

Student Success

Multiple Choice : Strategies

1. Read the stem to...
 - A) determine **key words** (i.e. initial, most important, primary, least, etc...)
 - B) reword the stem so it is more **meaningful** to you.
 - C) determine the **concept** or **content**.
2. **Predict** the answer **after** reading the stem and **before** looking at the options.
3. Identify and eliminate the obviously incorrect options. (distractors on p.6)
4. If possible read the stem with **each** option.
5. Look for **words** in the **stem** that may be similar to words in the **options**. (clue) (p.7)
6. By **eliminating one part** of an option you can eliminate the entire option.
7. **Avoid** selecting options that contain **restrictive words** like always, never, every, and must. Words more likely to be correct are often, usually, most, less, may, and sometimes.
8. **Option** may be **classified** into two categories
Example: one set including most of the options may reflect a similar characteristic. The remaining option may not reflect the same characteristic and is likely the correct answer. (Pg. 9)
9. **Grammatically incorrect** answers are not correct.
Example: The best way to get there is to:
 - A) run
 - B) hoop
 - C) skipped
 - D) jumped
10. All options may appear correct, however the best option may be more correct in that it **more complete** and may include one or more of the other option.