

Mastering the Cornell Note-Taking System: Your Guide to Effective Study Skills



COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY OF PA

[Start Course](#)

Development Notes:

Course will be provided in 1280 x 720 and 1920 x 1080 format

Course Navigation and Icons

The navigation area appears in the lower right of the screen. The closed caption icon will appear in the lower left when a video is present.

Navigation, closed caption, and other icons include:



Restart a video



Go to previous section



Pause a video



Go to next section



Play a video



Click to download a file



Turn closed captioning on or off



Development Notes:

Throughout the course, pause, play, and restart buttons are provided for videos and have standard functionality.

The closed-caption [CC] button triggers an overlay of the text for the video

Previous and next buttons navigate the slides. Inactive buttons are shown “grayed out”

The download button will allow learners to download relevant content such as job aids.

Welcome! (part 1)



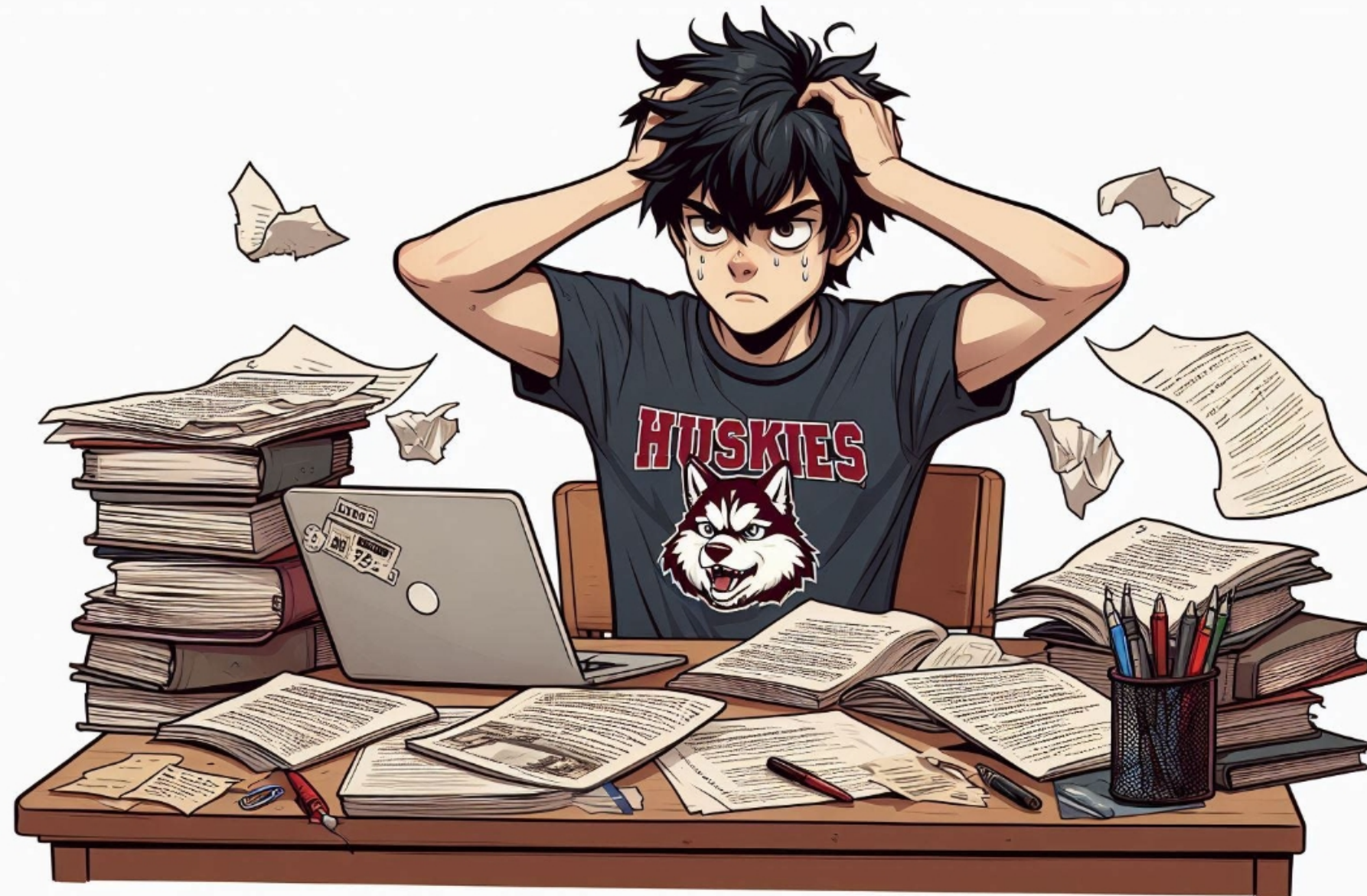
Development Notes:

Embedded Vyond video [welcome.mp4] plays animated character, Anabelle, in front of a classroom setting of a green chalkboard (nostalgic cartoonesque.)

Anabelle states “Hello, I’m Anabelle and welcome to ‘Master the Cornell Note-Taking System: Your Guide to Effective Study skills.’”

[Stimulate Prior Knowledge] “You may have learned a few note-taking skills throughout your previous education. Think about some of the methods you may have used such as outlines, flow notes, boxing, or mind maps. I want you to take a moment and really ask yourself if any of these methods worked for you. Maybe one of those methods worked for you... or maybe you’re still looking for a method that helps you retain the information you note down.”

Welcome! (part 2)



Development Notes:

[Grab their attention and relate the relevance of this course]

Embedded Vyond video [welcome.mp4] continues. The video dissolves into a new scene and shows a male student stressed as he is trying to study from a disorganized mess of notes. The student is frustrated; even the husky on his shirt is aggravated. A voice-over from Anabelle continues: "Have you ever found yourself drowning in disorganized notes, struggling to recall key information when it matters most? You're not alone. Many students face note organization and retention challenges, leading to unnecessary stress and decreased academic performance."

Welcome! (part 3)



Development Notes:

[Grab their attention, and relate the relevance of this course]

Embedded Vyond video [welcome.mp4] continues. The video dissolves into a new scene. The continuation of the Vyond video shows a female student at ease with a note in front of her. The husky on her shirt is calm, the scene is serene. A voice-over from Anabelle continues, "Fortunately, the Cornell Note-Taking System offers a lifeline. In this course, we'll explore how this proven method can revolutionize your study habits, empowering you to take control of your learning journey with confidence and clarity."

Course Objectives

During this course, you will:

1. Describe the Cornell Note-Taking System
 - a. Identify the materials needed for the Cornell Note-Taking System
 - b. Discuss the benefits of the Cornell Note-Taking System
2. Use the Cornell Note-Taking System
 - a. Demonstrate how to lay out a Cornell Note Page
 - b. Apply the Cornell Note-Taking System
 - c. Practice reviewing notes
3. List available university resources for study techniques
 - a. Locate the WALES department webpage
 - b. Discuss the benefits of the WALES department

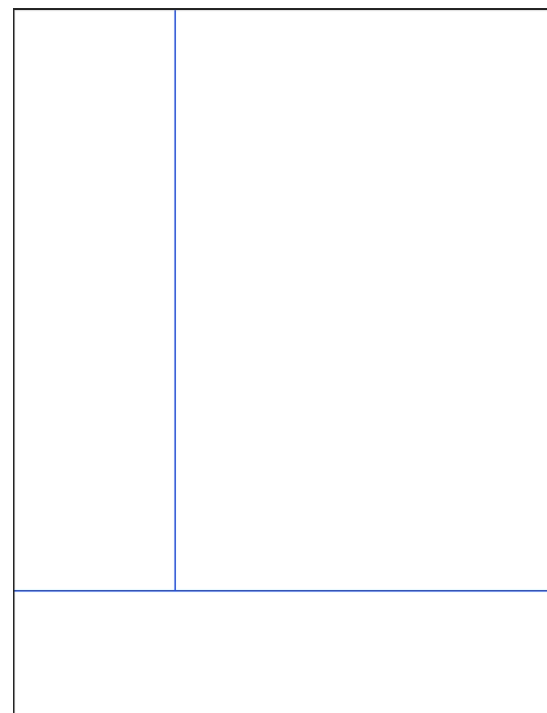


Development Notes:

Here we inform the learner of the total course objectives. [Note: storyboard currently contains material for Terminal Objective 1]

Describing the Cornell Note-Taking System (part 1)

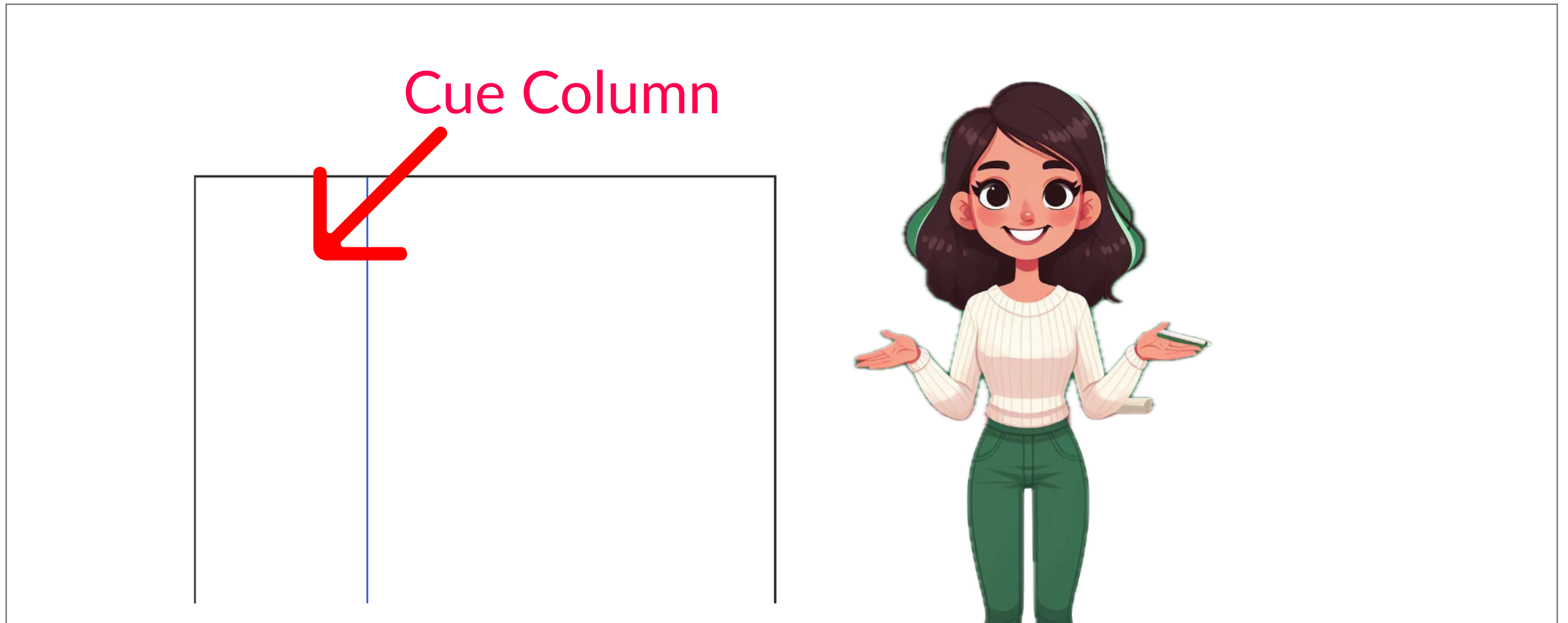
Cornell Note Page



Development Notes:

Embedded Vyond video [describe.mp4] A new Vyond video plays with Anabelle standing next to a blank Cornell Note Page with an arrow and a label identifying it. Anabelle states “The Cornell Note-Taking System, developed by Dr. Walter Paulk at Cornell University, is a structured method designed to enhance the effectiveness of your note-taking and study process. At its core, this system divides your note page into three main sections: the cue column, the notes section, and the summary.”

Describing the Cornell Note-Taking System (part 2)

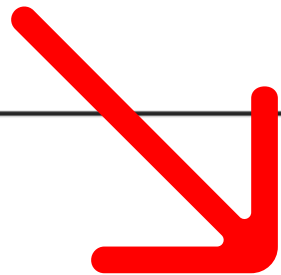


Development Notes:

Embedded Vyond video [describe.mp4] continues. The Cornell Page zooms in to show the cue column with an arrow pointing to it and label "Cue Column." Anabelle continues, "In the cue column, you jot down key terms, questions, or prompts during a lecture or reading."

Describing the Cornell Note-Taking System (part 3)

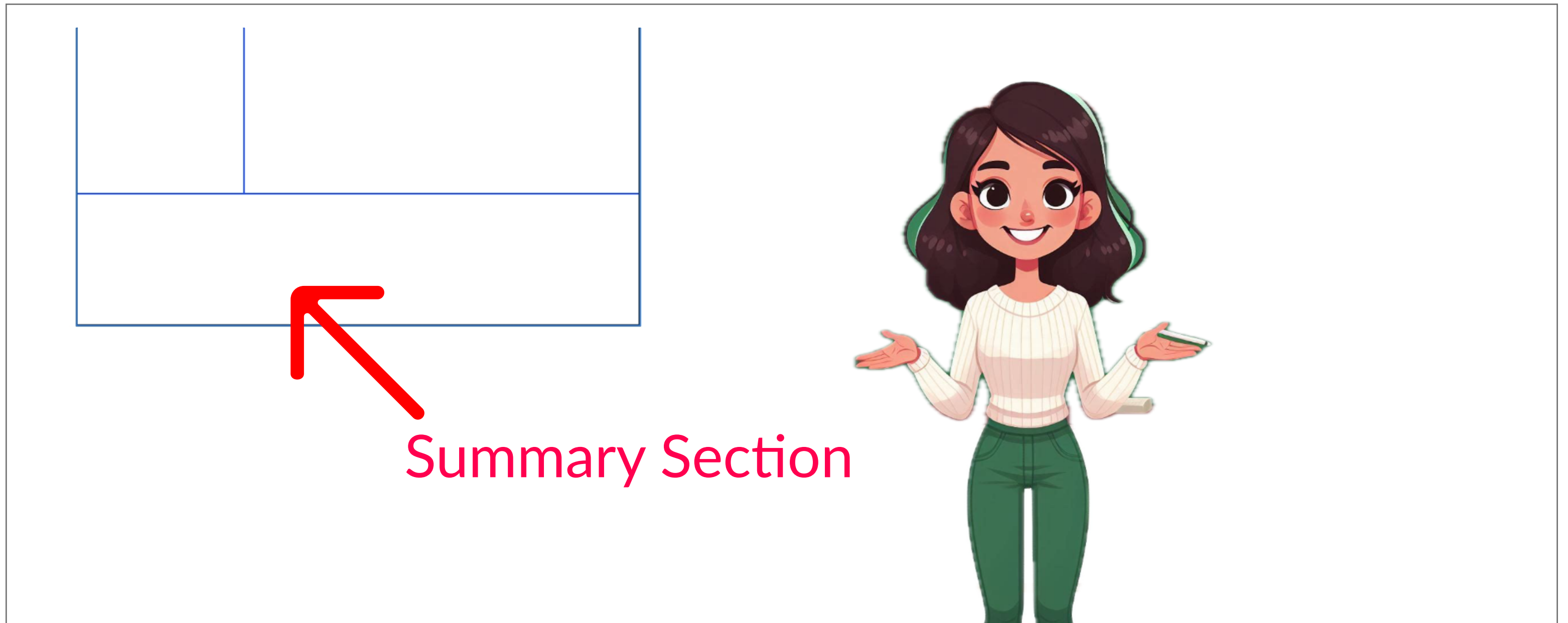
Notes Section



Development Notes:

Embedded Vyond video [describe.mp4] continues. The Cornell Page remains zoomed in but pans slightly to the left. The arrow and note change to identify the Notes Section. Anabelle continues, "You capture detailed information, concepts, or ideas in the notes section."

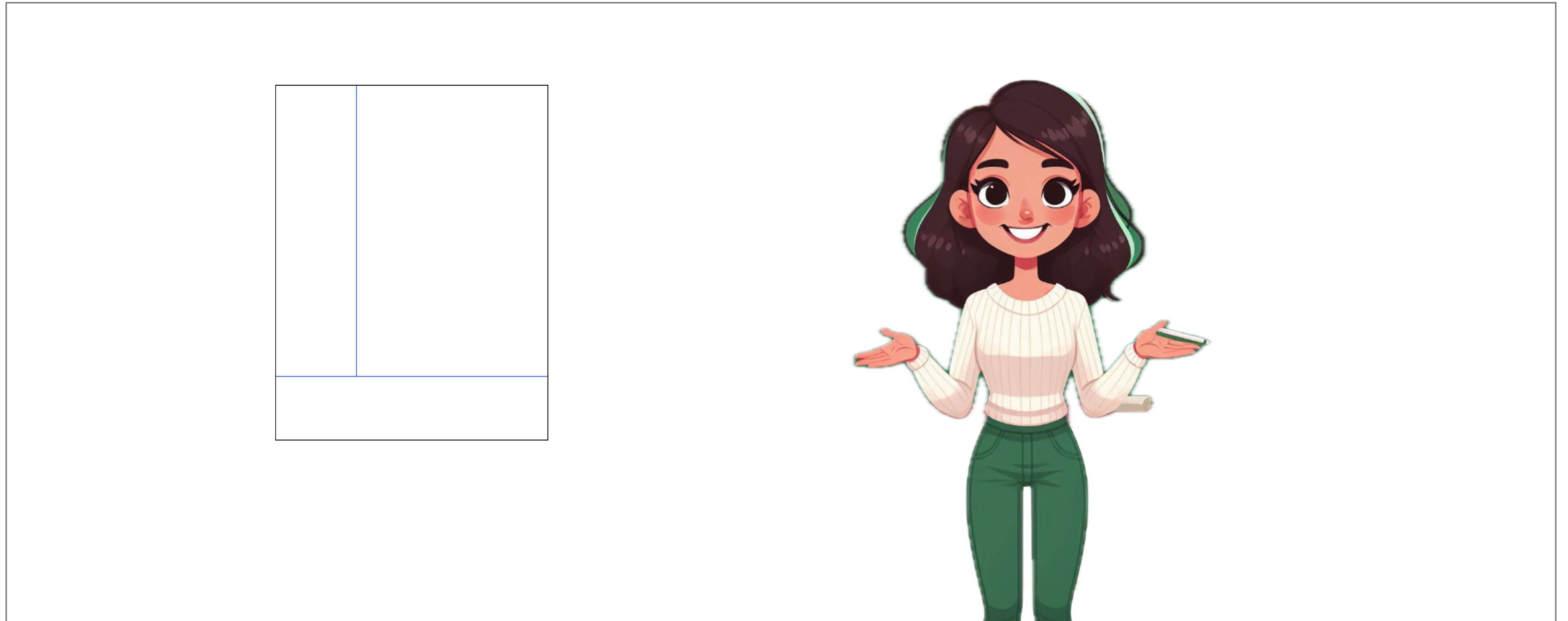
Describing the Cornell Note-Taking System (part 4)



Development Notes:

Embedded Vyond video [describe.mp4] continues. The Cornell Page remains zoomed in, but pans to show the summary section. The arrow and note change to identify the Summary Section. Anabelle continues, "Finally, in the summary section, you write the main points and your key takeaway from the notes."

Describing the Cornell Note-Taking System (part 5)



Development Notes:

Embedded Vyond video [describe.mp4] continues. The Cornell Page zooms back to an overview. Anabelle continues, "This systematic approach organizes your thoughts and promotes active engagement with the material, making it easier to review and retain information over the long term. The Cornell Note-Taking system equips you with a powerful tool to excel in your academic pursuits through its emphasis on organization, active learning, and review."

Identify the materials needed (part 1)

We have learned what the Cornell Note-Taking System is.

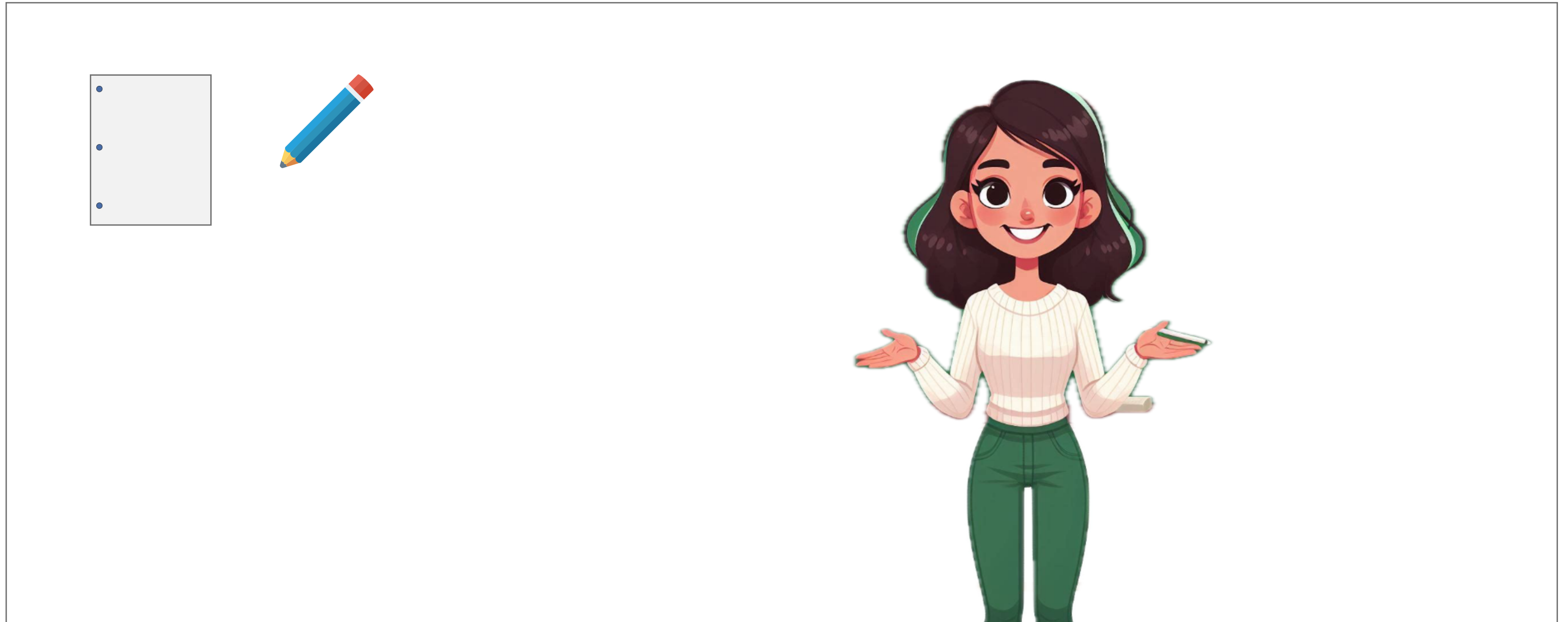
Now, let's take a look at the materials needed



Development Notes:

None

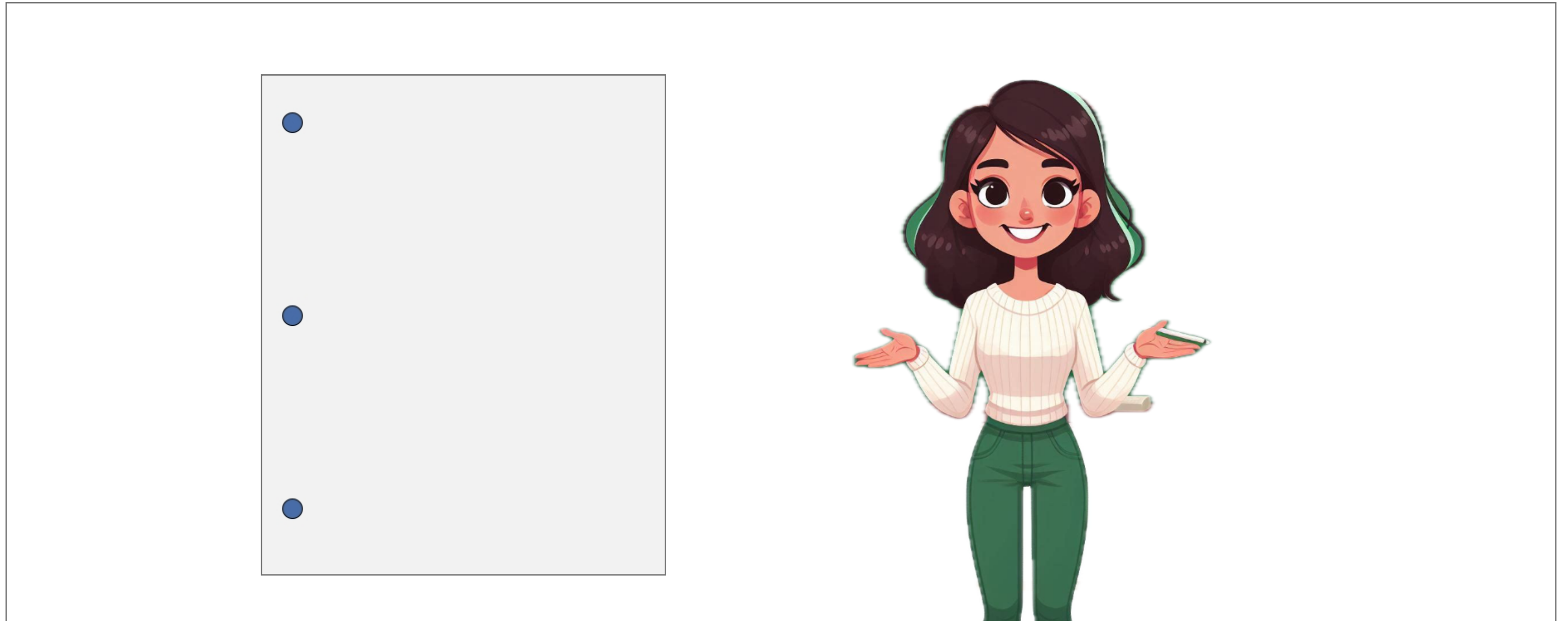
Identify the materials needed (part 2)



Development Notes:

Embedded Vyond video [materials.mp4]. A new scene in Vyond shows a small vector image of a sheet of paper and a pencil. Anabelle stands to the right of the vectors. Anabelle states “Now let’s talk about the materials you’ll need for your Cornell Note-Taking System. All you need are two basic items. Paper.”

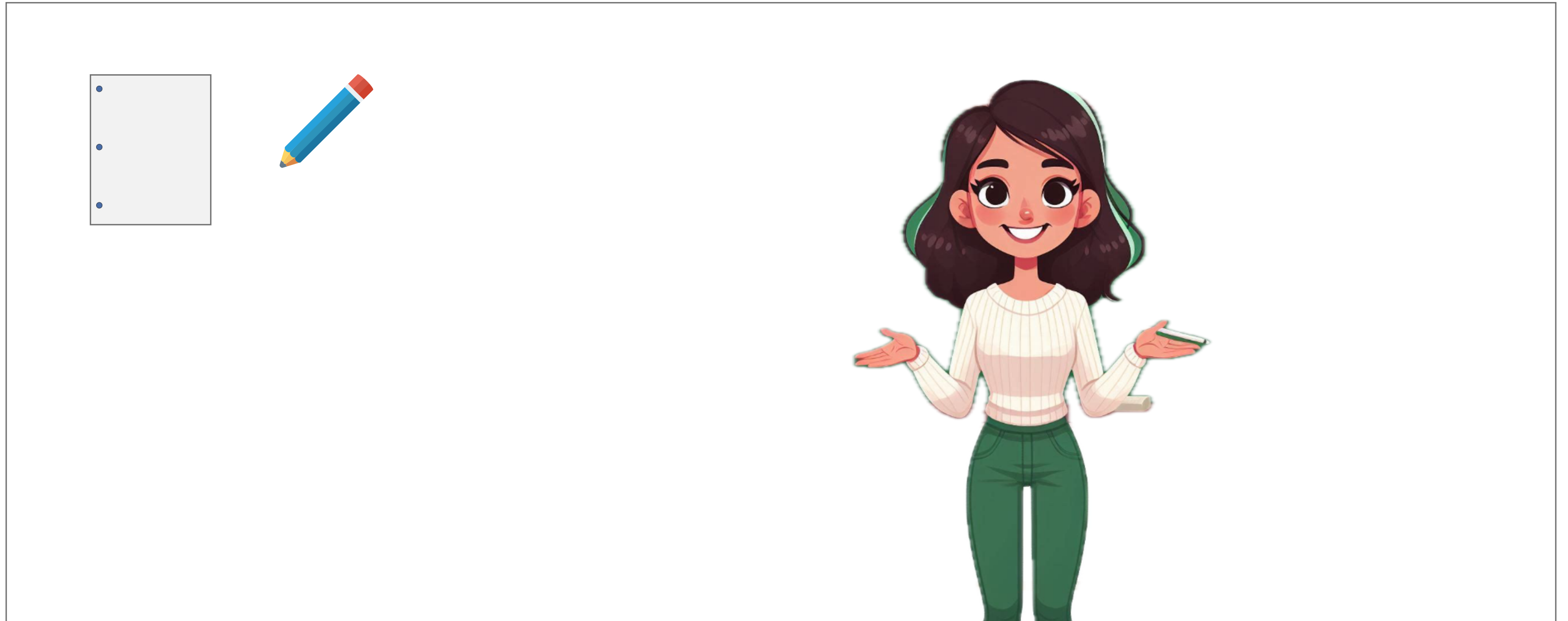
Identify the materials needed (part 3)



Development Notes:

Embedded Vyond video [materials.mp4] continues. Animate the paper by zooming in. As the paper zooms in, the pencil disappears. The paper is zoomed for 2 seconds before it zooms back out. The pencil reappears as the paper reaches its original position.

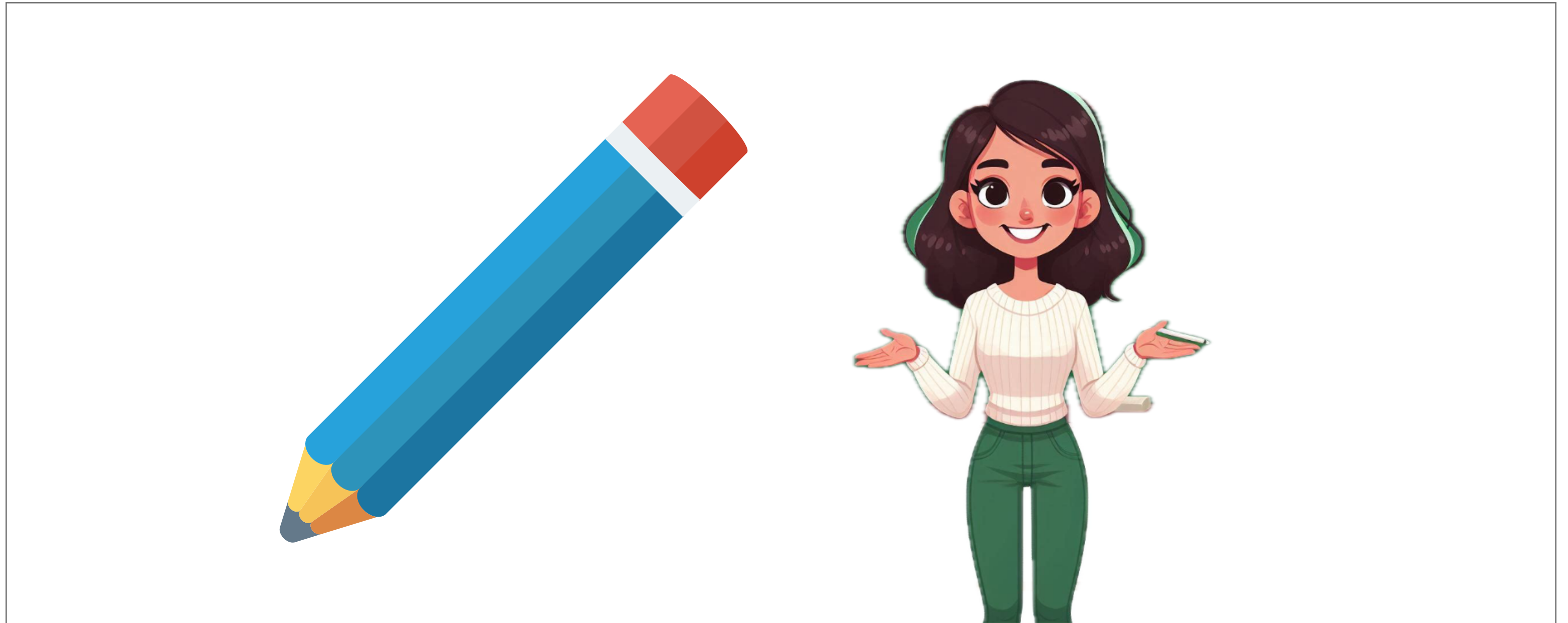
Identify the materials needed (part 4)



Development Notes:

Embedded Vyond video [materials.mp4] continues. The original postitions of the paper and pencil hold for a second. Anabelle continues, "and a pen or pencil."

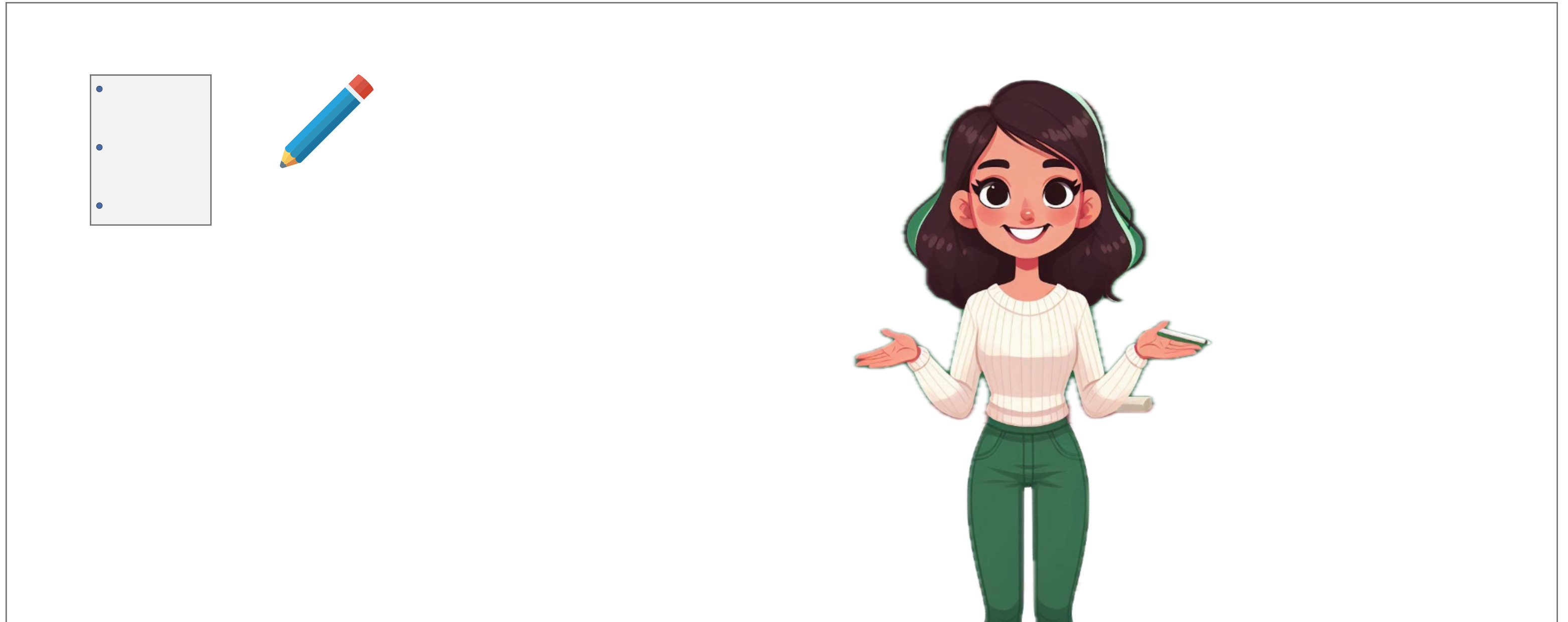
Identify the materials needed (part 5)



Development Notes:

Embedded Vyond video [materials.mp4] continues. Animate the pencil by zooming in. As the pencil zooms in, the paper disappears. The pencil is zoomed for 2 seconds before it zooms back out. The paper reappears as the pencil reaches its original position.

Identify the materials needed (part 6)



Development Notes:

Embedded Vyond video [materials.mp4] continues. Anabelle continues, "It doesn't matter if it's a notebook, loose-leaf paper, pen, or pencil. Any combination will work. The key here is to use whatever you are comfortable with, whatever you normally work with."

Discuss the benefits of the Cornell System (part 1)

We have learned what the Cornell Note-Taking System is and the materials needed.

Now we'll discuss the benefits of the Cornell Note-Taking System.



Development Notes:

None

Discuss the benefits of the Cornell System (part 2)



Development Notes:

Embedded Vyond video [benefits.mp4] A new scene shows Anabelle standing in front of the green chalkboard in a classroom. Anabelle begins to explain the benefits of the Cornell Note-Taking System, “Before I show you how to format a Cornell Page and we start using it, let me explain some of the benefits of the system.”

Anabelle continues “The Cornell system promotes active engagement with the material. By dividing your notes into distinct sections and summarizing key points, you’re actively processing and synthesizing information as you go, which enhances your understanding and retention. Additionally, the system fosters organization by providing a clear structure for your notes, making it easier for you to review and study.”

“The structured approach facilitates efficient review, as you can quickly locate information. To review with a Cornell Note you cover the notes section, and then try to recall the answer you would give after reading each cue from the cue section. This prompts you to actively recall information and stimulates your memory. Furthermore, the Cornell system encourages regular review sessions, which reinforces learning and helps cement concepts in your long-term memory. By incorporating the Cornell Note-Taking System into your study routine, you’ll not only improve your note-taking skills but also enhance your overall learning experience.”

Practice (part 1)

Let's practice creating a Cornell Note Page.

1. Draw lines on a blank page to create the three sections of a Cornell Note
2. Use the paragraph on the next page to identify cue items and notes.
 - a. Write your cue items in the correct Cornell Note section on your paper.
 - b. Write your notes in the correct Cornell Note section on your paper.
 - c. Finally, write a short summary of the page in the correct Cornell Note section on your paper.



Development Notes:

[Timeline: This section is available after a Vyond video where Anabelle examples the creation of a Cornell Note Page]

Practice (part 2)

Example content:

“Photosynthesis is the process in which light energy is converted to chemical energy in the form of sugars. In a process driven by light energy, glucose molecules (or other sugars) are constructed from water and carbon dioxide, and oxygen is released as a byproduct. The glucose molecules provide organisms with two critical resources: energy and fixed—organic—carbon .”
(Khan Academy, 2023).



Development Notes:

None

Practice (part 3)

Let's take a look at one example Cornell Note that could be made for the example paragraph.

Click the **Example Cornell Note** below to see a Cornell Note example for the practice.

Example Cornell Note



Development Notes:

Clicking the Example Cornell Note button will open a page showing the example of a possible Cornell Note made from the provided paragraph.

Example Cornell Note

Go Back

Photosynthesis	Process in which light energy is converted to chemical energy in the form of sugars.
Process	Driven by light energy, glucose molecules constructed from water and carbon dioxide, byproduct is oxygen
Importance	Glucose provides 2 critical resources: energy and fixed-organic-carbon
Photosynthesis is a crucial process to convert light energy to chemical energy producing sugars. The process constructs glucose molecules from water and carbon dioxide. These glucose molecules provide essential resources: energy and fixed-organic-carbon	

Development Notes:

The “Go Back” button returns the learner to the previous screen [Practice (part 3)]

Summary

During this course, you learned three main objectives:

1. How to describe the Cornell Note-Taking System
2. How to use the Cornell Note-Taking System
3. To list available university resources that can help with study techniques

Take Quiz



Development Notes:

Once the learner clicks on “Take Quiz” they will be in assessment mode and cannot leave until they submit the quiz or exit

Assessment Items (part 1)

1. Please describe the main features of the Cornell Note-Taking System:



Exit Without Completing Quiz



Development Notes:

Text box entry

If the learner clicks “Exit Without Completing Quiz” then a text popup shows asking if they are certain they want to leave without completing the quiz.

Assessment Items (part 2)

2. Select all that apply. What items are required for the Cornell Note-Taking System?

- ☐ Compass
- ☐ Pen
- ☐ Paper
- ☐ Calculator

Exit Without Completing Quiz



Development Notes:

Multi-select question

If the learner clicks “Exit Without Completing Quiz” then a text popup shows asking if they are certain they want to leave without completing the quiz.

Assessment Items (part 3)

3. Match the benefit of the Cornell Note-Taking System with its description:

A. Improved organization

☐

1. Encourages summarizing and reflecting on key points

B. Enhanced recall

☐

2. Provides a clear structure for organizing notes

C. Active learning

☐

3. Allows for easy retrieval of information

D. Efficient review

☐

4. Promotes active engagement with the material

Submit

Exit Without Completing Quiz



Development Notes:

The forward button is grayed out and the learner cannot move forward without submitting the Assessment.

Once the Submit button is clicked the course moves to the Summary.

If the learner clicks “Exit Without Completing Quiz” then a text popup shows asking if they are certain they want to leave without completing the quiz.

Feedback

1. Please describe the main features of the Cornell Note-Taking System:

Great job! Your answer provides a clear and accurate description of the key features of the Cornell Note- Taking System. You correctly highlighted the three-section layout which includes the cue column, notes column, and summary. You also correctly mentioned the system’s focus on active learning and its benefits for organization and review.

Your answer partially describes the Cornell Note-Taking System, but some key features still need to be included. Make sure to include all the key features of the Cornell Note-Taking System, such as the purpose of each section of the layout, the system’s focus on active learning and its benefits for organization and review.

2. Select all that apply. What items are required for the Cornell Note-Taking System?

- ☐ Compass
- ☐ Pen
- ☐ Paper
- ☐ Calculator

Great job! The Pen and Paper are the only requirements for the Cornell Note-Taking System.

That is not correct. While a calculator or compass may be useful for specific subjects, they are not required for the Cornell Note-Taking System.

3. Match the benefit of the Cornell Note-Taking System with its description:

- A. Improved organization

B. Enhanced recall

C. Active learning

D. Efficient review
- ☐

☐

☐

☐
1. Encourages summarizing and reflecting on key points

2. Provides a clear structure for organizing notes

3. Allows for easy retrieval of information

4. Promotes active engagement with the material

Great Job! The Cornell Note-Taking System improves organization by providing a clear structure for organizing notes, encourages summarizing and reflecting which helps to enhance recall, incorporates active learning by promoting active engagement with the material, and allows for easy retrieval of material for efficient review.

One or more of your matches are incorrect. The Cornell Note-Taking System improves organization by providing a clear structure for organizing notes, encourages summarizing and reflecting which helps to enhance recall, incorporates active learning by promoting active engagement with the material, and allows for easy retrieval of material for efficient review.

Exit Course