



are cognitive abilities that are utilized in any testing situation; they enhance your understanding of what to do during tests. All students can benefit from test-taking strategies. Some examples of effective test-taking strategies are: managing your time effectively, reviewing all questions before responding, solving easier questions first, reviewing your answers, underlining key words, concepts and phrases, and eliminating incorrect answers. Test-taking strategies are effective independent of the knowledge needed to complete the test/exam (Sarnacki, 1979).



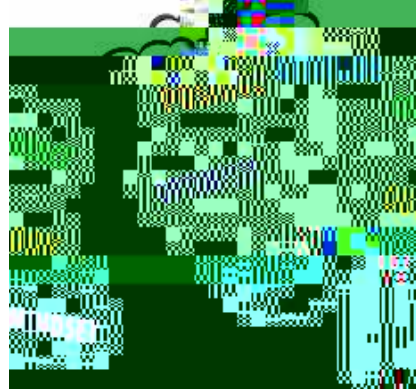
Spend time learning and understanding the material. If you are stuck on concepts, you should reach out to your professor, TA or schedule an appointment with a subject

Knowing how to approach your exam and what is expected from you will help decrease any anxiety that may start to arise. You will often find valuable information in the test instructions. You should always read or listen carefully to the directions to ensure you understand what is being asked and what you are expected to complete. If you miss the instructions, do not be afraid to ask for instructions to be repeated.





- ∅ Prior to starting your exam, take a moment to estimate the amount of time you will have for each question and/or section of the exam. You want to allow yourself enough time to complete the more time-consuming (essay), challenging sections (material you are not as familiar/comfortable with) and/or sections that are weighted more heavily in the overall exam grade.
- ∅ You will want to pace yourself to ensure you can complete the entire exam within the allotted time. \*
- ∅ Answering the questions you know first and circling back to the ones you're not as confident about helps you maximize your exam time.



- ∅ Build confidence by answering the questions you know first. As previously noted, answering the questions you know first is also a great step in mapping out your allotted exam time. Do not lose confidence or waste time if you encounter confusing or difficult questions. Answer the questions you know first.
- ∅ If you truly do not know the answer to a question, make an educated guess

- ∅ Trust your gut (and your studying). The first answer that comes to mind is usually the correct answer. Do not second guess yourself and change your response unless you're absolutely sure the answer you've chosen is incorrect.
- ∅ While it's good practice to review your answers (if time allows) to ensure you didn't make simple mistakes, it can be counterproductive if you are second guessing all of your answers.







- ∅ Answer questions you find easy first and then circle back to complete questions you found more difficult.
- ∅ If your exam/test has an essay component, make sure you leave time to review it for grammatical and spelling errors. Make sure to read through the completed essay to ensure it flows.
- ∅ Check the front and back page(s) of the exam to confirm you've answered all of the questions.



- ∅ Test taking is a skill set that takes time to develop. The more you practice the strategies and tips outlined above, the stronger your test taking skills will be.
- ∅ Take time to evaluate whether or not these test taking strategies are working for you after each exam/test. Make note of which strategies worked well for you and which ones did not. Working with a study skills tutor from the Tutoring Center may be helpfu-17(y)-54o)--(4h5)-5c)-(h5)1000 t t t t th dy 34 t