What study strategies work well?

A small number of students in CSCI 334 consistently obtain unusually high scores on the class quizzes. Since everybody wants to do well in this class, I thought I would ask those students about their study habits. Don't think of this as study advice. This list is undoubtedly incomplete. Find what works for you. However, I got the distinct impression from talking to these students that an important motivator is to use their time efficiently. Consider trying one of these approaches if you feel that studying takes too much of your time.

Here are the activities this group does, in order from most to least popular. I also note what percentage of these students did what activity.

1. Read the chapter covered by the quiz before the quiz (100%). Precisely when the chapter is read varied widely.
2. Start the lab assignment before the quiz, find and solve practice problems related to the quiz topic, or try to imagine and answer questions that might be on the quiz (100%). Many stated that they always try to run the code snippets in the book.
3. Do the reading before the reading's topics are presented in class so you "don't go in cold" (28%).
4. Try to explain class concepts to another person (28%).
5. Annotate the readings or handouts as you read them (28%).
6. Compare class notes to lecture slides (28%).

These activities suggest that this group is studying actively instead of passively (they're not "just reading"). Also several emphasized that while they may start a lab before a quiz, they don't necessarily try to finish the lab early. One student commented that they really try not to look at any of the solutions to practice problems until they feel like they cannot make any more progress without them.