



Mrs. Angie's recommended

Test Taking Skills

1. Don't wait until the day before the test to start preparing

If you're learning, there's probably a test coming up. Get some index cards. As you go through the chapter write down an important word/date/name on one side of an index card and the definition/event/accomplishment on the other. This way, when it's time to study for a test, you've already got the materials to study. Now you don't have to go back and try to remember what was important in the chapter.

2. Read the directions.

Sometimes major points of a test will include not only answering the question, but following directions like circling or underlining part of the question. If you don't read the directions, perfect answers on a test may still earn you an "F." Sometimes the directions even tell you not to answer questions on the test!

3. Do a mind dump

When you first get your test and are instructed to begin, go to the back page and write down everything you are afraid you might forget by the end of the test.

4. Answer the problems you know first.

Mark the ones you don't know well so that when you come back, they will be easy to spot. If you spend all your time working on the questions you may or may not know, you might end up not having time to get to some questions you could have easily answered.

5. NEVER leave a question blank.

Before the test, ask your teacher for a 1 minute end-of-test warning. If you still have questions left blank, put SOMETHING in the blank. If you leave the question blank, you'll get it wrong for sure. If you guess, you'll probably get it wrong, but who knows - maybe...

6. Try to answer the questions from your teacher's perspective.

Try to remember what the teacher emphasized and felt was important. Those are probably the things he/she is wanting you to emphasize in your answers too!

7. After the test, don't throw the cards away.

Take them home and paper clip the cards of that chapter together...you never know when the teacher is going to tell you that you have a review test coming up - if you keep the cards, you can simply take out the cards from the chapters that the test will cover and you still don't have to go back and re-read the whole thing.