



**1.** Go to every single class and take active notes. Highlight/circle vocabulary/formulas/rules and write questions in the margins or on printed/electronic PPT slides.

**2.** Make sure you understand the lecture material before you do problems. Use the book or videos to help fill in gaps in your understanding.



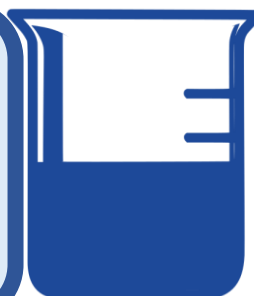
**3.** Discuss what you've been learning with a classmate. Ask questions and think about how the material relates to everyday life.

**4.** Chemistry is cumulative – think about how concepts relate – make connections between ideas. Don't just memorize material but seek to understand it.



**5.** Test your knowledge by teaching the material to a non-chemistry student or use a whiteboard to teach yourself out loud. If you can explain material without help, you understand it.

**6.** Ask yourself questions when doing problems – why are you doing each step and how do you know that it's the correct move to make? Write in words what you did for each step.



**7.** Do problems from simplest to most complex. Don't move on to challenging problems until you understand the simpler ones.

**8.** Make sure you can think through a problem on your own. Watching someone else do problems or explain it to you is helpful, but can prevent you from making connections between steps on your own.



**9.** Create formula/concept study guides. Define each variable and its role and when/why you would need to know each concept.

**10.** Aim to complete your HW after lecture, when the material is fresh in your mind. If you save it for later, you'll feel more pressured to get it done than to understand it.

