# TIPS FOR TAKING MULTIPLE CHOICE TESTS 

## 1. Start with the Main Question.

- Read carefully.
- Look for qualifiers (often, usually, sometimes), modifiers (always or never), or negatives (not, none, un-, dis-). Underline these and key words.
- Note in the margins what you think may be the correct answer based on your understanding of the question.


## Are you Stuck?

Mark the problem and move on.
Sometimes you can answer the question later, after you see the rest of the test.

Don't forget to go back to each problem you have skipped!

## 2. Read the Answer Choices

- Read carefully. Look for qualifiers, modifiers, and negatives.
- Look for the BEST answer - your choice may be true, but is it the truest of the options?
- Eliminate incorrect answers. Look for: similar answers, overstatements (always, never), and grammatically incorrect choices. You can find these by plugging them into the main question.


## To Guess, or Not to Guess

Know how the test will be graded before you guess answers.

Some professors penalize more for wrong answers than they do if you do not answer the problem at all.

## Want to learn more?

Academic Resource Center Duke

The Academic Resource Center is a great place to get tips on time management, preparing for quizzes and exams, taking notes, and so much more.

