A DOZEN REASONS TO REVIEW A RETURNED TEST

Sometimes when you get a test back you want to jump for joy—other times you may want to cry. Regardless of how you feel when you get a test back, reviewing it after it’s returned is a great way to improve your performance on the next test.

1. Check the point total to make sure it is right. Look for mistakes in grading.
2. Know what questions you missed and why you missed them. The reason you missed the question is often as important in taking your next test as the answer.
3. Study the instructor’s comments (especially for essay questions) so that you will know what is expected next time.
4. Look for kinds of questions and tricky questions that the instructor likes to use.
5. See if the questions came from the text or the lecture. Concentrate more on that source for the next exam.
6. Correct and understand what you missed. This is information you need to know. It may appear on a later test or the final.
7. Analyze the type of problems you missed so you can review strategies for that type of question.
8. Review to get an idea of what kind of test the instructor might give next time.
9. Review to put information back into long term memory.
10. Ask questions while the test is “fresh.”
11. Review how you studied for the exam. Look for better ways.
12. Reviewing gives you a good reason to talk with your professors and let them know that you want to improve.