

Test Taking Skills: A Definition

Test-taking skills are those skills not related to subject matter knowledge, which include your attitude and how you approach the taking of a test.

When you gain skills required to take a test, you will receive a higher score than you might otherwise have gotten.



THE BIG FIVE

There are five major areas for developing test taking skills. They include:

1. Establishing a good attitude when taking a test.
2. Knowing the different kinds of test items and how the test will be graded.
3. Following directions.
4. Moving from item to item without wasting time.
5. Attacking difficult questions/guessing.

McKinley Elementary “Fab Five” Test-Taking Strategies

1. SLASH THE TRASH!

Read ALL choices.

Get rid of any choices you know are wrong! Choose the BEST answer from what is left.

2. “NAIL” THE DETAIL!

Highlight, underline or circle the details or key words in the questions!

3. BE SLICK AND PREDICT!

Predict what the answer is BEFORE you read the choices!

4. TICK, TOCK... MIND the CLOCK!

Don't stay struck on one question... take your best “thinking guess” and Move on!

Answer the “easy” questions first!

5. INSPECT THOSE DIRECTIONS!

Listen carefully to directions!

Ask questions if directions aren't clear!

Fill in ALL bubbles completely!

Make no extra marks!