

TYPES OF TESTS

OBJECTIVE: Rely on factual knowledge, exact answers, and definitions.

True-False: 50% chance when guessing.

Multiple choice: 3 choices = 35 % chance
4 choices = 25% chance
5 choices = 20% chance

Usually exam questions give something away. If you can rule out any answer, you increase your chances.

Matching: Columns equal (easiest)
Columns unequal (harder)

Rule out items as used. Check through all items for each one. For example, for item A, check with all items in other columns. Sometimes, you can go from definitions to terms if you are stuck.

Short: Exact answer.

SUBJECTIVE: Usually essay; can be short or long. Read the directions/questions carefully.

Common terms used in subjective exams:

Contrast: How are two things DIFFERENT.

Compare: How are two things SIMILAR.

Contrast and Compare are often used together.

Criticize: What are the good and bad points in your opinion (support ideas).

Discuss: You can use any writing technique you wish, but should say as much as you can and include for and against.

Enumerate: Make a list or outline of the major points.

State: Give a short, direct answer.

Relate: Show how things are related or associated, connecting facts or ideas.

Illustrate: Make something clear using an example or diagram.

Explain: Make the ideas clear in any way; give reasons, talk about data.

Summarize: Give the most important ideas in a short form; usually can leave out details and examples.

WHAT TO DO ON ANY ESSAY EXAMS

1. Do an outline, or at least a list of what you want to cover. Write it on the exam sheet. If you can't finish, the instructor at least has an idea of where you were going with the answer.
2. Take enough time to write clearly. (Handwriting)
3. Be grammatical and spell correctly. Use words and phrases you know you can spell right.