

Use tests to show what you know

Branton School

Get organized

The first step in getting ready for a test is to ask yourself, "What do I need to know?" and "How can I show what I know?"

- ☐ Use class notes textbooks and the teacher's help to outline all the information covered in the unit.
- ☐ Make an organizer that lists the words and concepts covered.
- ☐ Use key words as memory triggers.
- ☐ Don't record complete answers on the sheet - that's too easy and doesn't encourage thinking about the answer.

Be systematic

- ☐ Begin with the most difficult tasks - get them done so they won't hang over your head.
- ☐ Pace yourself by alternating assignments that do not require great amounts of concentration with task that are more difficult.
- ☐ Break large assignments into smaller, organized parts.
- ☐ Set reasonable time limits for yourself.
- ☐ Give yourself enough time to do the job - go for quality!

Highlight information

Highlighting key words is a useful strategy for reviewing and studying material.

- ☐ Read the paragraph or section of text.
- ☐ In your mind, identify the main idea.
- ☐ Choose the key words in each sentence
- ☐ Ask yourself: "Does each of these words provide an important piece of information about the main topic?"

Take a CHANCE!

The CHANCE strategy can help you predict possible test questions.

C- Critical Ideas

Focus on critical ideas - the ones that are most important to understanding the chapter or topic as a whole.

Good tests won't focus on picky details...

H- Higher order questions

When a question requires more thinking and you have to pull information from more than one sentence or paragraph, make judgments or draw conclusions, the question is considered higher order.

Try to think about questions that really stretch your thinking...

A-Accuracy

If you can explain in your own words what a textbook chapter says or what your teacher meant during a class, then you are interpreting the materials with accuracy.

N-Number

Don't predict just one or two questions. Predict a large number. Cover all the material you are studying.

C-Clarity

Confusing questions lead to confusing answers. Are your questions clear?

Improve the clarity of your questions by choosing your words carefully.

E-Examine

Use your predicted questions to examine yourself. Make up a sample test.

Check your answers with your textbook and notes.