



Test Taking Skills



Teachers routinely offer students the most effective test taking strategies in order for them to be the most successful while taking tests. The following are some of the top tips that our teachers suggest:



Get enough sleep – Eat a good breakfast – RELAX! BREATHE!



To build confidence, think about all the studying you have done. But, don't be overconfident.



Read and re-read directions and test questions *slowly and carefully*, underlining key terms.



Cross out (on the actual test paper) any choices that definitely do not fit.



On multiple-choice and fill in questions, see if you can eliminate any choices due to grammatical errors.



Using absolute word (*always, never*) may drastically change the meaning of a statement. Be careful with these words. Using absolutes may make the whole statement incorrect.



The most obvious answers are probably correct, especially if you've studied hard.



If you don't know the answer, guess – unless you'll be penalized for an incorrect answer and can't make a good, educated stab at the answer.



When using computerized answer sheets, periodically check to see that your answer sheet correctly matches the numbers of the questions.



Never dwell on a question of which you are not sure. Place a mark next to these questions, answer the easy ones first, then return to the difficult ones later.



Watch your time. Calculate the amount of time you can spend on each section according to how much it is worth. When the time allotted is up, stop and start the next question. The incomplete answers can always be completed at the end.



Before answering multiple choice questions, try to recall the answer *on your own*. Then look at the alternatives to see which one best matches your answer.



See if there are any opposites in multiple choices. If so, consider that one might be the correct.



On True/False questions, every part of a **true** sentence must be **true**. If any part of the sentence is false, the whole sentence is false.



Do not change your initial answer unless you are certain another choice is correct. More often than not your first choice is correct.



Look over EVERYTHING before you hand it in! Make sure all pages are complete.