

MULTIPLE-CHOICE TESTS

Multiple-Choice Test Strategies

- Know that they are the type most often given by teachers.
- Know that multiple-choice tests are designed to test how well you recognize related information.
- Understand the directions.
 - Read all directions twice.
 - Is there one (or more than one) correct answer per question?
- Work quickly.
- “Flag” questions about which you are unsure, and continue.
- Answer all questions (never leave a blank unless you are not penalized for unanswered questions).

STEP 1:  Cover all answers with your hands to better focus on the stem (the “question” above the choices).

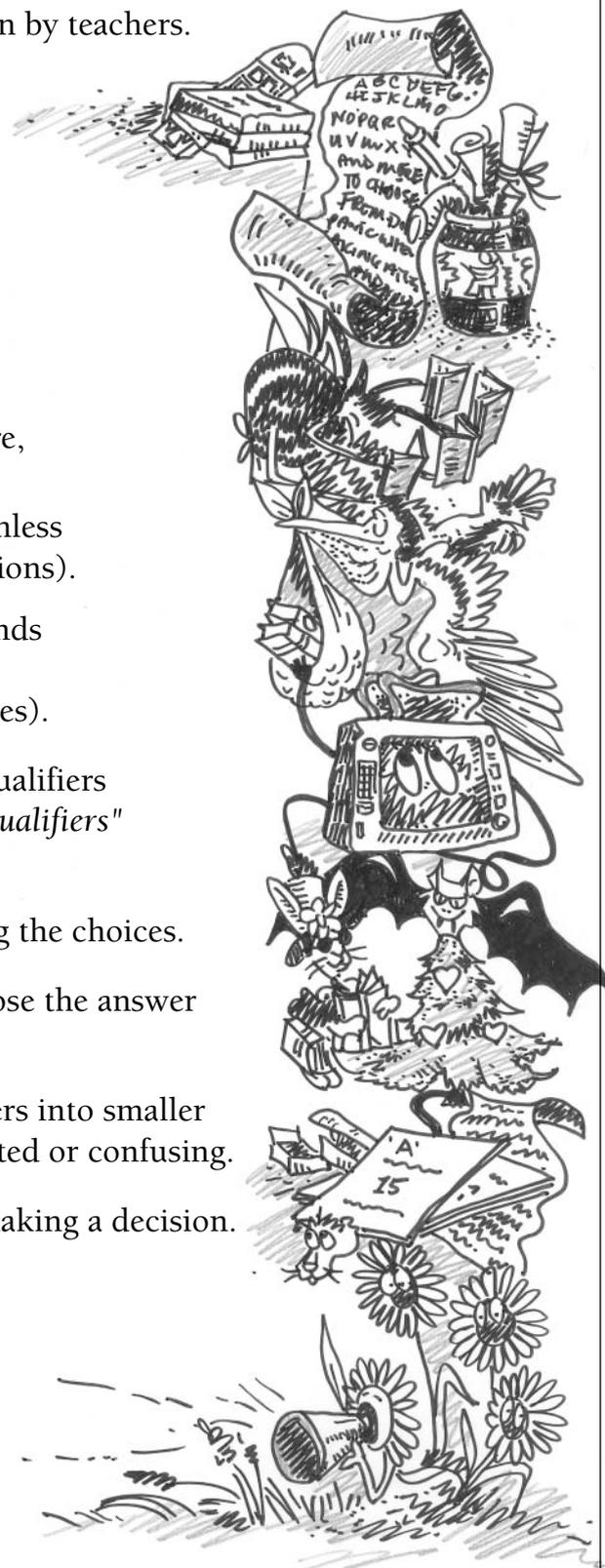
STEP 2:  Study the stem and circle any qualifiers or key words (refer to *List of "Qualifiers"* on page 221).

STEP 3:  Recall the answer before reading the choices.

STEP 4:  Uncover the answers, then choose the answer that best matches yours.

STEP 5:  Separate the questions or answers into smaller parts if you find them complicated or confusing.

STEP 6:  Read all of the choices before making a decision.



STEP 7: 🖱️ Eliminate obviously wrong answers.

- Refer to *Intelligent Guessing Strategies* on page 222.
- Look for “clue” words or numbers.
- Watch for grammatical clues.
 - Noun/verb agreement between stem and answer
 - A/an in stem—answer begins with vowel
 - Plurals
- Be on the lookout for familiar phrases from lectures or the text.
- Immediately cross off “NONE OF THE ABOVE” or “ALL OF THE ABOVE” answer choices when you read through the answers and find one that makes either of these two incorrect.

STEP 8: 🖱️ When you get stuck, try reading the stem with each possible answer (separately).

STEP 9: 🖱️ If time permits, recheck your answers.

- Look for flagged questions first.
- Before changing any answers, be sure you have a very good reason to do so—your first response is usually correct.

