

relax well in advance. After my first year in college (it was just after World War I) I went to the Presidio of San Francisco for ROTC Training. I had 6 wks. there and I had some very interesting experiences which I enjoyed greatly. But one thing I will never ~~g~~ forget is the times when we went out for rapid fire practice, and we would go out there and there 100 yards or so in front of you were the big things that you would fire at, and you were given two clips, each of them with 5 bullets in it, and you had to just slip them into your gun and fire them and hit that target. And you had two minutes to do it. It should be very very simple to do about as well as you were capable of in that length of time. But it was really comical to watch the fellows. as they thought two minutes; how can I get finished, how can I get finished, and they'd slam the first ones in and they'd ^{shoot} shot them off and they'd go ~~off~~ all ~~wild~~ wild when if they'd shoot two carefully they would have had two bull's eyes easily. Instead of that they would have five right out on the edge. Then they put the second clip -- they'd start to put it in and they couldn't get it in. A very simple thing to do but I've seen man after man get it half way in and his fingers get all confused and finally he'd get four in and couldn't get the other in. A very simple thing to do, but they just were so confused and rattled that they could not do anything like what they were capable of. It's very easy ^{for any of us} to find that tension has that sort of any effect upon us. It is difficult to avoid but it is worth worth learning to relax under strain. If we relax under strain we accomplish far more. If you study faithfully ~~try~~ through the year; if you get your lessons in good shape; if you review from time to time, and then if during the exam period you can get plenty of sleep and can have a relaxed mind, you will do far better in the examination than if you are trying to ~~gather~~ gather a little information quickly in the last minute hoping that you can still hold it long enough to get in. I think cramming is bad. I think reviewing is excellent. ~~Try~~ Trying to learn things at the last minute is bad. ^{Reviewing} what you have already learned is very excellent.

Third, of course and very important is, look for God's help. Mark 13:11 is a verse that is relevant at this point. Jesus said, When they shall lead you and deliver you up take no thought before hand what ye shall speak, neither do ye premeditate