PRACTICAL AND FINANCIAL LITERACY

Creating Flashcards

Difficulty level: Easy

Practical and Financial Literacy

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Overview of the concept

This is how you make study cards that quiz you one fact at a time. You put a question on one side and the answer on the other, like a vocabulary word or a times table fact, and you test yourself until the answer comes fast. The cards you keep missing are the ones you study most, so your time goes where it is needed. It is a simple tool, but it works because it forces you to remember instead of just rereading.

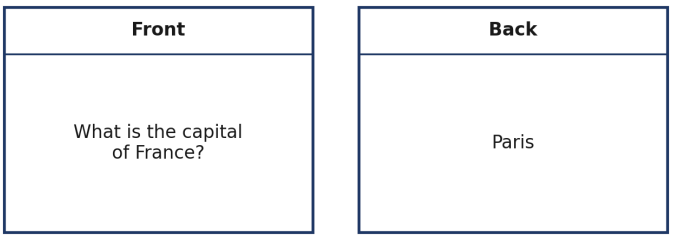


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Worked examples

EXAMPLE 1

Q How do you make a flashcard for “Paris is the capital of France”?



SOLUTION

Front: a question with one right answer. “What is the capital of France?”

Back: one short answer. “Paris.”

One fact per card, then test yourself front to back, and shuffle the cards so you remember the answers, not the order.

EXAMPLE 2

Q After testing, you have a pile of cards you know and a pile you missed. What do you study first next session?

SOLUTION

Start with the missed pile.

Missed cards get more reviews; known cards get fewer, but still sometimes.

Then mix the known cards back in, so nothing is forgotten.

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Practice questions

1 What goes on the front of a flashcard?

- A A question or prompt
- B One short answer
- C A picture
- D The date

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2 What goes on the back of a flashcard?

- A A long paragraph
- B Three facts
- C One short answer
- D A question or prompt

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3 How many facts should one flashcard hold?

- A One
- B Two
- C Three
- D As many as fit

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4 Why shuffle the cards?

- A So the cards last longer
- B So you recall the answers, not their order
- C So you can sort them by colour
- D So the answers stay in the same order

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5 After testing, what do you do with the cards you missed?

- **A** Throw them away.
- **B** Review them again sooner.
- **C** Review them less often.
- **D** Put them at the back and forget them.

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6 Your card front says “The capital of France”. What is wrong with this front?

- **A** It is too short to read.
- **B** It is a heading, not a question; it should ask “What is the capital of France?”
- **C** It has the answer on the front.
- **D** It uses the wrong words for the answer.

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7 What is a good flashcard question for “Water boils at 100°C”?

- A “Water boils at 100°C.”
- B “Does water boil?”
- C “At what temperature does water boil?”
- D “Is water hot?”

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8 When should you test yourself with flashcards?

- A Only once, right after learning
- B After learning, and again later, spread out over time
- C Only the night before a test
- D Never, once you know them

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9

What should you do with cards you always get right?

A Review them less often, but still sometimes.

B Throw them away.

C Review them more often than the missed ones.

D Never review them again.

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10

True or false: reading the front and back of a card together counts as testing yourself.

A True

B False

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ANSWER KEY

1. A question or prompt

2. One short answer

3. One

4. So you recall the answers, not their order

5. Review them again sooner.

6. It is a heading, not a question; it should ask “What is the capital of France?”

7. “At what temperature does water boil?”

8. After learning, and again later, spread out over time

9. Review them less often, but still sometimes.

10. False

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