



Test Preparation

A Landmark Faculty generated list of test and quiz preparation strategies.

General Test Preparation Strategies

- Help students organize past worksheets, homework assignments, essays and other class materials to generate (through class discussion) a list of topics that might be on the test.
- Assign sample test questions for homework. These can be teacher-generated questions or student generated questions. For example, ask your students to create 10 sample test questions for homework; 3 true/false, 3 multiple choice, 3 open ended questions, and one short answer. Use the beginning of class the next day, to have students quiz each other using the questions they created.
- Let students fill a note card with information they think they will need during the test and use it during the exam (e.g., formulas).
- Practice answering short essay questions by requiring students to write paragraph summaries of sections of their class notes.
- Use a concept map with just the main points filled in. Have the students fill in the sub-topics and details on their sheets. Alternatively, use the board in your classroom and have students fill in the sub-topics and details on sticky notes. Ask the students to organize the sub-topics and details under the corresponding main ideas.
- Encourage students to evaluate what topics on the test will be most difficult for them and use this information to put study topics in order of priority.
- Use past tests and quizzes and have students correct the questions they answered incorrectly.
- Help students write their own newspaper headline for each section or unit of information you are studying.
- Put a fictional character or an historical figure on trial.
- Play Jeopardy: you can generate the questions or have your students create them.

Specific Test Preparation Strategies for Vocabulary

- Write each vocabulary word in a sentence which illustrates its meaning.
- Create flashcards with words on some and definitions on the others; use these cards to practice matching, or in games such as “concentration”; you can use the same format with synonyms, antonyms or sentence completion.
- Ask students to add visuals to flash cards whenever possible.
- Allow students to work in pairs. By dividing a stack of vocabulary words, students engage in a conversation using the words on their cards. Each student needs to find a way to work the conversation and use the next word on their stack. Continue the conversation until all cards are used.

Study Groups and Test Preparation

- Practice with your students in class first. Assign roles and create a study structure.
- Create a study guide collaboratively.