



# How to get a *good* degree

*Making the most of your time  
at university*

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## What do you actually *do* during lectures?

What you do often depends on how the lecturer conducts the session. Some lecturers seem to want to remain in charge of the proceedings throughout their lectures and tend not to involve students much. Others encourage participation and discussion. Try the task below to see what you can do to derive maximum learning pay-off from lectures.

### **Task: evaluating what you *do* in lectures**

Rate each of the following processes that *you* may be able to do in lectures according to how significant you consider the associated learning pay-off to be. Then compare your ratings to the discussion that follows.

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<i>Things you do during lectures</i>	<i>High learning pay-off</i>	<i>Moderate learning pay-off</i>	<i>Low learning pay-off</i>
1 Looking at the lecturer.			
2 Looking at the board or screen.			
3 Listening.			
4 Taking notes: copying things down.			
5 Making notes: capturing things for yourself.			
6 Asking questions.			
7 Answering questions.			
8 Writing down questions.			
9 Discussing things with fellow-students.			
10 Doing exercises and tasks.			
11 Thinking.			
12 Getting enthused about the subject.			
13 Comparing yourself to other students.			
14 Getting an overview: seeing the big picture.			
15 Spotlighting important details.			
16 Deciding what references to <i>really</i> follow up.			
17 Revising what you've done in previous lectures.			