

PRACTICE QUESTIONS

What are MCQ's?

- They are not just a test of your memory, but MCQ's are testing your ability to apply, interpret, and analyze information.

Pace Yourself:

- understand how long you have for each question on the test
- some will take a shorter time, others will take longer
- rushing may cause misreading which costs points

A Step by Step process for practicing with MCQ's:

1. *Read the stem very carefully, making note of important details and also ruling out any irrelevant information.* Many students miss questions because they read too quickly, missing key details or focus on the wrong information in the question. Practicing helps because the more your practice at this the quicker you can read through questions with precision.
2. *In your own words, restate what the question is asking you.* Once again, many students miss questions because they simply do not understand fully what the question is asking. This is also why practicing is important, particularly with a partner or with a small group. Someone else might interpret a question differently, so it helps to be able to view the question from different perspectives to truly understand what is being asked.
3. *Decide on answer before looking at the answer options.* This is a good test of your knowledge and doesn't lead to a rush to judgment without thoroughly thinking through the question. Many students rush to an answer because it "seems" correct.

4. **It may in fact be correct to some degree, but there may be a better answer you overlooked. Practicing this step helps you to overcome this misstep.**
5. ***Look at your answer choices to see if your predicted answer is there, and either way evaluate your answer choices.*** Steps 1-3 will now allow you to make a more informed decision about the best answer choice.
6. ***Choose your answer.*** It is also important here for you stick with your answer choice as well. Many students also miss questions because they go back and change their answers. Unless you have a very good reason, and you are confident in the process, you should stick with your selection. This is why determining your confidence level on each question is also important. It also helps when knowing how to prioritize your study and review time.
7. ***Whether or not you got the answer correct, go back and evaluate all of the answer choices.*** If “A” was the correct response, consider how you might change certain details with the stem to make “B” the correct response, or “C” the correct response, etc. Keep in mind there are only so many ways a question can be asked, so analyzing questions and answers in this way is an excellent study tool in preparation for the actual exam.

Finally, make sure you are going through practice questions that are challenging you. The point of practice questions is not to get everyone correct so you can “pat yourself on the back.” The point is:

- **to help in your review of the material in your application, analysis, and interpretation,**
- **to improve your comfort level and speed in working through questions, and**
- **to get in the habit of picking out the important details and thoroughly understanding what the question is asking**