

## Succeeding on Multiple Choice Tests

- ✓ Before you begin, survey the test. How many questions are there? Are there images or maps? Are some questions worth more than others? How much time do you have to take the test? Pace yourself accordingly.
- ✓ Think of answers in your head before looking at the possible answers provided. Doing so may help you recognize a correct answer immediately.
- ✓ Answer the questions you know first and go back to those for which you need more time.
- ✓ To understand the questions better, rewrite them in your own words if you have time. Be careful not to change the meaning.
- ✓ Eliminate answers that you know for certain are incorrect. Then choose the most likely answer from those remaining.
- ✓ Do not pick an answer choice just because it sounds good at first reading. Sometimes a choice is meant to sound correct but is not. Read all of the answer choices very carefully. Then, select the best one.
- ✓ When answering a test question that uses a map, chart, or graph, study the information provided to make sure you understand what you are looking at.
- ✓ Be sure to pay attention to specific words in a question. Words can act as clues to help you identify the correct answer.
- ✓ Remember that you are looking for the best, or most accurate, answer. It might not necessarily be the only answer that applies.
- ✓ Avoid changing your answer to a multiple-choice test question. Unless you misread the question, your first answer choice is often correct.
- ✓ If you have time, review your work. Make sure you did not overlook any questions. Remember, do not change an answer unless you are certain about the change.