

Connections Activity

Topic:	Test Taking Tips
Connections to Goal:	Academic
Grade Level:	9
Quarter:	2
Time Needed:	25 Minutes (one advisory session)

Handouts/Materials Provided:

- Test Taking Tips Handout

Summary of Activity for the Advisor: Students will discuss test taking strategies and which works best for them.

Read/Discuss/Implement with students:

- Ask students the following questions:
 1. What are tests used for?
 2. In what ways are they preparing you for the world of work?
 3. What problems do you have taking tests?
- Write 3-4 of the items under tips to use during the test on the board.
- Invite students to discuss the importance of each.
- Then ask students to recall a time when they used test strategies.
- Encourage students to listen to each other.

If the students and Advisor are interested in this topic:

During the following advisory session, use these questions as a “warm-up” activity-

- Which one of the strategies has been difficult for you to use?
- What can you do to remember some of these strategies?
- Which of the strategies have you practiced?

Activity: Test Taking Tips

Test Taking Tips

Tips to use during the test

- Read all directions carefully before starting the test.
- Budget your time.
- Make a special effort to be neat.
- Clearly mark your answers.
- If you have extra time, go back and check your answers.
- Your first response is probably your best response. Do not change an answer unless you have good reason to do so.

Tips for multiple choice tests

- Make educated guesses. If you can eliminate one or two of the choices, then guessing will be more profitable.
- If the question is confusing, look at the answers. They often explain the questions.
- Don't spend too much time on any of the questions.
- Fill in answers on machine-scored test sheets accurately and carefully.

Tips for essay tests

- Look over all the questions quickly before you answer them.
- Underline key words in the questions, especially those that indicate how the teacher wants the question to be answered, for example, words such as: *analyze, compare, list, explain, summarize, etc.*
- If the question asks for a comparison, be sure you do that.
- Make a brief outline.