

How to Prepare for Different Kinds of Tests

Open Book Tests

- Review the material ahead of time. Time will be limited during the exam, and you can't expect to find quick answers.
- Organize and flag your notes so that it will be easier to find specific material during the exam.
- Prepare as you would for a closed-book test: summarize your notes and reading, make study-guides, etc.

Essay Tests

- Themes are particularly important in essay questions. Identify themes in the notes and readings.
- Generate possible essay questions based on these themes.
- Formulate answers to the potential questions.
- Write an outline and thesis statement before you begin to answer the question.

Multiple-Choice Tests

- Read the question and try to generate an answer before looking at the choices.
- Look for choices that are similar to one another- one of them is usually the correct answer.
- Cross out answers that you know to be incorrect and make an educated guess from the remaining options.
- Even if you think the first choice is correct, be sure to read all choices before answering.
- If you cannot answer a question move on to the next one; another question may help you remember.