

NOTES ON THE PAR

Critical Thinking in Self-Directed Learning with EmoEles

The PAR-Drill and the PAR

Promote – Preview: to get a general idea or a bird’s eye view of what you are about to study. Do this by studying the emphasized words in the passage namely: **highlighted words, bold words, italicized words, colored words, underlined words, sub-headings, headings, and captions.** (Refer to the story. Use **High Bicou’s Head Cap** as a mnemonic to recall these emphasized words.)

Quality – Question: Set questions about the emphasized words that you have identified. Ask good questions using question words such as; when, where, who, what, why, how, etc. Use Bloom’s taxonomy to set questions for different levels of cognitive assessment and achievement. Write down your questions in your EmoEles study notebook. You will learn how to record your questions with the help of a video demonstration later in this course.

Reading – Read: Read carefully to find answers to your questions, starting with the main textbook or learning medium that you are studying.

All – Analyze: Do a critical examination of the answers you have identified. Do this by checking from other sources such as other textbooks, your dictionary, credible online sources, teachers, etc... to find out what other authors have also contributed to the emphasized concepts. You should still do this analysis even if your main textbook does not offer an answer to a question. You will find the answers through your analyses if your question is a good one.

Schools – Synthesize: Put the ideas you found through your analyses in your own words just the way you understood them. Your syntheses should be comparatively unique but true.

Rise – Record: write down the answers to your questions in your EmoEles study notebook. You will learn how to record your syntheses/answers with the help of a video demonstration later in this course.

Recites – Recall/Remember: Cover your answers and test your ability to remember the syntheses that you created for your questions. What you recall does not necessarily have to be the exact copy of what you had recorded. It should simply be true. You can use mnemonics where necessary to help you do this. You will learn more about mnemonic devices in your next course.

A – Apply: Use or practice what you have studied. Remember, one basic principle of your brain concerning your memory is “**Use it or Lose it**”. Every healthy brain will eventually forget or discard what its owner does not use. It is by consistently applying what we learn that we become skillful at it. Where it is difficult, unwise, or impossible for you to practice, you may download or find a video on the subject and study what is involved in its application pending the time when you can safely proceed.

Robot – Revise/Review: review what you have studied and make sure you have done the right thing. Your review should be continued periodically, using the EmoEles System of Spaced Repetition. You will learn about the EmoEles system of spaced repetition with the help of a video demonstration later in this course.