

Practice Tests Transcript

0:00:00.450,0:00:03.100

Students don't always think deeply
about what's going on in class,

0:00:03.100,0:00:04.870

and sometimes their mind wanders.

0:00:04.870,0:00:08.629

One simple solution to keep them on
track that also helps them learn

0:00:08.629,0:00:12.789

is to give practice tests. There's plenty of
scientific evidence that having students

0:00:12.789,0:00:16.100

practice answering questions helps them learn the material.

0:00:16.100,0:00:19.700

In this segment of 'Change in a Minute', we want to give you some suggestions on

0:00:19.700,0:00:23.600

how to get the most of retrieval practice during your class.

0:00:23.600,0:00:27.360

Practice testing Improves learning by
highlighting important information

0:00:27.360,0:00:31.690

and helping students link this new

information with their existing knowledge.

0:00:31.690,0:00:36.500

It also helps students create cues for remembering this new information.

0:00:37.000,0:00:41.400

During each class, consider including a couple of practice questions about the most important

0:00:41.400,0:00:45.900

concepts that you covered. It doesn't matter if these questions are multiple choice open-ended,

0:00:45.900,0:00:51.400

as long as the questions push students to try to retrieve the correct answers from memory.

0:00:51.400,0:00:56.030

Finally - these practice tests are especially helpful if you explain the correct answer

0:00:56.030,0:01:00.100

when you're done. It only takes a couple minutes to incorporate a question or two

0:01:00.100,0:01:03.920

per class, but this is time well spent. If interspersed through class,

0:01:03.920,0:01:07.500

your students will know what they need to pay attention to.

0:01:07.500,0:01:13.000

Retrieval practice - it's simple, it's evidence based, and it works.