

MULTIPLE CHOICE EXAM STRATEGIES

Multiple Choice Exams

Anticipating the Questions

- Multiple choice questions by nature usually focus on broader subjects. These types of questions must appear to have more than one answer, so they generally can't be specific questions. When trying to anticipate multiple choice questions, try to think of things which relate to each other and make sure you can properly distinguish their differences. Also note that application questions can be in multiple choice format, this is rare though.

How to Study

- While studying for multiple choice questions, you essentially have to over study. Multiple choice questions rely not only on the knowledge you know is right, but the knowledge you know isn't right as well. Sometimes realizing which answer is incorrect is just as helpful as knowing which one is the right one.

Group Studying

- The best method for studying for multiple choice questions in a group is to create your own questions from the material and ask each other. Not only will this help you anticipate content, but also force you to study more than you normally would to come up with plausible alternative answers.

Answering the Questions

- Read the question carefully. Missing one key word, such as 'not' or 'none', can completely change the answer.
- Try to guess the answer before looking at what is given. This is the best and quickest way to go through multiple choice questions. If you know the answer, you can just give it and move on.
- Process of elimination. This should be used when you aren't sure of the answer.
- Look for 'extreme' words like: always, never, rarely, etc. Answers which have these questions are less likely to be right in some disciplines where there are rarely extremes.
- Guess if no penalty is given for incorrect answers.