

UNLUCKY



**BIGGEST MISTAKES
FINANCIAL ADVISERS MAKE
WHEN STUDYING FOR DIPLOMA
AND CHARTERED EXAMS**

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Would it surprise you to know that there is only one difference between advisers who pass diploma and advanced financial exams easily and advisers who struggle?

And don't you go thinking that it's all about intelligence! It's not...

It's all about having an effective study strategy. Advisers who pass Financial Services exams easily have a good study strategy that works for *them*.

So perhaps it wouldn't come as a great surprise then to know that *you* could also pass *your* exams easily if you also had a good study strategy - one that works for **you**.

We're hard-wired to forget. It's normal, if a nuisance, when trying to pass exams.

So you are having trouble remembering the information you've studied then maybe you are falling into some of the traps mentioned below.

And if so, here's what to do about it...

Expecting to find a short cut

Learning new material is hard work. And you're the one who's got to do it.

However, you can at least be efficient and cut down the amount of time you spend, but there's no cheating on actually doing the work.

So roll your sleeves up, and get cracking!

Leaving your studying until the last minute

The way our memory consolidation process works means you're highly unlikely to retain much, if anything by leaving your learning to the last minute.

Even if you manage to scrape a pass, any information you've learned will be lost - to you, and therefore to your clients.

Why waste your time and energy then, doing everything last minute?

Start now!

Taking the same exam over and over, and failing each time

I know of an adviser who failed the same exam 9 times! **9 times!**

Imagine the cost – exam fees, travel, lost opportunity, not to mention to his self-esteem and stress levels...

Why put yourself through that, when there's a much easier and also extremely reliable way to pass exams easily?

Not scheduling study time

Come on! You know what happens to good intentions when you don't make space for them in your diary.

Do I need to say any more?



Writing too much information in your study notes

No one's brain is built to cope with more than up to 7 bits of information in one go.

So don't make it difficult for yourself by designing study notes that cram too much information on the page

Better you spread that information across multiple sheets.

Really! Try it and see!

Spending too long revising

We're all much better at learning small chunks of information in short bursts of time, so take lots of short breaks, and check you still know what you've learned before going on to the next bit.

Not focusing on what's important to you

You need to be really clear and to remind yourself regularly why passing these exams is important to you, to stay motivated, focused and on task.

What will passing them mean to you? Your business? Your family?

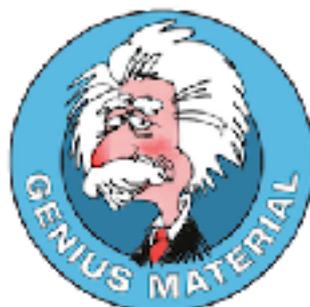
Having a disorganised environment and mind

Numerous studies have shown that a well-organised, clean, bright and tidy environment produces the best results in people who work there.

Make life easy for yourself and avoid creating stress.

The better organised you are, the more you'll be able to find what you need in your office, and the more you'll be able to retrieve what you've stored in your mind!

You know what they say: Tidy space, tidy mind!



Being thirsty

Stay well-hydrated.

Only 3% dehydration makes your brain 20% less efficient.

When you start feeling thirsty, you've already become dehydrated, so keep taking sips of water, thirsty or not.

Being sedentary

10-40 minute bursts of activity immediately boosts concentration and focus - probably because of increased blood flow in the brain.

Try to go beyond this though and you'll waste your time.

Meanwhile, if we want to activate those brain cells, who could blame us for racing round the block for 20 minutes before an exam!

Find out what sort of exercise works best by reading my article: <https://genius-material.com/exercise-to-boost-brain-power/>



Eating junk food

Rubbish in, rubbish out!

Few people would say no to improving their brain function, especially if you're trying to offset the negative effect of ageing.

Many of us choose to improve and sustain our memory, comprehension and our ability to solve problems if it were easy enough.

There's plenty of information available. You could go to my blog, for a start: <https://genius-material.com/more-brain-food/>

There's no excuse for ignorance. If we can't take responsibility for what goes into our bodies, how can we take responsibility for anything else?



Believing you can't do any better

If you believe you can or you can't – you're right!

Seriously! It's not *you*, it's what you *do* that gets you the results you're getting.

Change what you *do* and you'll change your *results*.

Not investing in Genius Material!

C'mon – You knew that was coming! :-)

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<https://genius-material.com/accelerator-discovery-call/>