

TRANSCRIPTION PODCAST # 4

Hello and welcome to the podcast series on Listening strategies for French Immersion students, produced by from the faculty at the Official Languages and Bilingualism Institute of the University of Ottawa.

This podcast is part of a series to help you improve your listening strategies and provide practical tips on note taking in the context of academic courses in your second language.

PODCAST # 4 : Reviewing (evaluating) the lecture

In this podcast, you will learn more about what to do after the lecture is over in order to complete your notes, verify your understanding and consolidate your learning.

Once the lecture is over and you've left class, it is important to return to your notes as soon as possible. If the lecture is still fresh in your memory, it's easier to fill in missing information, check for coherence in the notes, identify where you have questions and try to find some answers by consulting either the course readings or your classmates.

Student: How can I best do that?

Prof: Well, ideally, you could arrange to meet with other students in the class on either a regular basis after class or for group study sessions at mutually agreeable times. Choose to work with students who appear to be engaged in the class, and try to sit with these students. Now, these could be either francophone peers or classmates from your FSL support course. The purpose of these meetings can be to fill in gaps in the notes or simply to exchange notes.

You'll have another opportunity to review your notes if your professor is in the habit of reviewing the previous lecture at the beginning of class. Take advantage of this to

compare your previous notes with the professor's summary. Underline the key points that he or she chooses to emphasize and fill in any missing information.

Student: Why is it important to do that kind of review?

Prof: The goal of the post-lecture review is to look over your notes, make connections between ideas, fill in missing information and highlight (or underline, or colour code) key ideas. If you are doing this on your own, it is also important to actually recite the lecture content. While this may seem weird to you, reciting your notes out loud to yourself is important for ensuring that what you have written makes sense and that ideas are connected.

Follow up on the professor's suggestions about what to read for more information or, in the case of video, what to watch. This is especially important if your notes are sketchy and your understanding is not 100%. If the professor says that the recommended extra reading is integral to the course, then you should definitely follow up on this recommendation,.

Student: What if, while I'm reviewing my notes, I realize that some points are unclear?

Prof: If necessary, make an appointment to visit the professor or teaching assistants during office hours. Get there with clearly articulated questions about the confusing points. You can clear up what you don't understand and at the same time get to know the professor and engage in an exchange of ideas and opinions related to course content. Ask the professor for copies of diagrams, figures or PowerPoint slides, if these can be made available.

And, incidentally, the professor may end up being an important contact for letters of reference for future jobs or graduate school.

To conclude, when class is over, your work is not done. An important part of successful academic listening is the reviewing phase that occurs after each class. Working alone, with a partner or with a study group, you should review your notes, fill in missing information, and highlight key points. This ensures that comprehension is complete and that your notes are coherent and thorough for subsequent review and exam preparation. Thank you for listening to this podcast on effective listening strategies brought to you by the faculty at from the Official Languages and Bilingualism Institute of the University of Ottawa

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