

**Better Grades — 16**

**Text Provides Background For Classroom**

By The Reading Laboratory  
Written for  
Newspaper Enterprise Assn.

We've just passed the halfway point in our 30 articles, so let's take a brief backward look to see what we've covered. By now, you should be developing a point of view for each course—trying to find the purpose behind each course. You've studied the instructor—what are his biases, what is he trying to accomplish. You're trying to bring your outside knowledge into each course and are in the process of developing a course vocabulary. By now, you've found the proper environment, just the right little cubbyhole where you can study best, and you're budgeting your time—studying in sports to help your memory.

You've overviewed the textbook, using the Table of Contents and Unit summaries, or whatever other aids were available. You overview each Unit as you come to it, and finally, you apply the "survey and resurvey" method to each textbook chapter. In connection with the "survey and resurvey" method, we've discussed maps and graphs, memorization and the best ways to become an active reader.

In this article, we'll see how to use your studying at home to make your class work easier

and vice versa.

If your teacher just follows the textbook, you've no problem. If you fall asleep in class, you can always find all you need to know in the textbook that night. But most teachers just use the text as a general guide; their class lectures may concentrate on points that are only briefly mentioned in the book, if at all. In a case like this, a little planning can save you a lot of work. Here's what you should do:

The night before the class, survey the next textbook chapter a couple of times. Use the bold print, the summary, the maps and the graphs. Don't dig into it too deeply—just get a general idea of what's in the chapter and some idea of how detailed the chapter is.

In class, the next day, you need to take notes only on what is not in the textbook. There's no point in rewriting the textbook in class. A good overview the night before (it takes only 10 minutes) will save a lot of unnecessary scribbling during class and will give you a chance to really listen to the teacher for a change.

Ideally then, your text will provide the background that will let you take an intelligent part

in class discussions. If your teacher marks for class participation, work up questions on the text the night before and bring them up in class. Make sure they're good questions; those that are only time-wasters will pull your mark down.

Briefly then: if your teacher follows the text exactly, just study the text. If he uses the text for background, overview the chapter the night before class and take lecture notes only on what is not in the text. And use your overview of the chapter so you can shine in class discussions.

(Next: How to take notes in class.)

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**Hatfield Gives Post To DeLap**

Loyd DeLap of Klamath Falls, state commander of the Oregon Disabled American Veterans, has been named co-chairman for Veterans Day observances by Gov. Mark O. Hatfield.

Hatfield appointed DeLap co-chairman with the state commanders of the other veterans' organizations.

DeLap will confer in Portland with his co-chairmen on plans for Veterans Day, Nov. 11. DeLap is bailiff of circuit court.

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