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How is Information Organized?

(1) CONCEPT-DEVELOPMENT-DEFINITION

Topic followed by subtopics, OR topic followed by related facts and details, OR straight classification of concepts or facts, OR simple definition of a concept.

Examples:

- Topic of memory followed by subtopics of working memory, etc.
- Topic of working memory followed by details like the capacity of working memory.
- Botany classification of a species of plants, Mendelyev periodic table in chemistry.
- Definition of long-term memory.

(2) GENERALIZATION

Concept (or principle) followed by supporting evidence or examples.

- Examples: the concept of evolution followed by evidence, concept of integration by parts (calculus) followed by examples.

(3) CAUSE-EFFECT

Information about factor(s) or cause(s) leading to a specific outcome or effect.

- Examples: factors leading to a mathematical or scientific result, factors leading to a historical event.

(4) QUESTION-ANSWER

Information that poses a question (problem) and answer (solution).

- Examples: mathematical or scientific question (problem) followed by an answer (solution), a sociological problem followed by proposed solutions.

(5) COMPARE-CONTRAST

Information that looks at similarities and differences, pros and cons, or any other type of comparison.

Examples: compare and contrasting of

- economic or political theories.
- different literary styles.
- types of psychological therapy.

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(6) SEQUENCE

Information that goes according to a sequence.

Examples:

- Historical events
- A weather system (geography)
- Computer science program
- Proof sequence in mathematics

(7) SUMMARIZATION

Simple identification of the most important main points of a general topic.

- Examples: introductory, summary or "main points" section of a textbook.

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