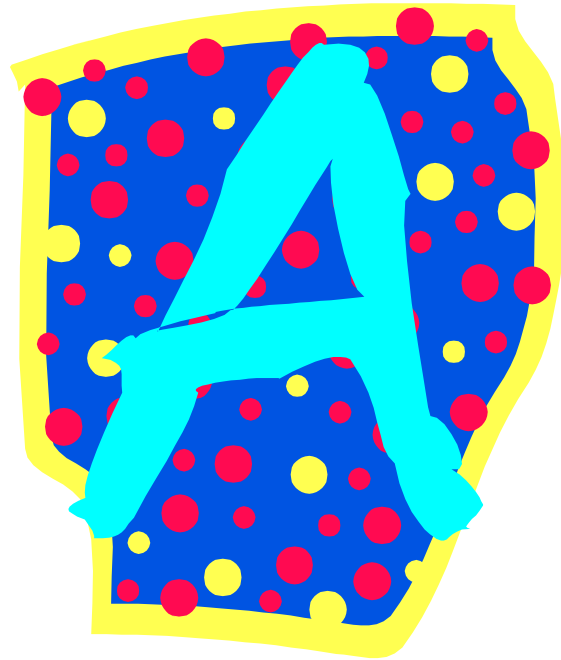
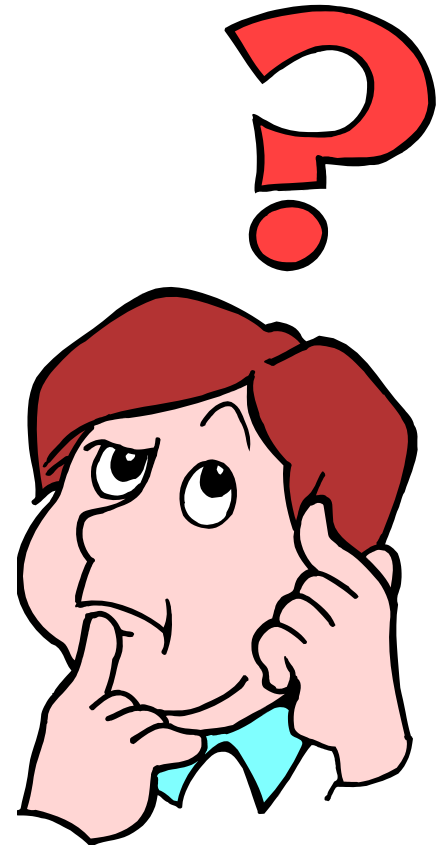


Test Preparation and Test-Taking Skills



Planning Ahead for Final Exams

- Gather all your notes and previous quizzes.
- Correct all quizzes and tests.
- Prepare now and do some review each night.



Final Exam Schedule

Monday, January 14, 2019

- Period 3 8a-9:30a
- Period 6 10a-11:30a

Tuesday, Jan 15th 2019

- Period 1 8a-9:30a
- Period 4 10a-11:30a

Wednesday, Jan 16th 2019

- Period 7 8a-9:30a
- Period 2 10a-11:30a
- Make-up exams: 12n-1:30p, RM 251

Thursday, Jan 17th 2019

- Period 5 8a-9:30a
- Period 0 10a-11:30a
- Make-up exams: 10am-11:30am, RM 251



Ten Traps of Studying

1. "I Don't Know Where To Begin"

- Make a to-do list and prioritize.
- Break the work into manageable chunks.
- Study for 30 minutes and take short breaks to refresh.



2. "I've Got So Much To Study and So Little Time"

- Find out what the exam will and won't cover and what kind of test it will be!

- Scan reading material, and notes. Stress the following points in your review:
 - ✓ Anything emphasized in class or in your textbook;
 - ✓ Information the teacher told you to study;
 - ✓ Study guides, past quizzes/tests, chapter reviews.

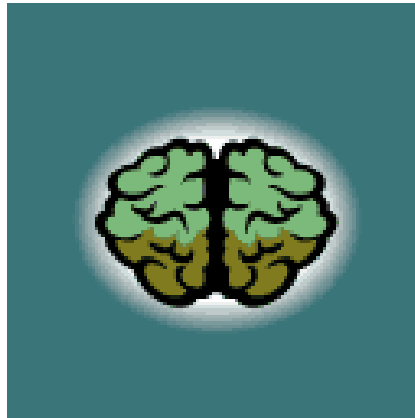
- Identify areas you didn't fully understand. Ask for extra help from teachers.

3. "This Stuff Is So Dry, I Can't Even Stay Awake Reading It"

- Be active while you read.
 - Highlight text with discretion
 - Take written notes from highlighted sections
- Read to understand and remember.
- Take notes and underline key concepts.
- Study with classmates..but make sure you *study!*
 - Only if compatible with how you effectively learn.
 - Interferes with some learning styles

4. "I Read It. I Understand It. But, I Just Can't Get It To Stick"

- Power of Paraphrasing (Put it in your own words!)
- Connect what you're studying to what you already know.
- Elaborate on the information with your own examples.



5. "I Guess I Understand It"

- Test yourself. Make up questions from your notes or reading.
- Keep in mind what the teacher stressed in class.
- If you are missing any important concepts, ask for help.



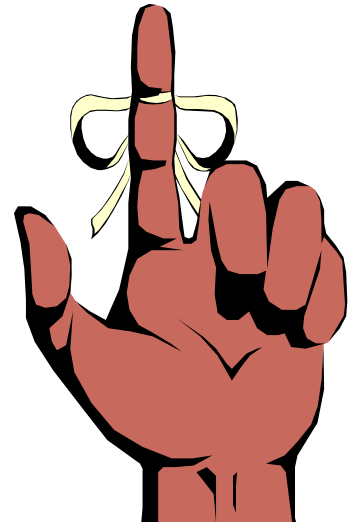
6. "There's Too Much To Remember"

- Organize and summarize notes.
- Write chapter outlines.
- Group information into categories.
- Create maps or pictures to link ideas together.



7. "I Knew It A Minute Ago"

- Review.
- After reading a section, try to recall what you read.
- Answer the questions you made up for that section. If you can't recall enough, re-read portions you had trouble remembering.



8. "But I Like To Study In Bed"

- Avoid television, music, and distracting settings.
- Study at a desk; studying in bed is conducive to sleep not test review.
- Study context = test context.
 - Written test needs to be studied in written mode.
 - Verbal test needs to be studied verbally, etc.



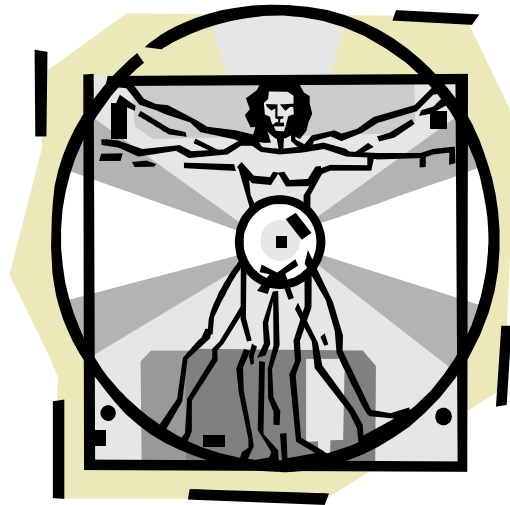
9. "Cramming Before A Test Helps Keep It Fresh In My Mind"

- ✓ Cramming keeps info in brain for only a few hours. Better to review every day starting today for long term retention.
- ✓ Begin with an hour a day and then increase study time as the exam approaches.
- ✓ Recall ability increases the more you study over a period of time.



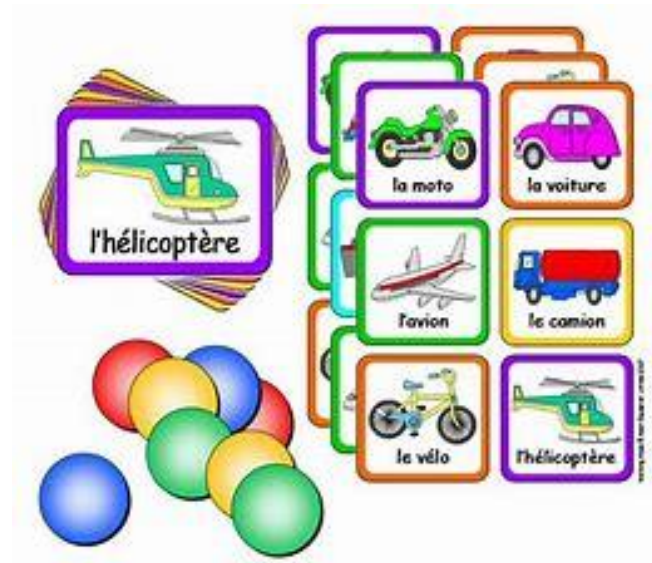
10. "I'm Gonna Stay Up All Night 'til I Get This"

- Avoid mental exhaustion.
- Take short breaks often when studying.
- Relax and unwind, mentally and physically!
- Eat well, sleep, and exercise.



Memory Tips

- Recite as you write.
- Use gestures, walk around if that helps.
- Use 3 x 5 flash cards



Memory Techniques:

a) Use Acronyms:

The names of the Great Lakes are:

- ✓ Huron
- ✓ Ontario
- ✓ Michigan
- ✓ Erie
- ✓ Superior



MEMORY TECHNIQUES"

B) WORD LINKS

"The capitol of Oregon is Salem."

✓ Think: 'There are lots of sailboats in Oregon because it is on the ocean. What do you do with these boats?'

✓ Answer "*Sail-'em*"



LINKING & WRITING

- Use one word/letter and link information to it:

<u>N</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>T</u>
Nebaraska	Arkansas	Texas
N. Dakota	Alabama	Tennessee
N. Carolina	Alaska	

- Write out what you have to memorize again and again over several days.

Tips for Test - Taking (before the exam)

- Get a good night's sleep.
- Eat a good breakfast with plenty of pre-test digestion time!
- Arrive early.
- Bring necessary materials (calculator, pen/pencil, note cards).
- Know what works for you right before the test (review study sheets, or sit quietly).



Positivity and attitude are
everything!

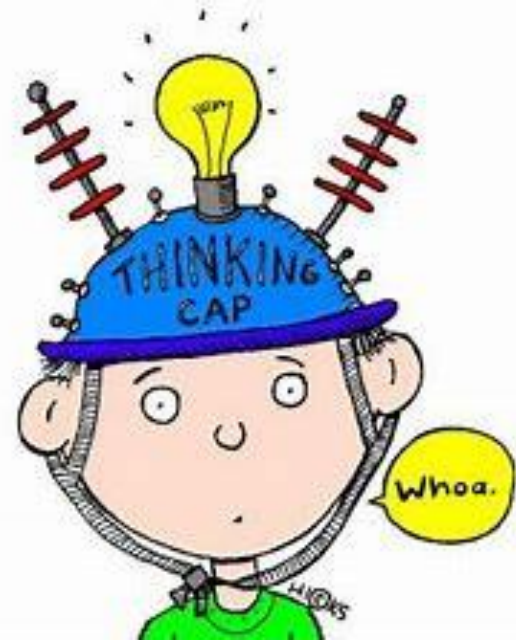


BASIC STRATEGIES DURING THE TEST

- Scan the test when you get it.
- Read directions carefully.
- Ask clarifying questions if you are unsure.
- Answer the test questions in a strategic order.
- Go with the questions you know first.



- Budget your time;
- Do the ones worth the most points first or the ones you know the answers to.
- Skip the questions you don't know.
- Take slow, deep breaths if you find yourself getting anxious.



True/False Tests

- If any part of the statement is false, the whole statement is false.
- Negatives can be confusing; double negatives = positive ("I didn't not fail"=pass)
- Beware of absolutes.
 - (If unsure, question is usually false).

Strategies on Multiple Choice Tests

- ✓ Eliminate answers you know are wrong.
- ✓ Question options that are grammatically wrong.
- ✓ Question options totally unfamiliar to you.
- ✓ If more than one answer seems right, go with "All of the above" option.
- ✓ Toss out high/low options and go with middle #'s.
- ✓ If two options are opposite, chances are one is correct.
- ✓ Never change answer; go with first instinct; use other parts of exam for hints.

Multiple Choice Tests

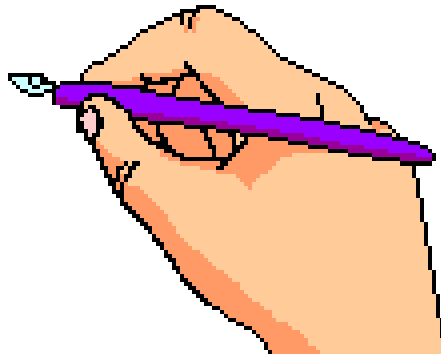
- Prioritize questions with the greatest point value.
- If you can eliminate a couple of answers on multiple choice questions...guess.

1) Who recently turned 50 years old?

- a) Rihanna
- b) Justin Bieber
- c) Sia
- d) Pharrell
- e) None of the above

Short Answer Questions on Tests

- Prepare! Prepare! Prepare!
- A guess with common sense could get you more points than leaving something blank.
- Write simply, legibly and packed with info rather than flowing literary style.



Essay Questions on Tests

- Anticipate questions in advance.
- Schedule your responses so you don't run out of time.
- Think before you write.
- Write neatly!
- Organize response before writing; use extra paper for notes and outline.
- Write what you know.



Essay Exams (cont.)

- Answer the question.
- Make a brief outline for each response.
- Get right to the point!
- Back up with specifics.
- Teachers like compactness, completeness and clarity!
- Stay relevant! No going off on tangents!



Essay Exams (cont.)

- Answer the questions that you know first; do not save “the best for last”.
- Keep moving; no doddling.
- Keep a little room at the end of each essay for additions, late thoughts, etc.



Essay Strategies

- Strong first sentence.
- Develop each point (from the question).
- When in doubt, qualify (e.g. "towards the end of the 19th century" vs. "in 1894").
- Use last paragraph to summarize and restate your main point and why it's important.
- Leave time for review, edits, corrections.
- Out of time? Outline your answers.

Open Book/Note Tests

- Remember you are being graded on understanding vs. memorization/recall.
- Do not underestimate the prep needed for these exams; it's key to have proper organization to quickly find data, quotes, and examples.
- Put notes in useable study form!!

Open Book/Note Test Strategies

- Read question carefully.

- Do not over-answer.

- Use quotations:

- ✓ even three or four words are effective;

- ✓ if you cannot say it better yourself;

- ✓ without detracting from your point or argument.



After the Exam...

- Prep for next test by stretching, taking brisk walk around; eating healthy snack;
(carbos not sugar; H2O not soda/coffee)
- Reward! Reward! Reward!



If you have a conflict regarding your exam.....

- Politely ask teacher to re-evaluate.
- **NEVER** challenge a teacher in front of other students *especially* about how they graded your exam.
- See your counselor.



**Any questions?
See your teacher or counselor!**

