

## **Reasons To Stay Motivated Until the End of the Year and Beyond**

If you act rationally, you lower the probability of suffering an undesirable fate. But of course from the point of view of energy, it's easier for the brain to succumb to whims. Consequently, in the world around us, it is not shocking to see ample examples of irrational behaviour. The most obvious examples involve the internet and other mass media, but there are also reflections of this aspect of human nature in everything from government to business and from cliques to school.

Out of self-interest, CEGEPS have committed their perennial error of sending out conditional acceptances too early. Fearing that the student body would misbehave at a graduation ceremony if it occurred at the very end of the year, we are once again confronted with a Benjamin-Button experience of having to write exams after receiving diplomas. And finally because we have organizations committed to mark –inflation, we now have final exams that are worth less than they should be.



So what does the rational student do? He ignores the irrational trends and drives himself with the realization that a strong finish is essential to concluding any chapter in life. Here's why from a pedagogical and practical perspective:

- (1) A thorough review of what is learned is essential for consolidation of long term memory and for making conceptual associations that were difficult to make when course material was too fresh.
- (2) Many universities not only ask for CEGEP marks but also for final high school report transcripts. That means term 3 and finals count, especially when the last term carries more value than anything else.
- (3) If you have already been coasting for a while and continue to do so during the summer, you may find it difficult to suddenly switch into high gear in a new and more challenging environment. It is one reason why some students either drop out of CEGEP or switch programs.

Don't coast simply because you see short words on the calendar.