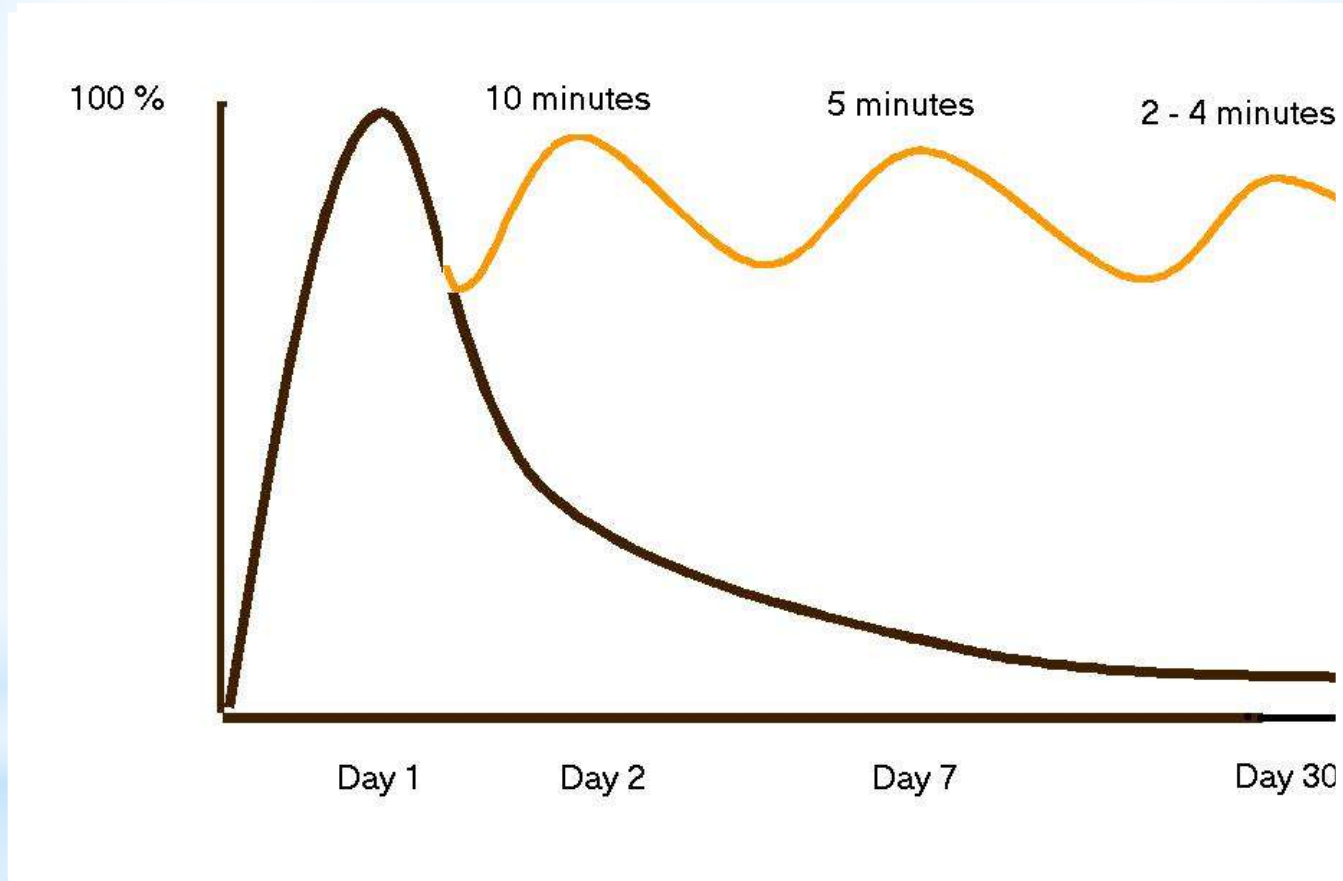
- Just a study tool that we hope works?
- Or, can note taking be an effective method for long-term memory retention and an catalyst for increased learning and achievement?

# \* Some Questions to Think About...

- \* Do you know **HOW** to take effective notes?
- \* Do you know how to **USE** notes?
- \* How can notes be most effectively used to retain relevant information?
- \* What does the research say about effective uses of note taking?

# \* The Curve of Forgetting

The Curve of Forgetting describes how we retain or get rid of information that we take in. It's based on a one-hour lecture.



- Notes without review: 97% information loss after 30 days
- Notes with daily review: >80% information in long-term memory

- \* Because of a block schedule, effective note taking, note interacting and note review becomes all the more important because of the greater amount of time between class sessions.**



# \* Part II: Note-Making

## Review and Revise Notes

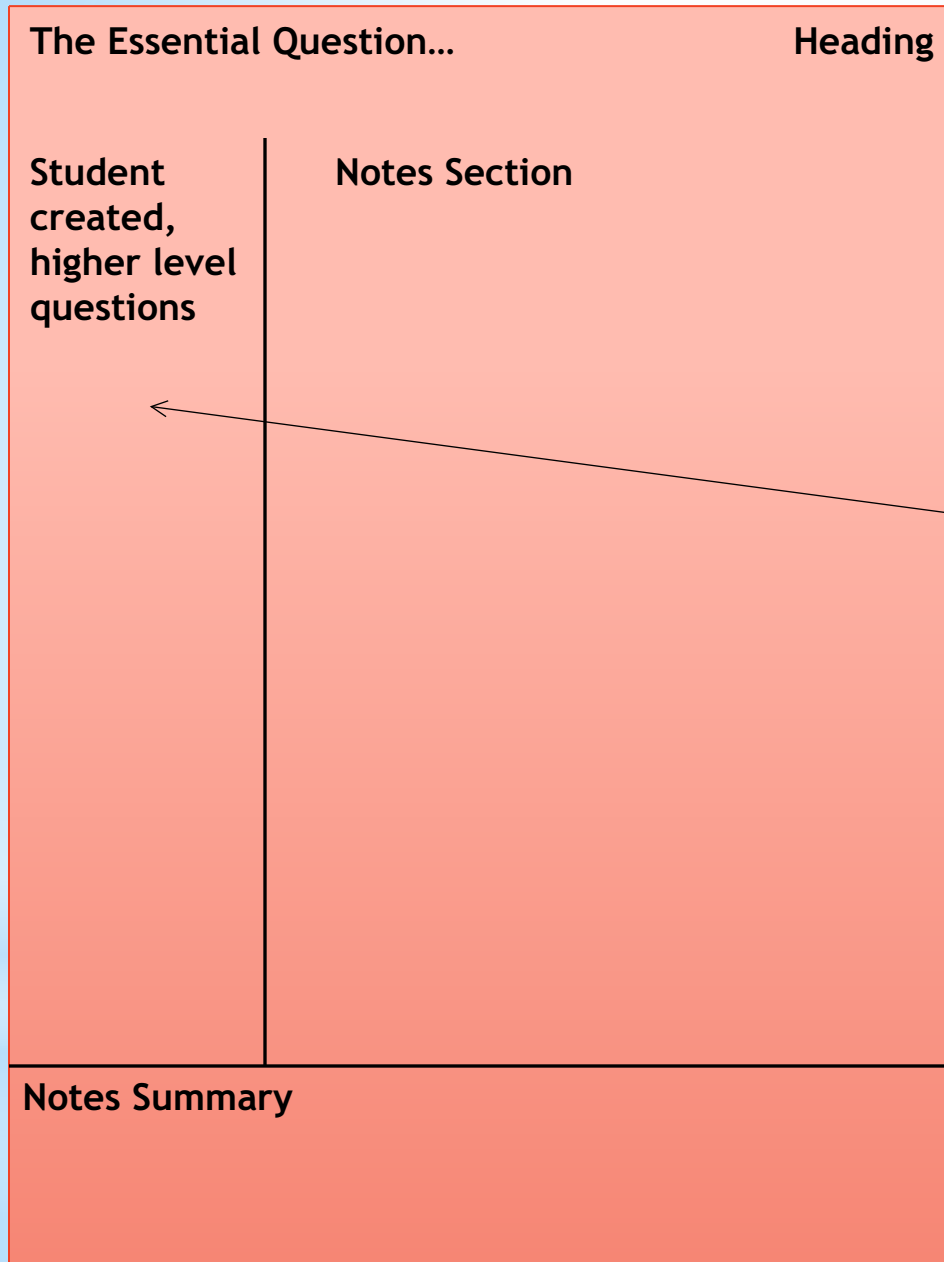
- \* Distinguish main ideas from details
- \* Categorize information by highlighting or color coding
- \* Delete unimportant information
- \* Add your own thinking - fill in details to clarify, complete, or create greater meaning and understanding
- \* Identify unclear information by using a question mark
- \* Add references from other materials as they come to mind or make connections to other concept/content
- \* Review for possible paper topics or test questions

# \* Part II: Note-Making

## Note Key Ideas to Create Questions

- \* Write questions on the left side of your notes page that connect to key ideas
- \* Review the main ideas highlighter on the right side

# \* Cornell Notes



- The most common error is having students simply list terms on the left column.
- The left column should be used for students to create questions: forcing them to think at a higher level and review our content!



# \* Other Options

- ❖ Annotations
- ❖ Worksheets
- ❖ Graphic Organizers
- ❖ Thinking Maps
- ❖ Any other kind of notes