

2024 Grade 12 learners



This is your opportunity to make your dreams come true

Grade 12 is a challenging and demanding year for learners. You need extra support and good advice. This booklet seeks to motivate and encourage current Grade 12 learners by providing the success stories of some of the learners who did well in past National Senior Certificate Examinations. These learners share their stories by first giving their backgrounds, highlighting the strategies that they used to

ensure good results, and then providing words of encouragement and motivation.

It is hoped that, upon reading the stories of these successful NSC candidates, you will be encouraged and convinced that, irrespective of your situation and the challenges that you face, you can achieve success if you work harder and smarter.



Reading and Learning



The SQ3R Method of Textbook Study

The SQ3R method is a proven, step-by-step strategic approach to learning and studying from textbooks. Why is it successful? Because it helps you to discover the important facts and ideas that are contained in your textbook, and master and retain that information so that you are prepared for an examination.

SQ3R is an abbreviation to help you remember the steps and to make references to it simpler. The symbols stand for the steps followed in using the method: Survey, Question, Read, Recite, and Review. A description of each of these steps is given below:

These five steps, when applied to textbook assignments, will help you in making your study time more efficient and effective. While this method will take time and practice to master, once it is learned and applied, it will no longer be necessary to re-read textbook chapters. The added benefit of using the SQ3R Method is that often you will find your own questions on a test. Because many instructors use the textbook as an outline for their courses, test questions will be coming from the same source as yours. As you review your notes and texts, you will be able to predict and prepare answers for many exam questions.

1. SURVEY: (before class)

Read the following: This survey should take no more than 10-25 minutes, even on the longest chapter. The purpose of surveying the chapter is to get a general idea of what it is going to be about, what kind of information the author gives, how many sub-topics the information is broken down into, and how much time you will have to spend reading it.

- ➡ Chapter Title
- ➡ Introduction
- ➡ Objectives
- ➡ Vocabulary
- ➡ Summary
- ➡ Review questions
- ➡ Boldface headings
- ➡ Graphics and their accompanying captions



4 strategies to master
Reading with understanding
<https://goo.gl/LzegQI>

2. QUESTION: (before class)

Turn each boldfaced heading into a question by using one of the following words: who, what, where, when, why, or how.

- ➡ The reason for creating a question out of each heading is to set a purpose for reading the material in more detail. When you are reading to find the answer to a specific question, you are reading actively.

3. READ: (after class)

Actively read the section of the text accompanying the heading for an answer to the question you asked yourself in step 2. The answer will usually be made up of the main idea(s) of the paragraph(s) and the supporting details. Read the section to find the answer. The purpose of reading is to find the answer to your question.

4. RECITE: (after class)

Recite the answer to each question to yourself. Put the answer into your own words, or rephrase the author's words. Be sure that you can recall the answer, not just recognize the information as correct. Write the questions in your notebook along with a few key words or phrases that summarize the answer. The purpose of doing this is to help you think about and understand what you have read. When you rewrite or rephrase what you read, your comprehension and retention will improve.

5. REVIEW: (before next class)

To review, cover the answers and ask yourself the questions. If you can't answer the question, look at your notes and test yourself again. Once you are sure you know and understand the question and answer, check it off. The purpose of reviewing is to help you prepare for the eventual test. Remember that very few people read textbooks for pleasure; they are read to acquire information and to remember and apply it. Reviewing helps you remember the information.

Muzzamil Mohamed

Rondebosch Boys' High School - Gr12 2023

I have gathered, from numerous conversations with Grade 11 students, that the Matric year gives rise to as much anxiety as excitement. This anxiety is largely engendered by an uncertainty of how to adequately prepare for the unique challenges that accompany the final year of school. Despite this, your Grade 12 year has the potential to be one of the best of your school career – it merely requires consistent, unwavering effort from day one.



Planning and preparation are integral to succeeding as well as enjoying your year. This is not the year for the last minute.com approach. Use every minute of class time productively – your teachers are a much better source of learning and information than the Internet!

Pivotal to success in your Languages is regular reading. This is a keystone that, I believe, cannot be replaced by anything else. Casual reading, whether for enjoyment or enlightenment, will enhance your ability to decipher both explicit and subtle messages within prescribed novels and comprehension texts. Furthermore, exposure to diverse writing styles will enable you to improve your own by mimicking and adapting those that most appeal to you, resulting in a unique, impactful writing technique.

Create study groups to help you deal with the content-heavy subjects – testing one another, explaining concepts and co-creating summaries and mind maps will help you embed the details in your mind.

Lastly, aim for balance in this crucial year. Studying is easier and more effective if you build in exercise and appropriate social time. Keeping your friendship bonds strong will help you cope better as well as build great memories in this so-important year.

Mischa Carnow

Apex High School - Matric 2023

My steps to success for grade 12

If I could describe matric in one word, it would be overwhelming! Matric will push you beyond your limits but will make you the better for it. You learn as you progress throughout the year on how to make your grade 12 year a success and here are my few:



Self-confidence. Matric is tough, no doubt about it! There is the pressure of studying content for each of your subjects, completing homework, passing your exam series, managing your personal and academic lifestyle so that they do not conflict. Therefore it is crucial to have confidence in yourself. Trust yourself! The thought of not passing your matric year at all or not well enough will always be there. I encourage you to push through because you have so much to gain rather than lose. It is your duty to live it to its fullest and to the best of your potential!

Mental preparation. Take the time to clean and organize your room into a study space. Oversee your examination dates and schedule your study times according to it beforehand. Mentally, ensure that your mind is well-composed and able to absorb the content you are revising. For example, go on walks, stretch any tense muscles and practice words of affirmation. I find that breathing exercises and having dance breaks between studying are most helpful for me. Do what you're most comfortable with to put your mind at ease. Studying should not be stressful. "Take it easy, you got this", as my best friends always remind me.

Be proud of yourself. Do not allow doubt to creep in if it concerns not studying enough or not passing exceptionally well for your assignments, class tests or examinations. Doubt will always be lurking in the back of your mind. I urge you to shove that thought even further away. The mark that you are graded on does not determine your worth as a person. Be proud of what you achieved because you did that! You made it happen despite the many obstacles you had to overcome, not only in your academic life but in your personal life as well. Before any of

my tests or exams, my mother always told me, "You do your best and that is all that matters". I believe her and you should too!

Most importantly, always remember that small successes are achievements too. In order to excel in something, you need to be knocked down a few times first. So do not focus on the low grade that you received or ever compare your progress to others around you. If you studied for two hours and still did chores. That is great! You completed your homework for all your seven subjects and still prepared for upcoming class tests in one afternoon. That is amazing! Success does not begin with big and irrational decisions; you have to take baby steps first. Give yourself a pat on the back for always being resilient and continue on the path to achieve greater successes.

The advice that I can offer to each matriculants reading this is you are still human, so be kind to yourself. Rely on your fellow matriculants and remember your friends are there to support you. Stay committed to the goal you want to achieve at the end of the year. Matric is not just to be passed but it is also the foundation for your future.

Zoë Long

The Road to Success

We all know Queen's famous lines, "under pressure, pushing down on me" and one is certainly feeling the pressure as matric students. The big mantra one hears about matric is to work hard and consistently, eating healthily and doing regular exercise and taking no breaks. While these are all good seeds of advice, they leave no room for growth, life experience or even any room to breathe.

One's final year is on one level about hard work and commitment, not just academically but in your external activities - a time to shine. However it is important to leave room to breathe amongst the high intensity year ahead of one. The year is about creating a memorable life experience that adds to one's character and who they are as a person. It allows for



both failures and achievements and entails a year which one will never forget. One's final year is on one hand, a year which a student almost doesn't look forward to because of the immense amount of pressure forced on to one and the high expectations which follow. It is labelled as the year which determines the rest of your life, yet you need not know all the answers. Focus on the here and now, after all the way to eat an elephant is one bite at a time - through perseverance and courage.

"I like to listen. I have learned a great deal from listening carefully. Most people never listen." - Ernest Hemingway

Listening is an instrumental factor in life, specifically when it comes to learning and gaining life experience. Take into the account the advice given to you by parents and teachers to work hard and make sacrifices. However, one needs to listen over and above these role models to oneself, one's physical and mental state of mind. Success is not a state of doing, but rather a state of mind and therefore empowers one to achieve and create a life experience which enables growth and self-love.

"Change is inevitable. Change is constant" - Benjamin Disraeli

Change, a word connotated with negativity and anxiety. It alludes to distant and unhappy memories. Yet, this is quite the opposite of one's matric year. This change is not a negative one, but a positive opportunity allowing for character development and life experience. Yes, some changes might be difficult and one will face many challenges throughout their final year. Who knows, there might possibly be another world crisis, like the 2020 Covid-19 pandemic. All worrisome thoughts aside, think for a moment of all the positive change which has occurred in one's life leading to new opportunities for growth and a memorable life experience and therefore, the positive changes which await amidst one's final year before that so-called "sweet freedom".

If there is anything which should be instilled in one's mind, it should be that yes, change is inevitable and it is constant. However change does not mean a bad ending or a consequential downfall, it often leads to growth. Whether that be in oneself, one's academics or one's state of mind. One should not fear the change and challenges which lie ahead, but rather embrace them and face them head on like a bear in the forest.

Making a career choice ...

Do you know...

- What you would like to become one day?
- What career you plan to pursue after school?
- What subjects you will need to study for this career?
- Where you will study?
- How you will pay for your studies?

Are you able to...

- Plan well for your future?
- Make informed decisions about a career?
- Make good choices?

LET THE WCED ASSIST YOU TODAY....

This book is filled with information on FET subjects and possible careers that can be pursued if you have selected these subjects.

The subjects that you have selected can lead you to a variety of career fields within which you will find a multitude of careers to select from, amongst others:

Languages and Communication: editor, writer, Interpreter, journalist, translator

Visual Arts & Design: art teacher, artist, advertising, clothing designer, dental technician

Performing Arts: actor, comedian, disc jockey, make-up artist, television producer

Marketing and sales: advertising, entrepreneur, fashion buyer, tourism and travel

Management and Planning: administrative officer, event manager, project manager

Financial Management: accountant, auditor, treasurer, credit controller, broker

Clerical and Secretarial: secretary, receptionist, data capturer, proof reader

Plants and Animals: tour leader, agriculturist, biologist, horticulturist, zoologist

Sport: biokineticist, sport coach, fitness instructor, personal trainer, referee

Trades: agricultural technician, carpenter, coppersmith, locksmith, welder

Engineering: air traffic controller, draughtsman, civil engineer, mechanical engineer

Sciences: biochemist, cartographer, chemist, physicist, soil scientist, nuclear scientist

Computers: business systems analyst, computer hardware/ software engineer

Health Sciences: dentist, dermatologist, internist, medical doctor, psychiatrist



Health Support Services: dietician, health worker, nurse, occupational therapist

Social Sciences: ambassador, editor, historian, political scientist, social worker

Law: lawyer, advocate, investigator, foreign affairs officer, public protector

Education and Support Services: au pair, career counselor, teacher, librarian

Creative Services: caterer, chef, engraver, hairdresser, hotel manager, sign-writer

General Services: air hostess, barber, chauffeur, cleaner, meter reader, taxi driver

Law Enforcement and protection Services: policeman, soldier, traffic officer

Find a career that will be compatible with the subjects that you have chosen. If you are not sure whether your interests and talents will guide you to a career, it is important that you complete the interest questionnaire or self-explorative exercise that is part of the information on the PACE Career Centre's CD or in the PACE Career Directory that is available at your school. It is important that you research the careers in order to find answers to all your questions.

The interest questionnaire allows you to reply YES/NO to 105 random interest questions, regarding likes/dislikes, talents, interests, personality, etc.. After completing the entire questionnaire, a profile is shown of the career fields that you could be interested in, based on your replies. The career directory gives a list of 21 career fields, but there could be more. The career fields are arranged from most interested to least interested. Now you may research the field to determine which careers holds your interest most, and then research specific careers.

Speak to your Life Orientation teachers at school. They will be able to assist you with more information on possible careers.