

## Working Hard or Hardly Working?

Written by Cody Hargreaves and Nicholas Hargreaves

License: [Creative Commons BY-NC-SA 4.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/)

---

*Cody is sitting on a couch playing a video game, with a laptop beside him playing a pre-recorded lecture on triple speed. Enter Nick.*

NICK: Hi. What-cha doing?

CODY: Sociology lecture.

*Nick looks at the TV.*

NICK: Are you sure?

*Cody half-heartedly gestures to the computer. Nick inspects.*

*Close-up on a pre-recorded lecture at triple speed.*

NICK: How can you even understand that?

CODY: No, it's great. This way I can get five hours of lectures done in forty minutes. Don't miss anything. Study smarter, not harder.

*Nick turns off the TV.*

CODY: Hey I was...studying.

NICK: What's Piaget's philosophy on child development?

CODY: Um. He was generally pro?

NICK: Why don't we get you somewhere with less distractions, like the library?

CODY: Alright.

*Cut to: library. Cody is sitting at a table with headphones on, looking at his laptop.*

*Enter Nick.*

NICK: Hey. How's study going?

*Cody doesn't hear.*

*Nick waves a hand in front of Cody's face*

NICK: HOW'S STUDY GOING?

*Cody notices and removes the headphones.*

CODY: Oh hey. You're right, the library's way better. No distractions.

NICK: Oh yeah? Get some work done?

CODY: Yeah, heaps.

NICK: Cool, show me.

*Nick inspects the screen.*

NICK: Where are your notes?

CODY: I'm not really up to the notes stage. Just getting my head in the game. You know, dipping my toes in the pool. Sniffing the pie in the oven.

NICK: So, what are you doing?

CODY: Just working hard till the cows come home.

NICK: No music.

CODY: [whiny voice] Hey! But according to a study by Colorado State University\* listening to music increases focus in 60% of students.

NICK: And is it helping you focus?

CODY: (ashamed) No.

*Nick takes Cody's headphones and leaves.*

*Cut to: Some time later, Cody is in the library looking for books, seemingly on task.*

*His phone buzzes. He pulls his phone from his pocket and glances at it. He reads the message "Codz. You free?" then puts the phone down.*

*The phone buzzes again. He picks up his phone, chuckles as he reads the message "Gaming + pizza later?" He types the thumbs-up icon and "Ready to lose?" then puts his phone down again.*

*The phone buzzes again. He picks it up smiling and then reads the message "Ditch the phone". He looks around in alarm.*

*He spies Nick standing at the end of the aisle holding his phone and glaring at him.*

*Cody reluctantly puts his phone away, takes a book and walks away.*

End screen text: "Remove distractions from your study space. You'll get more done."

**\*IMPORTANT NOTE:** The study by Colorado State University is fictitious. This reference was invented for narrative purposes only.