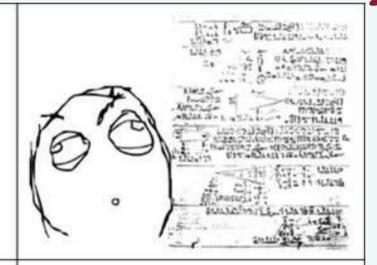
# Reducing Anxiety Around Test Taking: McLean High School



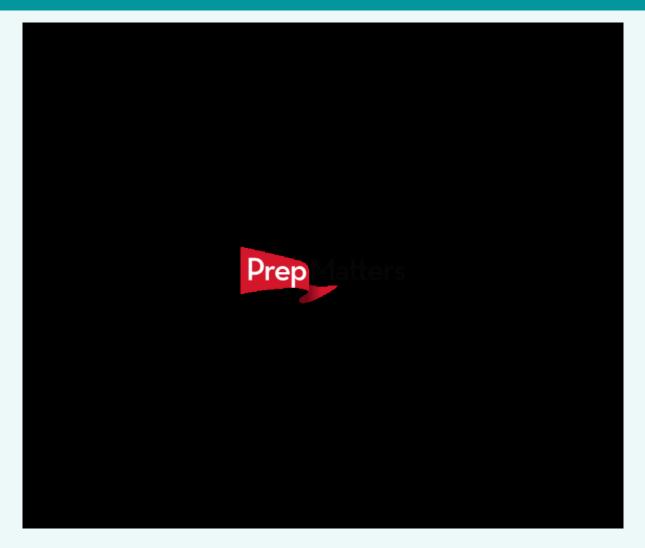


How I see a test while taking it:



How I see a test after I get it back:







#### Core executive functions:

- -Working memory
- -Inhibition
- -Cognitive/emotional flexibility

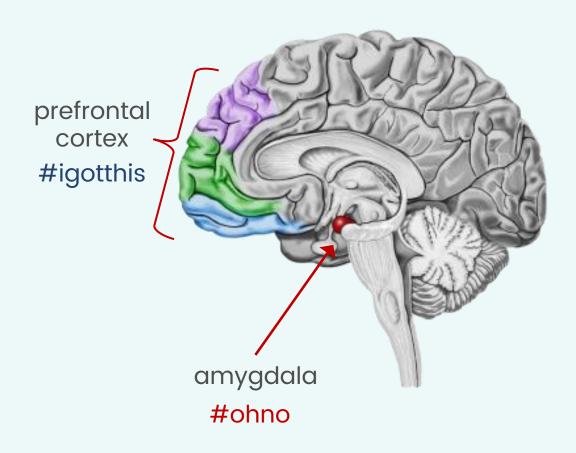
## Higher level executive functions:

- -Planning
- -Problem solving
- -Decision making
- -Self monitoring



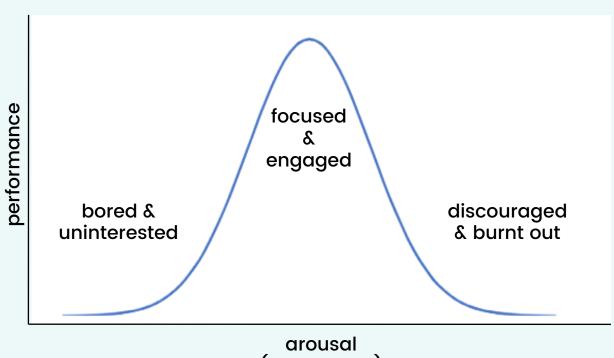






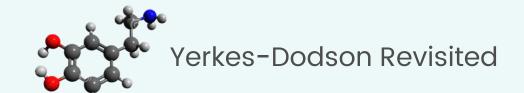


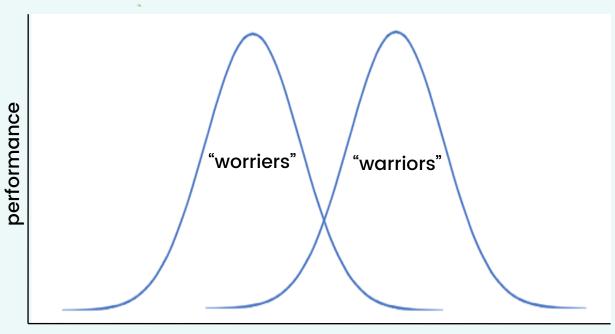
#### Yerkes-Dodson Law



(stress level)







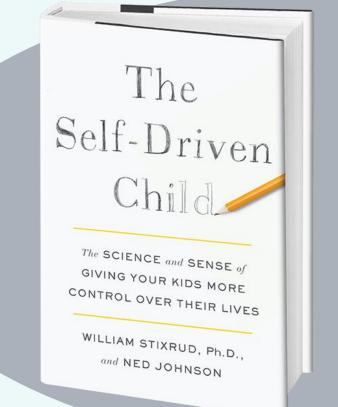
arousal (stress level)

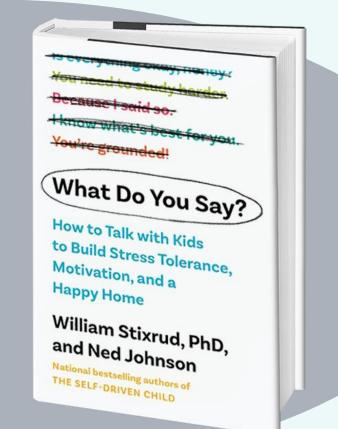


Inpredictability hreat to Ego Sense of Control

> -Dr. Sonia Lupien Centre for Studies of Human Stress











### What can we do to help?

Lower baseline stress level

Sleep
Exercise
Meditation
Feeling Safe

2 Increased support system

Offer help (but don't force it)

**Supportive** statements

**Plan B Thinking** 

Name it to tame



#### What kids can do to help.

Tools for learning

Tools for performance:

Opt for practice over review: test yourself

Space your practice

Get plenty of sleep

Take notes by hand

Emergency Stress Relief (laughing, singing, deep Breathing, exercise)

Box breathing

Hulk Smash!

Get your swagger on!

Shinrin-yoku

**PrepMatters** 





#### Some Things Parents Can Do:

- -Empathy and validation calms hard emotions
- -Consult, don't manage
- -Be a non-anxious presence
- -Model Plan B thinking
- -Love your kid, unconditionally



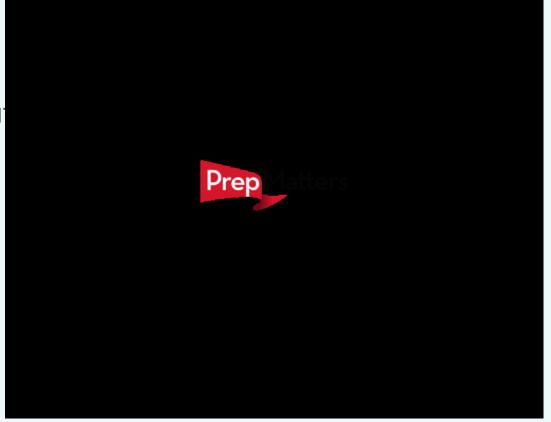
## Questions?



@nedjohnson | @prepma



@theothernedjohnson



Caption