

Biology Learning: Experts vs. Novices

Vocabulary Skills:

Knowledge of Greek & Latin roots of words:

- Greatly reduce study time required for Understanding of Terminology

Mnemonic techniques:

- These can help in Recall of Terms and Terminology

Conceptual Understanding:

Experts:

- Work to Understand Concepts – helps in Learning of Terminology and Definitions
- Work to See the bigger picture (literally): Especially in Diagrams or Illustrations

Novices:

- Try to memorise without seeing the big picture

Review Strategies for Test-Preparation:

Experts:

- Engage in routine (timed) short quizzes to test their Understanding and Recall
- Flash Cards
- Drawing “Mind Maps” or Diagrams
- Focus on identifying weak points of their knowledge and strengthening them