

Multiple Choice Strategies

Stimulus Question Strategies:

- 1) Read the source of the stimulus and the date. Ask yourself: What do you know already about this topic?
- 2) Read EACH question stem related to the stimulus. Circle the historical thinking skill/verb.
- 3) Read the stimulus. Annotate for the main idea. DO NOT SKIM.

****Some questions are stand alone and you do not need the stimulus. If not, then answer it. ****

- 4) Reread the question stems to answer the question.
 - READ ALL ANSWERS FIRST.
 - Use process of elimination to narrow down choices-CROSS THEM OUT!
 - Select the best answer. Trust you gut-your first answer is usually the correct one.

Additional Strategies:

- Do not choose absolutes-(all, none, never, always)-these will never be the correct answer.
- Nuanced words: usually, rarely, seldom, often-these words tend to be in correct answers
- Look for ellipses-the information after the ellipses is usually the main idea AND/OR an answer to a question.
- Look for opposites when you get a “Which of the following is...” or “Which of the following is not...”. Either one of the opposites will usually be the correct answer.

When Choosing Between Two Answers:

- There will always be two right answers but in CB style-one is always more right.
- Reread the question again if needed-many times one word will clarify the difference between choices
- Reread answer choices-focus on words and their meaning

Finally, if you can't decide, always choose the longest one. You will get it correct roughly 30% of the time.

