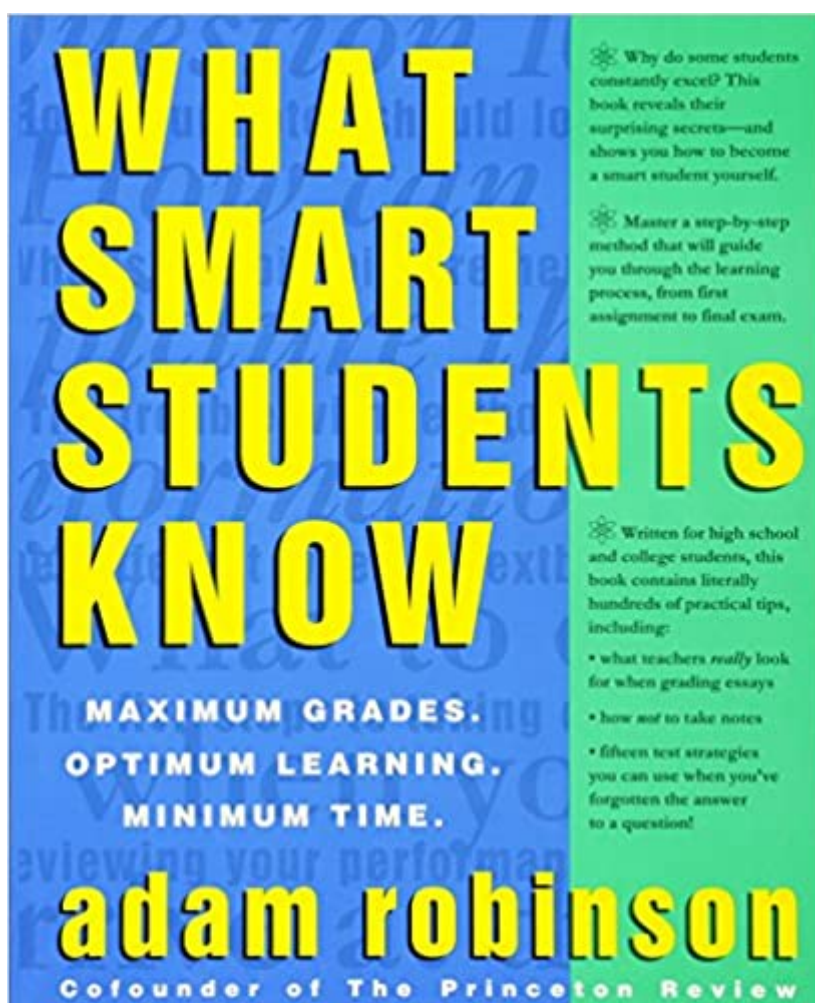


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# What Smart Students Know: Maximum Grades. Optimum Learning. Minimum Time.



## Synopsis

Successful students are not necessarily smarter than their less successful peers, they have simply mastered the art of efficient learning. Adam Robinson introduces high school and college students to an innovative approach that can help them achieve top grades while discovering the joy of true learning.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Starting from the premise that successful students are not necessarily any more brilliant than their less successful peers, but have simply mastered the art of efficient learning, Adam Robinson introduces high school and college students to an innovative approach that can help them achieve top grades while discovering the joy of true learning. Line drawings.

Adam Robinson graduated from Wharton before earning a law degree at Oxford University in England. Robinson, a rated chess master, devised and perfected the Joe Bloggs approach to beating standardized tests in 1980, as well as numerous other core Princeton Review techniques. A freelance author of many books, Robinson has collaborated with the Princeton Review to develop a number of its courses.

I really like this book because not only did it provide various study tips, it also gave great examples of how to teach yourself. How to teach yourself multiple concepts, ranging from specific subjects to

how to take notes from lectures v.s textbooks, etc. I feel my school did not focus on teaching students how to actually ask questions and search for the answers, but more on passing tests and searching for information that the teacher or school wanted to know. With the help of this book, I realized that you can't really understand or attempt to remember the purpose of the information if you don't know why it's relevant or important to know. After struggling my first semester in college simply because I didn't know how to teach myself, I decided I wasn't going to rack up thousands of dollars in student loans just to struggle and get average grades. So I gave this book a try because of the positive reviews and was really happy with my purchase. I use multiple study strategy or tip books as well in conjunction with this book and developed my own working methods. However, the majority of my most effective practices came from this book and I did benefit the most from it. Another thing I enjoyed about this read was it provided suggestions for improving your overall attitude about school and tips to help yourself actually enjoy it and whatever specific subject or task you don't like. If you find specific subjects boring this book can help you find ways to make them fun. If you don't want to put in the effort to be successful, you won't be! The narrator has a practical and frankly, blunt way of stating facts and explains the concepts clearly with a mildly humorous attitude. There are multiple, easy quizzes and exercises that I truly did find helpful, especially if you remain open minded and actually try your best. If you are really struggling with retaining information, reading dry textbooks (or highlighting every other word), having a hard time paying attention in class, or have other issues with school I highly recommend this product.

I was skeptical about this book when I received it, my brain yelled waste of money and time (properly due to its ridiculous subtitle). This nagging thought stayed with me through the first few pages where the author raved on and on how much my life would improve due to his little book. But I persisted and alas I cannot find words to express how happy I am about this choice. The author shows you how to learn any subject so it sticks, without the classical emphasis on repetition. Here for the first time was I explained how to positively control and use the thoughts that hurl though my head when I read something. How to keep up focus when the text is just plain boring and keep your head clear when you are absolutely lost in a hard subject. Not a simple feat and I am baffled as to why one can go through almost 20 years of public school, high school, college and university without ever being thought how to learn efficiently. I often get remarks from my colleagues about how I master my field, and just how smart I must be, but all I can ever tell them is that I am as stupid (or gifted) as the rest of you. The only difference is that when I now open a book, I do it with a purpose, with a plan. I am going to rule this subject and master it completely. Since reading this book I have

begun telling everyone about it (to the degree where I even thought about mailing a copy to the ministry of education) - it really is that good. So if you want to go into the exam room with that extra zing of self-consciousness, knowing that you cannot fail, that the best grade is marked for you, then read this book.

This book is truly revolutionary. It really changed the way I look at studying and education in general. Other than the practical skills this book gives, it helps you see a new perspective about why it's important to learn. One of the important issues it sheds light on is that how teachers/school administrators/parents/students see grades as a viable indicator of intelligence (though they clearly aren't), and that if schools tried harder to engage students that's when the real learning happens. Sadly not much has changed from 1993 (when this book was written), and the traditionalist approach to academia is still prevalent. This book will help you bypass all these hurdles and to hack your education hence making the most out of your academic career. **WARNING:** This book requires a lot of work. You really need to put the time and the effort in to see results but if you're willing to do all that you'll definitely be thankful.

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