Multiple Choice Test Taking Strategies

1) Read the *directions*.

2) Read the *title*.

3) Look at *pictures/images* and any outstanding *text features* (bold, italics, etc.)

4) Skim the *questions*.

5) Read the passage and *underline details* that will help you answer the questions.
Multiple Choice Test Taking Strategies (cont’d)

6) Use the *process of elimination* to get rid of inappropriate answers.

7) Select the *best* answer for the question.

8) If time allows, review your answers – especially those that you were unsure of.
Process of Elimination

**Eliminate:**

- Choices that contradict (say the opposite of) what you remember from the passage.
- Any two answers that are basically saying the same thing.
- Seem extreme in tone.
- Choices that do not make sense.

***NEVER ELIMINATE AN ANSWER CHOICE THAT YOU DON'T KNOW THE MEANING OF OR ARE UNFAMILIAR WITH BECAUSE IT MAY BE THE CORRECT ANSWER. FOCUS ON ELIMINATING ANSWERS THAT YOU **KNOW** ARE INCORRECT.***
Other Helpful Tips

- **Opposite Answer Choices:** If two answer choices are opposites, it is *likely* that one of them is correct.

- **‘All of the Above’ Choice:** If at least two of the three answers seem correct, ‘all of the above’ is *likely* the answer.

- **Using Other Parts of the Exam:** Often times, you may find the answer to a particular question in another section of the exam. If you are struggling with a question at the end of an exam, skim the other parts of the exam for any answer clues.