



## **Handwritten Notes Increase Classroom Attention**

Summary of Al-Amri (2025)

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### **Academic Insights**

In the age of laptops and digital slides, does handwriting still matter? This study examined how handwritten note-taking affects engagement and grammar learning among university students studying English as a foreign language.

Interestingly, while grammar test scores did not show significant improvement, students reported greater attention and involvement during lessons when taking handwritten notes. The research also revealed an important issue: many students lack effective note-taking strategies, which limits the learning benefits. The takeaway is clear—writing notes by hand can increase focus, but students must also be taught *how* to take meaningful notes.

### **Apply This Now**

Teach students simple note-taking frameworks such as headings, keywords, and diagrams.

### **Add This in Your Lesson**

Pause briefly during explanations so students can summarize ideas in their own words.

### **Avoid This Mistake**

Do not assume students already know how to take effective notes.

### **Keywords**

note-taking, engagement, EFL learning, grammar instruction, learning strategies

### **Reference**

Al-Amri, H. (2025). Implementing handwritten note taking: An action research study of EFL university students' practices, engagement, and grammar retention. *University of Bisha Journal for Educational Sciences*, 8(2), 65–82.

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### **Suggested Citation**

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