

Test Taking Tips

General Test Helps

1. FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS.
2. Look at each page carefully before you start answering.
3. Watch out for words like **same**, **opposite**, **not**, **probably**, **best**, **most likely**, and **main**. They can change the meaning of a question or help you eliminate choices.
4. Answer the easy questions first, then come back to the harder ones.
5. Manage your time.
6. You don't have to keep up with everyone else.
7. Check your work if you have time.

Standardized Tests (Like SOLs and CMS tests)

1. Be sure to fill the circle or rectangle all the way.
2. If you change your mind about an answer, erase it as much as you possibly can.

Multiple Choice Tests

1. Look for the **best** answer.
2. If you are allowed to write on the test, cross out answers you know are wrong.
3. Suspect the larger, more detailed answers as being correct.
4. If 2 of the choices are **similar or opposite**, probably one of them is the correct answer.

True and False Tests

1. Read very carefully; one word will often determine whether a statement is true or false.
2. Statements with **always**, **never**, **every**, **all** and **none** in them are **usually FALSE**.
3. Statements with **usually**, **often**, **sometimes**, **most**, and **many** in them are **usually TRUE**.

Essay Questions

1. Before you do any writing, brainstorm.
2. Start with the easiest one to help you gain confidence.
3. Write legibly and in clear, concise, and complete sentences.
4. If you don't know the answer, take a few minutes to write what you do know about that subject. You may get partial credit.

Math Tests

1. Before your start trying to solve it, estimate the answer.
2. Try drawing a picture or diagram.
3. Don't spend too much time on one problem.
4. Show all your work. You may get partial credit.

Open Book Tests

To locate information quickly,

1. Highlight your notes.
2. Put sticky notes or bookmarks in your textbook to help you locate information.
3. Rewrite all the information you know you will need on a separate sheet of paper.