

EOG Strategies and Tips for Students

Reading Directions and Questions

1. Read the directions carefully. Look for words like all, none, and except. These can throw you off.
2. Understand what the question is asking before trying to complete the answer. If you don't understand the question, chances are you'll answer the wrong question.
3. Use your test booklets to help you! Circle and underline words in the question or directions that help you to answer the question. Write in your test booklets.
4. Read each question and answer carefully. If you don't understand something, read it again.

Marking Answers on the Answer Sheet

1. Check periodically (every five answers and at the bottom of each row) to see that item numbers and answer numbers match.
2. Use a piece of paper lined up under each row on the answer sheet. This will ensure you are on the correct number and not accidentally skipping a line.
3. If a question is skipped, also skip the answer.
4. Put a light mark next to skipped items on the booklet and the answer sheet. This will remind you to go back and answer those questions.
5. Don't erase mistakes too hard, and don't redraw erased circles. This may cause holes in the answer sheet and make it hard to score.
6. Watch for stray marks on the answer sheet. These can be picked up by the computer as the answers and cause you to miss questions you should not miss.
7. The computer will count your answer incorrect if two circles have pencil marks in them.

Multiple Choice Questions

1. Read each item completely and all of the answer choices before choosing an answer.
2. There are usually a couple of choices that sound correct; don't be tempted to mark the first one that sounds good.
3. Check back over your answers at the end of testing. Sometimes, you can make silly mistakes, and you'll catch them when you look back over your answers. Check your work!
4. Students miss the easy questions as often as the hard question because they do not read the questions carefully. The questions all count the same. Be sure to get the easier and more difficult ones correct!
5. Make sure you answer every question. If you don't, you are guaranteed to be wrong.
6. Read all of the answer choices before answering. One of the choices might include more than one answer. For example: both A and B.

Eliminating the Wrong Answers

1. Test booklets with a large number of elimination marks receive higher marks than those with few or none. Use the process of elimination to help you have a higher score. Cross out wrong answer choices as soon as they are read. Pick your answer from the remaining options. If you eliminate two answers as being incorrect, you have a 50 /50 chance of getting the right answer.
2. Make logical and reasonable guesses—perhaps the choice with the most information provided. If you don't know the answer completely, use the partial knowledge you have about the question and answers to help you.
3. A couple of the answer choices usually look like they could be correct. Choose the best answer.

Time Management

1. Focus on one question at a time; avoid looking ahead at other questions. This can make you feel overwhelmed.
2. Try not to feel rushed and anxious. If you begin to think about all you have to finish in an amount of time, it can make you feel too stressed and make it hard to focus on what you are doing. As long as you don't waste your time, you will have plenty of time to complete the test.
3. Don't worry about other people in the room. We all work at a different pace, and finishing first does not make you do better.
4. Keep moving through the test. Skip questions that are giving you trouble. When you finish, go back and retry any skipped questions. Don't spend too much time wrestling with one question.