Strategies for Taking

Standardized Tests

Before the Test

1. Go to bed on time, making sure that you have arranged the clothes you will wear and the items you wish to take to the testing facility.
2. Solve any personal problems before the test date to alleviate stress and mental distractions.
3. Eat a good breakfast.
4. Plan an event that will help you to relax after the exam.
5. Think positive!

Taking the Test

1. If you do not understand the directions, ask for help.
2. Read the question and ***all*** the answer choices before making your choice.
3. Make sure you understand what the question is asking. ***Don't change the scenario or assume that the question is a trick or has more than one answer.***
4. Don't spend too much time on any one question. Do your best and then move on.
5. Answer the easiest questions first, but be sure to go back to those questions you skipped.
6. Don't change your answers unless you are very uncertain about your first answer choice.
7. Try to answer every question. Make the most intelligent guess you can.
8. Find ***key words or phrases*** in the question that will help you choose the correct answer.

Completing the Test

1. After you have been through all of the questions once, go back and find questions you have some knowledge about and ***eliminate*** choices that you know are incorrect.
2. If you can eliminate two wrong answers, your chance of choosing the right answer is greater.
3. If you finish early, check to make sure you have answered all questions.