

Advice to a student wondering how to do better

I'm glad you want to do well. In general, and by way of an argument, doing well follows not from wanting to do well but rather from being genuinely curious about what you are working on. In many ways school subjects and how they are presented simply don't interest kids to the degree that they develop genuine curiosity in understanding the material. So, to say it another way, focus on generating interest/curiosity about subjects and issues and your natural propensity to learn it well will translate into good grades. This also assumes that your curiosity has the necessary added element that you spend time and energy doing what you can to understand it...in many cases when you are really interested/curious this involves lots of effort and time (that really doesn't feel like a burden though).