Test Preparation
and Test Taking Strategies

Practice
memorizing vs. comprehending

Bloom’s Taxonomy
hierarchy of learning

Evaluation
Synthesis
Analysis
Application
Understanding
Knowledge
Preparation

• Best strategy
• Prepared
• Avoid anxiety
• Four facets of preparation
  – Substantive
  – Material
  – Physical
  – Mental

Learning Styles

• Visual
• Auditory
• Kinesthetic
Continuous Process

- Preview & read
- Active listening
- Review
- Study sessions

Continuous Preparation

should not be underestimated!

Test Taking Approaches

- General
- Multiple choice
- Essay
- Short answer
- Open book
General Approach

• Memory dump
• Preview
• Directions
• Scoring policy
• Time use
• Every question
• Qualifying words
• Check

Multiple Choice

• Problem solving model
• Step-by-step model

Problem Solving Model

• Define the problem
• Generate solutions
• Evaluate solutions
• Make a decision
Step-by-Step Model

- Cover
- Read
- Highlight
- Two questions
- Predict
- Format
- Match
- Read again
- Guess
- Do not change answers

Essay/Short Answer

- Read
- Underline/highlight
- Key words
- Plan an outline
- Vocabulary
- Standard format
- Proofread

Open Book Exams

- Not easy
- Prepare
- Up close and personal
- Organization
Open Book Preparation

• Coding system
• Index
• Chapter summaries
• Overview or mind maps
• Concise notes
• Sticky notes
• Vocabulary lists
• Comments
• Index cards

Open Book Strategy

• Review
• Order
• Read
• Outline
• Move on
• Concise answers
• Quotations
• Content
• Buzzwords
• Breathe deeply

About Stress

• Good stress
• Distress
• Relaxation
  – Deep breathing
  – Progressive relaxation
  – Self-talk
Wise Words

Ability is what you’re capable of doing.
Motivation determines what you will do.
Attitude determines how well you do it.

Lou Holtz

Confidence comes from being prepared.

John Wooden

Help is Available!

See your professor or a tutor if you need additional assistance!

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