Important Points to Know  
***Please annotate this list to the side in your notes! It is important that you actually process it and learn it!***

* All Carbon ends up in the CO2
* All Hydrogen ends up in the H2O
* Oxygen has to be found by subtracting since it ends up in multiple places
* Other elements like nitrogen must be found by doing a separate experiment
* Must know the mass of the unknown substance before burning it
* The unknown will be burnt in pure oxygen, present in large excess
* The amount of oxygen will be determined by subtraction.
* The combustion products always have CO2 and H2O. Might have extra products if other elements are present!
* Nitrogen product can come in different forms. N2, NH3, etc. Will be given more info if needed. Often given as a separate experiment – will need to convert all to %’s if this is the case! Nitrogen is the problem child in combustion analysis.
* All the carbon winds up as CO2 and all the hydrogen winds up as H2O.

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