

TIPS TO NAVIGATE ONLINE CLASSES.

By now, you must have entered many Google classrooms and started receiving materials back to back plus assignments and test dates. And you're probably still wondering, what's going on here?. Well, whether we like it or not, we are taking online classes and we have to give it our best.

With distractions at home and several other factors, it might be very difficult to stay focused and give full concentration to our online classes, especially since materials are coming in without schedules and assignments are squeezing our necks....lol. You'll be fine!

Here are seven tips to help you navigate your way through online classes and make the best out of them.

1. Stay disciplined

I know how difficult it can be to drag yourself out of bed without having a class or an appointment to catch, but it is very important to discipline yourself to make the best out of virtual classes.

Don't underestimate the notes you're given, don't cut down your study time just because it's now virtual, get yourself out of bed and carry your books!

It is important to have a workspace in your home or wherever you're taking classes from so that you can have a proper feel of a classroom.

Sit upright, update your notes, ask questions if you have any, and condition your mind into believing you're taking real classes. In all, stay disciplined and focused as though you're taking a physical class. It is very important!

2. Plan well and ahead.

Now, timetables are not there to guide us through our weekdays. We have materials upon materials to go through (and understand) and while doing that, we have tests to prepare for and assignments to submit. With all this workload, you would be a superhero to survive without adequate planning.

You already know, to fail to plan is to plan to fail. You have to take the responsibility to plan your day ahead of time, give priority to your most important courses and make sure you check your Google classroom app frequently to stay updated with new information from your lecturers.

Have a to-do list, list out everything you need to do in a day, and make sure you tick them all at the end of the day (now, don't set unrealistic goals). Once you're aware of your test dates, plan your study towards the due date and make sure you're ready for white house whenever your test comes.

Plan, plan, plan!....you hear?

3. Time management

Now, this is very very important!

Some people wake up at 6 am and don't get anything done until 3 in the afternoon.

Does that sound like you?

You'll wake up and carry your phone, you'll stroll through the streets of Instagram and WhatsApp while saying hello to them on Twitter until the whole day runs off without you doing anything.

Well, with virtual classes you have the luxury of time but it's on you to decide if that would be an advantage or a disadvantage.

Plan your time well!....this point cannot be overemphasized.

It is advised that you dedicate twice as much time as you spend in class to studying what you learned in class.

If you spent 3 hours listening to your lectures for the day or going through the materials you have, then you should dedicate 6 hours to studying all you learned in class, understood?

Please take your time management very seriously....the Lord be with you!

4. Take breaks and rest

We all want to make As...and with a little more time on our hands with classes being online, it is normal to want to spend too much time reading and reading, calm down!

Take breaks, stand up from your phone or PC and take a short walk, rest your eyes, the radiation makes them tired.

Plan your time such that there's enough time to sleep, eat and rest...you can dance or sing, do anything that would ease the stress, it is very important not to knock yourself out.

Body no be firewood.... Rest o!

5. Take it easy

We all know this whole virtual thing is so new to all of us. Please take it easy on yourself if you don't get some things right the first time, it's okay to be a little confused...ask questions.

Don't get too exhausted if you don't understand what on earth is going on, don't worry, you'll be fine...just make sure you speak up and ask people that can help.

Also, our lecturers are still getting used to the new software and the new methods of teaching, don't get annoyed or irritated if they don't get a hang of things on time and leave you hanging or if they make you go back and forth on something that seems so easy to sort out....give them time, please. Take it easy!

6. Stay in touch

You already know 'no man is an island'. At a time like this, it is more than important to stay in touch with your classmates and even your seniors, don't stay on your own just because it's online and virtual.

Please reach out to people who can help you out, join little tutorial groups and make sure you're always in touch with everything going on in your class.

Have friends that would update you in case you miss anything.

It is not good for man to be alone o

7. Know yourself!

It is highly important to know what works for you.

Plan your study time around your peak period. The peak period is that time of the day you are most active. Don't follow the bandwagon, know yourself and work as it is convenient for you. If you don't know how to stay up to study at night, then make sure you don't spend your day 'gisting' on group chats. Know what works for you and follow it religiously.

Those are seven carefully selected points for you and I hope they would help you make the best out of virtual/online classes, ease the stress and confusion and of course, help you make distinctions this semester.

Best wishes and cheers to a great semester ahead!

Adesakin I.E.