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Do You Need More Quizzes?

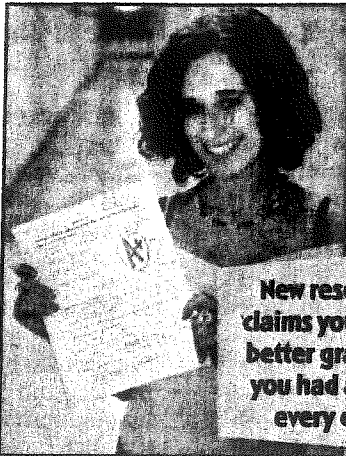


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**New research
claims you'd get
better grades if
you had a quiz
every day.**

Are you having trouble in school? Maybe you're not taking enough quizzes. According to new research, increased quizzing can help students at all grade levels remember more of what they learn in class. Memory experts call it the "testing effect." In one study, a group of students was taught new information over several days and then, at the end of each class, given either no quiz, a multiple-choice quiz or a short-answer quiz. Those who got the daily short-answer

quiz recalled the most information in follow-up tests a month later. Researchers who have done studies like this one say it's clear that students would get better grades—and remember more of what they learned—if they got short quizzes at the beginning or end of each class. It's an idea that many students would resist, of course, and that many teachers oppose as well, because of the loss of teaching time each day and the extra work of creating and grading the quizzes. But nothing could be worse than the current approach, memory experts say. Their studies have shown that when students go several weeks between learning information and being tested on it, then cram for exams, they do a poor job remembering facts long-term.

News Quiz

- Barack Obama won the Democratic party's caucus in Wyoming and its primary in:
 - Massachusetts
 - Minnesota
 - Mississippi
- In drinking water supplies used by 41 million people, investigators found traces of:
 - gasoline
 - prescription drugs
 - plutonium
- Chinese officials said they had stopped a terrorist plot to attack:
 - the Great Wall of China
 - the 2008 Olympic Games
 - the Beijing airport
- The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame welcomed new members, including:
 - Mary J. Blige
 - Britney Spears
 - Madonna
- A new movie, *The Other Boleyn Girl*, tells of the woman who married England's:
 - Prince Charles
 - King Richard II
 - King Henry VIII

What Do You Think?

- Would regular, even daily quizzes help you to remember facts better and improve your scores on exams?
- How often do your teachers quiz you? Do you get better or worse grades in classes that have more quizzes?
- How do you usually study for exams—do you cram at the last minute, study with friends, review material regularly or try some other approach?

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quizzing in school.