

# Increase Self-Study Productivity To Crack JEE

Preparing for IIT-JEE seems like a mammoth task. However, if a student prepares for it with a structured approach, he/she can indeed stride through it with confidence. The biggest requirement for qualifying any competitive exam is the self-study habit. It is a known fact that self-study is one of the most important things to do in order to qualify for any entrance/competitive exam. One must not forget that the reference in this context is to the quality of number of self-study hours and not quantity only. However, the best thing which a JEE aspirant can expect is to actually study for 2 hours with the efficiency of 4 hours.

In a typical classroom teaching scenario, a teacher is bound by hour schedule and has to complete an exhaustive syllabus in time. As a result of this, the actual learning is hindered, as they all tend to go faster. Since, every student has his/her own learning capacity, therefore the pace of the lecture both in content and duration directly affects the overall learning of the student. Some students start feeling saturated, disinterested and tired during long lectures, whereas some students remain unaffected and receptive even during long lecture hours. Also, given the Indian classroom teaching system, a student cannot freely walk out of a running class, just to refresh himself/herself.

Now, this is where self-study comes in to lend its helping hand to foster learning. When a student is studying by himself/herself then he/she can study as per his/her continuous sitting capacity for reading. A student has complete liberty to take some time off and take break in order to revitalise or in simpler words, just to get back to his/her usual self. Self-study helps in keeping pace with the syllabus and it gives an opportunity to a student to learn something more and better than what was taught in the class. Remembering the aforementioned, one must also keep in mind that to do self-study one must have the number of hours available for self-study.

Generally, a day in JEE aspirant's life can be broadly divided into three types. Firstly, there are days when the aspirant has to go to school and also to his/her coaching classes or tuitions, we call them Type-1 days. Secondly, there are days when a student has to either go to school or for his coaching classes, we call them Type-2 days. Thirdly, there are days when a student does not have to go to either school or for his coaching classes, we call them Type-3 days.



**Mr. J.C. Chaudhry**  
Managing Director  
Aakash IIT-JEE

Now, on a Type-1 day, a student has to spend substantial number of hours in school and at coaching classes. In such a scenario, a student must spare at least 3 hours for self-study. It is difficult but definitely doable. All the knowledge and concepts which a student gains at school and at the coaching class needs to be assimilated and reviewed for a thorough understanding on the very same day. If a student fails to churn out these necessary self-study hours, the syllabus will certainly start piling up and it will eventually start making the student lose interest in the subject.

Similarly, when we look at the Type-2 day, when a student has to go to either of the places, then a student must spare at least 6 hours for self-study. Type-2 days should be allocated for learning chapters and doing assignments and /or back exercises. It is the best time to learn and practise a concept.

Finally, when we look at the Type-3 day, when a student does not have to go to his/her school or coaching classes, then a student should target at least 9 hours of self-study productivity. Now, these numbers of hours may seem too long and unnecessary, but the fact of the matter is that these are required for the necessary rigorous practice. Mostly, this type of day should be preserved for long practice sessions from reference books, MCQ guides and question banks. A good part of this day should be kept to gain the understanding of certain key weak topics that a student may have.

The real objective behind self-study is to introduce a student to all the varieties of concepts in a subject and to get exposed to questions on concept applications and let the student take time to understand and practise them. If a student is not introduced to the concepts and questions well before the exam, then the time in the examination hall is too little to let student

generate an understanding at that time.

All a student needs to do is to chart out his/her schedule based on Type-1 or 2 or 3 day and then start assessing how much time he/she is devoting on those particular days. The numbers of hours mentioned for each day type are not imaginary, they are for real and every year students do it and achieve their dreams of entering an IIT. Finally, keep it straightforward and be honest to yourself in monitoring your progress. Also, keep in mind that you need to allot time to all your subjects equally.

