

THE ONE ABOUT PRE-QUESTIONS

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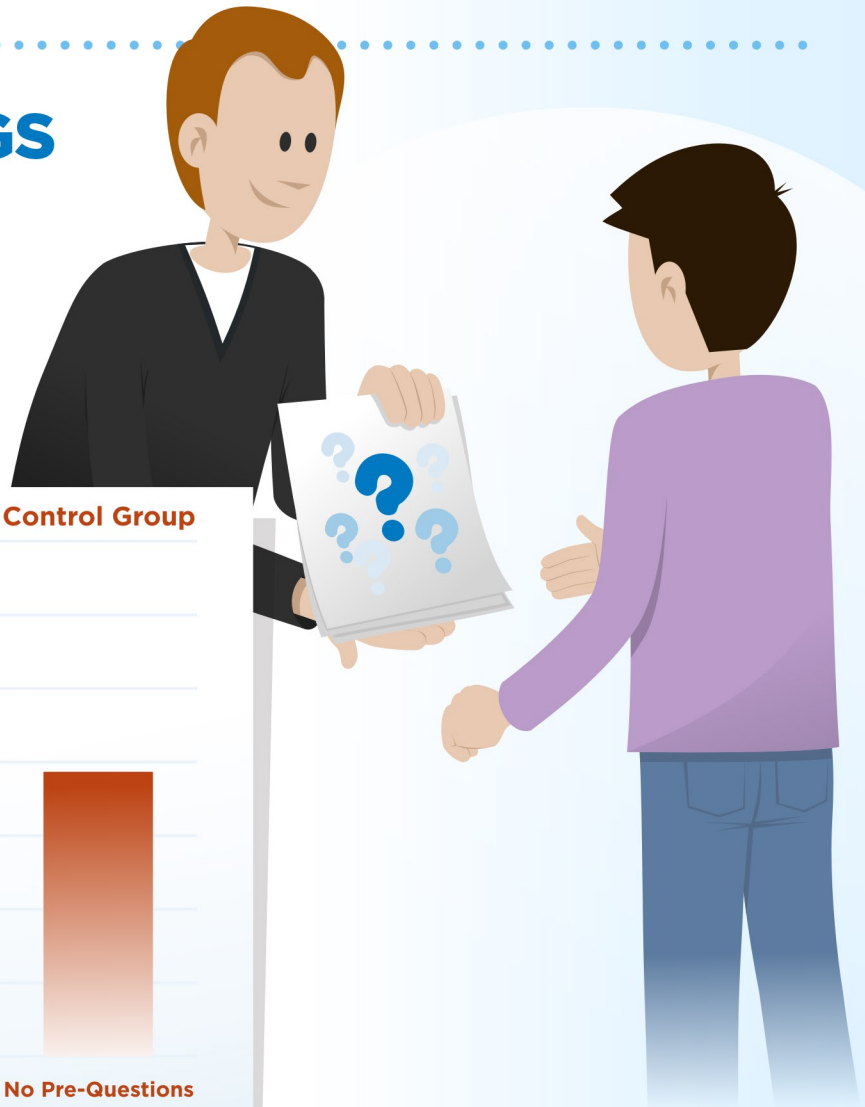
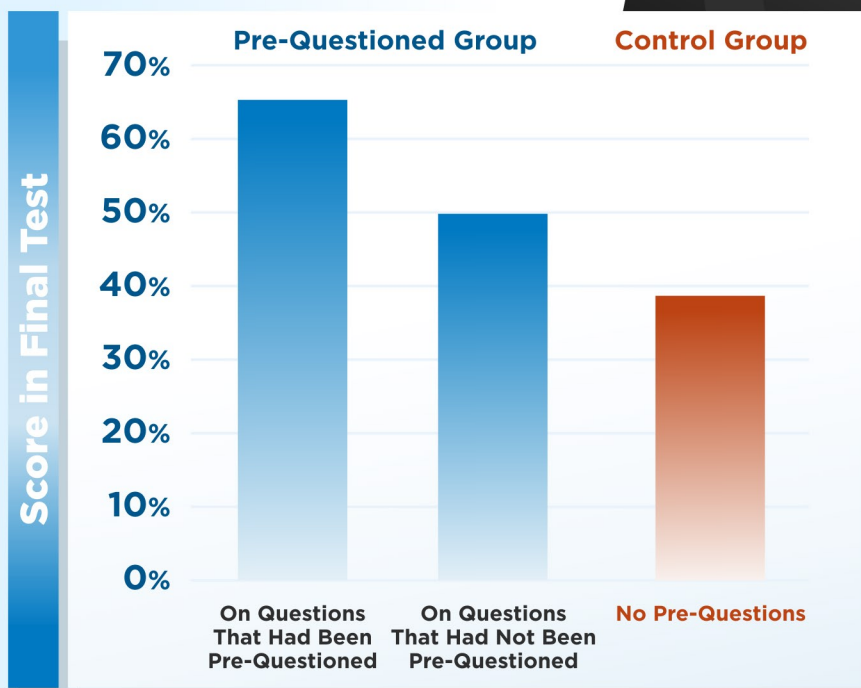
THE STUDY

It is common practice to ask students questions at the end of a lesson or during their revision session in order to check to see how much they have learnt. But does it help boost their memory to ask them questions about the material before they have actually learnt it? The effectiveness of this technique, referred to as “Pre-Questioning”, was recently tested by researchers from Iowa State University.

They divided students into two groups. Some received pre-questions about the material they were about to learn from a video clip. The others just watched the video clip. They were all then tested to see how much they remembered.

THE MAIN FINDINGS

- 1 Students who had been given pre-questions did much better in the test than those who didn't.



- 2 This benefit was not contained to topics that had been pre-questioned. Students in the pre-question group also did **24% better** than their peers on questions on topics on which they had not been pre-questioned.

