

A young girl with dark hair and round black glasses is sitting at a desk in a classroom. She is wearing a light blue button-down shirt and has her arms crossed over an open book. A large, thick book is balanced on her head. In the background, there are blurred rows of wooden desks and chairs. To the right of the girl, there is a stack of three books. The overall scene is brightly lit, suggesting a sunny day in a classroom.

CHARLOTTE MASON INTERNATIONAL FORM 1 GUIDE

**ONE WHOLE YEAR OF LESSONS FOR
STUDENTS IN FIRST TO THIRD GRADES**

Charlotte Mason International

Form 1 Set A

Open-and-Go Curriculum
One Whole Year of Lessons for
Students in Grades 1 to 3

Charlotte Mason International Curriculum

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WELCOME

Thank you for purchasing the Charlotte Mason International Open-and-Go Curriculum. We look forward to journeying with you into finding beauty and creating beauty through the Charlotte Mason method of homeschooling.

Our goals for producing these materials include:

- To help parents to teach their children using the CM method with minimal preparation work
- To have everything on-hand and ready for students to begin as soon as possible
- To raise up readers and learners for life through the use of excellent-quality materials

The Charlotte Mason International Curriculum Guide covers lessons for the main subjects: Literature, History, Geography, and Science. We have also added space for Math, Foreign Language, and Cultural Roots Literature and Biography. In each Week's lessons, we have put a reminder box for doing your Riches, using our separate Family Riches Curriculum or a collection of your choice. You will also pick your own Math curriculum depending on your child's age.

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

The Charlotte Mason method of education is unlike most of what we grew up thinking about education. Because we follow principles that the British educator-reformer researched and concluded in the 1800s, it requires a lot of unlearning and re-learning. But I assure you, the effort will be worth it, as we will no longer be tossed to and fro by the wind, and instead become equipped in a time-tested and proven way of educating children in a way that awakens their minds and their full potential.

This is why, in this curriculum guide, we hope to help you, as the parent-teacher, to unlearn some of our old mindsets in education, and embrace new ones based on Charlotte Mason's philosophy, one little step at a time.

GRADE LEVELS

We have created the guides following the way that Charlotte Mason categorized students:

- Students between the ages of 6 to 8, and sometimes 9, are considered Form 1
- From age 9 to 12, and sometimes over 12, the students are considered Form 2.
- From the ages of 12 to 15, they are considered Form 3.

So for Talino CM Curriculum, the rough division of grade levels can be:

Form 1 (Sets A, B, and C)

If your child is in Grades 1 to 3, pick one of these guides. We recommend starting with Set A in your first year, then move on to B and C.

If your child is in Grade 3 this year, you can do Set A, then move on to Form 2 next year.

Form 2 (Sets A, B, and C)

Form 2 is for children in Grade 4 to 6. Again, start with Set A in your first year of homeschooling in this age group.

Form 3 or High School (Sets A, B, C, and D)

Our High School guides are for Grades 7 to 10. We also include suggested books for use with older students.

Why use the same books for different grade levels?

Perhaps you are wondering why we use the same books for a student in Grade 1 and a student in Grade 3. In the Charlotte Mason method, we believe that children are born persons, and that they have the capacity to assimilate what speaks to them. This means that, even if we use the same books, a child in Grade 1 may appreciate different things compared to a child in Grade 3.

Additionally, this allows families who have kids in the same Form to homeschool them together, making for more lively discussions and shared experiences, while also maximizing the parents' time.

A note on reading level

Also, in the CM method, we believe that children are able to understand excellently-written literature. However, their mechanical skills of reading may not necessarily be at a level where they are able to read their school books on their own yet. This means that for Form 1, or Grades 1 to 3, most likely, you as the parent will have to read the lessons aloud, and then they will still orally narrate what they hear.

But if you are using this guide for a student in Grade 2 or 3 who is a strong reader, you may opt to let him read aloud some of the lessons. Do note that unless your child has already had experience reading classic books for long periods of time, it is unlikely that he will be able to read all his school lessons himself. One suggestion is you may read a page, then alternate with your child. Or, pick a few books for him to read aloud, and others for you to read aloud.

If your child already reads some of his school books himself, you will not need to add the books for reading practice. These are recommended for children who are still strengthening their reading skills and whose parents are still reading aloud all their school lessons for them.

OUTLINE OF WEEKLY LESSONS

Here we outline the contents of each Week of lessons:

Invitation to Parents

At the start of each Week, we have prepared a short invitation to ponder on a certain aspect of Charlotte Mason's principles.

Disclaimer

Although this guide includes weekly readings for parents, this is not a substitute for the parents' continual learning about the Charlotte Mason method, whether through personal research or attending trainings conducted particularly by CM homeschool providers. We encourage you to continue learning and getting involved with other CM families for training and support.

Lessons

The guide includes 36 weeks of lessons divided into 5 days per week. In the space provided at the top of each week, you can input the date that you begin that week.

The lessons are laid out in a table, and arranged in a way that adheres with CM's principle of using different parts of the brain one after the other, to keep the child's mind fresh. We have put a space in the first column for you to input your preferred time to do these lessons, but this is entirely optional. Some families do well with just checking the box as they finish the lesson.

(Also, you may opt to rearrange the order in which you do the lessons, so long as you remember to insert a different activity between reading lessons: for example, you may want to do Math, or a drawn narration, or sing a hymn and folk song in between two reading activities. But we recommend sticking to the arrangement to avoid confusion.)

Narration Prompt

Each lesson comes with a narration prompt or suggestion, to help you keep the narrations creative. Note that you can follow these suggestions as they are, or you can also feel free to switch them around.

A note on comic narration: We have utilized drawing as a way for younger students or for those who are still developing their language skills to narrate back what they have heard or read. Do note that the main goal is oral narration and we use comic narration simply as a tool. Plus, if your homeschool provider requires output for your portfolio, you may ask if these comic narrations can suffice, as they let your child tell a story without requiring a written narration, which, for a CM education, is only used for students 10 years old and above.

Mother Culture & Reflection Time

At the end of each Week, we have included a portion called “Mother Culture & Reflection Time,” which can serve as a jumpstart for a regular time to cultivate your own growth as a mother, as well as a time to pause and reflect on the beauties of the previous weeks.

Exams

We have provided exam questions according to the CM method at the back of the book. Please ensure that your students do not read the exam questions before the actual exam week. In the Charlotte Mason method, exams are meant to test what the students know, and what they don’t know. The students do not review what they have learned, and instead the exams let them simply recall what they have already learned.

We recommend you to do your exams at the end of every 9 weeks, but if your provider has a different deadline for you, feel free to adjust. However, some of the exam questions may have been tailor-made to cover the topics over the set 9 weeks (Quarter 1: Weeks 1 to 9, Quarter 2: Weeks 10-18, Quarter 3: Weeks 19-27, and Quarter 4: Weeks 28-36). If you do decide to give your exams with too much difference from the recommended 9 weeks, be sure to adjust the exam questions.

Parent Quarterly Assessment

Because homeschooling is a family affair, we added a section called Parent Quarterly Assessment, where we give you guide questions to help you evaluate your progress over the past quarter.

If you are enrolled with a provider, you may consider using this template as a guide to update your family coach of your experiences over the past quarter. If you are homeschooling independently, we hope these quarterly assessments can help you decide what areas you need to work on more and set action plans to reach these goals.

BOOKS NEEDED FOR ONE YEAR OF LESSONS

In our desire to make this curriculum accessible to as many families as we can, we have opted to use public domain books where possible. These refer to books that are no longer under copyright and are therefore available for free download as Kindle books, PDF books, or to read online.

For these public domain books, you may opt to use an e-reader, print them out, or buy hard copy books as available.

Book titles with an asterisk (*) refer to those that need to be purchased, but we have provided a free public domain option, with a link from where you can download the book. You may then read it on a device or print it out! :)

Checklist of Books We Use in This Guide:

- Bible (English Standard Version preferred but you may use any translation you prefer)
- David Livingstone by Janet and Geoff Benge (YWAM Publishing*)

OR

- Livingstone: The Pathfinder by Basil Mathews (<https://archive.org/details/cu31924028680357>)
- Dr. Dolittle by Hugh Lofting (<http://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/501>)
- Peter Pan by JM Barrie (<http://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/16>)
- The Wonder Clock by Howard Pyle (<https://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/63383>)
- Just So Stories by Rudyard Kipling (<http://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/2781>)

- A Child's Garden of Verses by Robert Louis Stevenson (<https://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/136>)
- Lullaby-Land: Songs of Childhood by Eugene Field (<https://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/54874>)
- Among the Pond People by Clara Dillingham Pierson (<http://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/35002>)
- Among the Night People by Clara Dillingham Pierson (<http://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/35014>)
- A Biography Book from Cultural Roots*** (We recommend finding a biography written for children from your cultural roots. For example, if your parents hailed from Italy or somewhere in Asia, we recommend finding biographies of important people from those countries.)
- Cultural Roots Literature story books*** (If your cultural roots is in the United States, we recommend Laura Ingalls Wilder's *Little House on the Prairie* Series for this time slot. But we include this as a blank space to leave room for stories from different family roots. For example, if your parents hailed from Italy or somewhere in Asia, we recommend finding storybooks from those countries.)
- On the Shores of the Great Sea by M.B. Synge (<https://www.heritage-history.com/index.php?c=read&author=synge&book=greatsea>)
- Fifty Famous Stories by James Baldwin (<http://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/18442>)
- The Boys' Life of Edison by WM Meadowcroft (<https://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/50523>)
- Charlotte Mason's Elementary Geography (<https://archive.org/details/elementary-geography>)

Optional Add-ons:

For reading practice:

- Treadwell Readers by Harriette Taylor Treadwell (<https://www.mainlesson.com/authors/treadwell.shtml>)
- Books by Arnold Lobel*
- Books by Russell and Lillian Hoban*
- Books by Clyde Robert Bulla*
- The Box Car Children books 1 to 12*

Nature study references:

- A Handbook of Nature Study by Anna Botsford Comstock
- Field guides for your locality

For free reads:

These are books you and your child can read for fun. A strong reader may read these himself. If not, you may still read these aloud to your child, and enjoy the bonding time

- Pinocchio by Carlo Collodi
- The Red Fairy Book by Andrew Lang
- Fairy Tales by Hans Christian Andersen
- Wizard of Oz series by L. Frank Baum
- Five Little Peppers and How They Grew by Margaret Sidney
- Other living books good for ages 6 to 8

RESOURCES YOU NEED TO ADD ON YOUR OWN:

In this 36-week guided lessons, we have covered all the major subjects you need: Language or Literature, History, Geography, and Science.

Special feature: Because we want to embrace the CM method in terms of our own cultural roots, we include timeboxes each week for Cultural Roots Studies: one for Literature, where you can add storybooks from your cultural roots, and the second one for History, where you can add a biography about an important person in your culture's history.

In addition to these, the Charlotte Mason method, a proponent of a rich curriculum, is not complete without what we call the “Riches.” These include Hymns, Folk Songs, Artist Study, Composer Study, and Handicraft. We offer this as a separate curriculum, called our **Family Riches Guides**, because these treats can be enjoyed as a family and you will only need one even if you are homeschooling several students.

We also let parents choose their own curriculum or materials for teaching your children to read, as well as their own choice of curriculum for Math.

Therefore you will need to add the following:

- Riches (You may create your own lists, or purchase our Family Riches Guide which includes hymns, folk song, artist study, composer study)
- Your own reading curriculum or materials (If your child can already read 3-4 letter words, you can practice using the reader books suggested in this guide)
- Your own Cultural Roots storybooks and biography
- Your own math curriculum
- Your own foreign language curriculum or lessons

- Your own lessons for your chosen musical instrument
- Your own lessons for your chosen handicraft

We have prepared this table below to help you list down the materials you will choose to add to this year's lessons:

For:	I will use:
Riches	
Cultural Roots Storybooks	
Cultural Roots Biography	
Teaching reading	
Math	
Foreign Language	
Musical Instrument	
Handicraft	

MATERIALS AND SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Here we list the materials you will need for this school year:

- A sketch notebook for narrations
- A sketch notebook or blank-sheet journal for nature journaling
- A lined notebook appropriate to your child's age for copywork
- A History Timeline
- A large world map or globe
- Sheets of paper or a sketch notebook for picture study (also listed in our Family Riches Guides)
- A tool for playing hymns, folk songs, and classical music (this can be a phone, a laptop, a tablet, or any other player)

WEEK 1

Invitation to Parents

The Mother is Qualified

“The mother is qualified...by the Creator Himself, to become the principal agent in the development of her child; ... and what is demanded of her is—a thinking love ... (Vol 1, page 2)

Congratulations on taking this leap to homeschool your child! Sometimes as mothers, we may feel unqualified to teach our children. After all, isn't that what we believe schools are for, where teachers are trained to teach children?

First off, I would like to share this line from Pestalozzi, one of the great names in education, which Charlotte Mason quotes in her Vol. 1, Home Education. Here he emphasizes that the mother herself is qualified. YOU are qualified to become the principal agent in the development of your child! Isn't that good news?

Then he goes on to say that what is demanded of us as mothers/parents is a thinking love. A love that's not just about emotions or feeling, but a love that thinks about what's best for our children.

Welcome to your first week of homeschooling! We are happy to journey with you!

Day 1

Week 1

Date: _____

Time	Subject	Book	To Do	Done?
	Hymn		Sing together once.	
	Copywork		Set timer for 10 or 15 minutes. Copy one stanza of hymn neatly into lined paper or notebook.	
	Bible	ESV or your preferred translation	Read: Genesis 1. Narration: Draw 4 boxes on a piece of paper or notebook page and have your child draw comic-style.	
	Math	Oral Math	Take turns asking each other math questions to apply counting skills. (E.g. How many plates do we need to set for dinner tonight?)	
	Literature	Dr. Dolittle	Read: Dr. Dolittle, Chapter 1 Narration: Pause every few paragraphs or about every page, and ask child to narrate, orally, what he heard or read	
	Poetry	A Child's Garden of Verses	Read 1 poem.	
	Recitation		Choose 1 poem to read aloud everyday. Then, also read aloud Psalm 1.	
	Reading		Teach reading using your chosen materials or practice reading for 2-4 pages.	
	History	On the Shores of the Great Sea	Read: Chapter 1 Narration: Draw 4 boxes on a piece of paper or notebook page and have your child draw comic-style.	
	Nature Study		Observe and Draw: An insect in your yard or garden.	
	Musical Instrument		Do 1 lesson for your chosen musical instrument.	

Day 2

Week 1

Date: _____

Time	Subject	Book	To Do	Done?
	Folk Song		Sing together once.	
	Copywork		Set timer for 10 or 15 minutes. Copy first paragraph of Genesis 1 neatly into lined paper or notebook.	
	History	A Biography Book from Cultural Roots	Read: 1 Chapter, or over 10-12 minutes. Narrate after every few paragraphs. Mapwork: Take out your world map and point out places mentioned in the book. History Timeline: Write or draw on your history timeline.	
	Math		Set timer for 10 or 15 minutes, OR do 1 lesson from your chosen Math curriculum.	
	Literature	Just So Stories by Rudyard Kipling	Read: How the Whale Got His Throat Read until: <i>“You had better take him home,” said the ‘Stute Fish to the Whale. “I ought to have warned you that he is a man of infinite-resource and sagacity.”</i> Narration: Pause every few paragraphs or about every page, and ask child to narrate, orally, what he heard or read	
	Poetry	A Child’s Garden of Verses	Read 1 poem.	
	Recitation		Choose 1 poem to read aloud everyday. Then, also read aloud Psalm 1.	
	Reading		Teach reading using your chosen materials or practice reading for 2-4 pages.	
	Cultural Roots Literature	Write book title:	Read 1 Chapter or over 10-12 minutes. Narrate orally, in your mother tongue or in the language of the book if possible.	

	Science	Among the Pond People	<p>Read: Chapter 1, first half.</p> <p>Read until Page 6, <i>“After she had said all this, which was a great deal for a Frog to say at once, she shut her big mouth and slid her eyelids over her eyes.”</i></p> <p>Narration: Pause every few paragraphs or about every page, and ask child to narrate, orally, what he heard or read.</p>	
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Day 3

Week 1

Date: _____

Time	Subject	Book	To Do	Done?
	Picture Study		Observe: 1 painting for 3 minutes. Cover the painting and tell what you remember	
	Bible	ESV or your chosen translation	Read: Matthew Chapter 1, first half Narration: Pause every few paragraphs or about every page, and ask child to narrate, orally, what he heard or read.	
	Copywork		Set timer for 10 or 15 minutes. Copy first stanza of one of the poems read this week into lined paper or notebook.	
	Literature	Dr. Dolittle	Read: Dr. Dolittle, Chapter 2 Narration: Pause every few paragraphs or about every page, and ask child to narrate, orally, what he heard or read.	
	Math		Set timer for 10 or 15 minutes, OR do 1 lesson from your chosen Math curriculum.	
	Literature	The Wonder Clock by Howard Pyle	Read: Preface Narration: Pause every few paragraphs or about every page, and ask child to narrate, orally, what he heard or read.	
	Poetry	A Child's Garden of Verses	Read 1 poem.	
	Recitation		Choose 1 poem to read aloud everyday. Then, also read aloud Psalm 1.	
	Reading		Teach reading using your chosen materials or practice reading for 2-4 pages.	
	History	50 Famous Stories	Read: King Alfred and the Cakes Narration: Pause every few paragraphs or about every page, and ask child to narrate, orally, what he heard or read. History Timeline: 849AD. Write or draw King Alfred onto the 800-900AD column.	

	Science	The Boys' Life of Edison by WM Meadowcroft	Read: Chapter 1 Narration: Pause every few paragraphs or about every page, and ask child to narrate, orally, what he heard or read. History Timeline: Thomas Edison was born in 1847. Write his name or draw a picture of him to the correct century (1800-1900) in your Timeline.	
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Day 4

Week 1

Date: _____

Time	Subject	Book	To Do	Done?
	Hymn & Folk Song		Sing: Hymn and Folk Song for the month	
	Biography	David Livingstone (YWAM) OR Livingstone: The Pathfinder by Basil Mathews	<p>If you are using the YWAM book, no reading for this week.</p> <p>If you are using Livingstone: The Pathfinder, read the Prologue.</p> <p>Narration: Pause every few paragraphs or about every page, and ask child to narrate, orally, what he heard or read.</p>	
	Copywork		Set timer for 10 or 15 minutes. Copy one paragraph from Cultural Roots Literature book neatly onto lined paper or notebook.	
	Literature	Just So Stories by Rudyard Kipling	<p>Read: How the Whale Got His Throat</p> <p>Read from: <i>“So the Whale swam and swam and swam...”</i> until the end.</p> <p>Narration: Pause every few paragraphs or about every page, and ask child to narrate, orally, what he heard or read.</p>	
	Math		Set timer for 10 or 15 minutes, OR do 1 lesson from your chosen Math curriculum.	
	Cultural Roots Literature	Write book title:	Read 1 Chapter or over 10-12 minutes. Narrate orally, in your mother tongue or in the language of the book if possible.	
	Poetry	A Child’s Garden of Verses	Read 1 poem.	
	Recitation		Choose 1 poem to read aloud everyday. Then, also read aloud Psalm 1.	
	Reading		Teach reading using your chosen materials or practice reading for 2-4 pages.	
	Musical Instrument		Review and do next lesson	

	Science	Among the Pond People	Read: Chapter 1, Second half. Start at Page 6: "There was another question which the Green Brown Frog wanted very much to ask..." Narration: Draw 4 boxes on a piece of paper or notebook page and have your child draw comic-style.	
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Day 5

Week 1

Date: _____

Time	Subject	Book	To Do	Done?
	Composer Study		Play on chosen player: Music for the month	
	Bible	ESV or your chosen translation	Read: Matthew 1:18-25 Narration: Pause every few paragraphs or about every page, and ask child to narrate, orally, what he heard or read.	
	Copywork		Set timer for 10 or 15 minutes. Copy part of recitation selection or from history reading this week onto lined paper or notebook.	
	Literature	The Wonder Clock by Howard Pyle	Read: Bearskin, first part Read until: <i>Now, the king's swineherd was in want of a lad, and as there was nothing better to do in that town, Bearskin took the place and went every morning to help drive the pigs into the forest, where they might eat the acorns and grow fat.</i> Narration: Pause every few paragraphs or about every page, and ask child to narrate, orally, what he heard or read.	
	Math		Set timer for 10 or 15 minutes, OR do 1 lesson from your chosen Math curriculum.	
	Poetry	A Child's Garden of Verses	Read 1 poem.	
	Recitation		Choose 1 poem to read aloud everyday. Then, also read aloud Psalm 1.	
	Reading		Teach reading using your chosen materials or practice reading for 2-4 pages.	
	Geography	Elementary Geography	Read: Lessons 1 and 2 Narration: Pause every few paragraphs or about every page, and ask child to narrate, orally, what he heard or read.	
	Foreign Language		Do 1 lesson on your chosen foreign language.	
	Handicraft		Do 1 lesson on chosen handicraft	

Mother Culture & Reflection Time

Congratulations for finishing Week 1, homeschool momma! We hope these end-of-the-week short readings will help remind you how important you are, as a person. We added these Mother Culture Reflections to help you focus on taking care of yourself every week, too!

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It is written somewhere, "A mother is only a woman, but she needs the love of Jacob, the patience of Job, the wisdom of Moses, the foresight of Joseph, and the firmness of Daniel." But a mother has not only to have all these things; she must have them all at once, often when she is quite young, and too often when she has had no previous training of any kind of the marvellously varied duties she has to perform. (Mother Culture, The Parents' Review, Volume 3, no. 2, 1892/93, pgs. 92-95)

Do you sometimes feel that so much is demanded of you? I do! And isn't it a challenge to deal with so much: a career, family life, our children's health, and finally, even their education?

Don't worry, Mamma, you're not alone. This is the purpose of these Mother Culture Reflections at the end of each week... to help you breathe in thoughts of other mothers who have gone before us, and to realign us with who we are as individuals.

Reflection:

Do I sometimes feel inadequate for all the tasks set for me?

How do I cope when things are difficult? Who or what do I turn to for support?

END OF SAMPLE

Thank you very much for downloading this free one-week sample. You may purchase the FULL PDF at CharlotteMasonInternational.com/Shop

Sign up for a free e-book, too, and get the chance to be the first to know our latest updates!

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Based in the Philippines, Yen Cabag is a homeschooling mom, writer, entrepreneur, and Charlotte Mason coach, trainer, and advocate, who loves reading, storytelling, and creating just about anything—from kitchen concoctions to stories, articles, songs, curriculum, and crochet pieces!

Growing up, her daily diet included a dose of Sweet Valley Twins, Sweet Valley Kids, and Sweet Valley High, only falling in love with classic books when she started learning and applying the Charlotte Mason philosophy in their homeschool and family life. Since then, her husband Mark has also jumped on the bandwagon, devouring books left and right, despite not having enjoyed it in his younger years. (Score for living books!)

Yen's favorite me-time activity is digging for treasure in one of the many thrift stores in the city, while the family also loves walking or biking along the river, spending time on the beach, or snorkeling in one of the marine sanctuaries that her hometown is blessed with, and camping and hiking in the mountains.

Yen and Mark are also champions for fostering and adoption, with two of their three boys coming into the family through this beautiful gift.

Yen graduated magna cum laude for B.S. in Business Administration from the University of the Philippines in the Visayas, and went on to become a licensed teacher. She has also taken classes for Master's in School Management.

Are you interested in applying the Charlotte Mason philosophy to your homeschool, but don't have the time to make your own curriculum or plot your daily schedules? We heard you!

The Charlotte Mason International Curriculum is our ONE YEAR open-and-go curriculum, where you can:

- Take the guesswork out of which books to use this year;
- Save time and energy instead of laboring over weekly and daily schedules;
- Save money (and the headaches surrounding ordering books online!) by using excellent living books available for free online;
- See lessons for the day at a glance, in our easy-to-use table format;
- Easily check the boxes as you finish the lesson;
- Use the prompts and reminders so you don't forget what to do next;
- Have exam questions ready-made at the end of every quarter;
- Contemplate on the CM method as you go along;
- and many more!



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