

Test /Exam Strategies



Daily:

- **Attend and prepare for all classes.**
- Make use of **classroom resources**, including the teacher and their website.
- **Work regularly on course material and ask questions** as they arise and not at the end of a unit.
- **Organize** your electronic notes or binder and handouts.
- **Give yourself review time** prior to the test.
- **Manage your energy and concentration levels:** time management for your personal life, nutrition, sleep, exercise and relaxation time.

Before looking at the test:

- **Jot down all formulas, relationships or diagrams** that you think may be helpful.

Before writing the test:

- **Pre-view entire test. Decide on a plan of action.**

Mark questions that are worth more marks with an asterisk/circle so you know to go back to them.

Budget time for longer questions. Check the clock and write down the time needed complete. (10, 15, 20 min. intervals)

Save time at the end to review your work.

During the test:

- **Attempt all questions you know first** (easier questions) and then work on more challenging questions. This offers clarity and confidence moving forward in your test.

- **Multiple Choice:**

Read question.

Use process of elimination

Underline/highlight key words/phrases in question

Underline/Circle potentially the correct answer. Cross out incorrect.

If you are still unsure, leave it and go back to it later. You may be reminded during later questions.



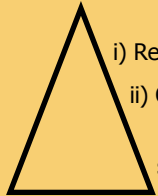
Essay Questions:

Read question. Look for key words that will determine your essay type: analyze, compare, illustrate, contrast.



Information Dump: Use an organizer and write down information related to your essay: names, dates, quotes, ideas, statistics

Outline for essay



- i) Re-state question/statement
- ii) One idea per paragraph
- iii) Emphasize the main point. Give sources/names.
- iv) Summarize at the end.

Be concise.

Write carefully. Review/Revise. If no computer, write every other line.

Read it over. Make sure your opening paragraph supports your closing paragraph. Is your statement verified or your question answered?



Difficult Questions:

Make sure you understand the problem.

Underline key words, identify the given information and the unknowns (missing) information.

Sketch a diagram of the problem.

Make a note of all the information given in symbols, graphs or tables, formulas.

Break the question into smaller steps and complete one at a time.

Think back to a similar problem and use the same solution method.

Never leave a questions unanswered. You may get partial credit for your attempt at a solution.

Adapted from: flamingcollege.ca/aes/resources/student-resources/goldensecondarylearninghub.com/literacy-resources/graphic-organizers/

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