TESTS: STRATEGIES

Relax Leave books and notes at home. Last-minute cramming will distract you.
Sit away from windows or friends who will distract you.
Take a few deep breaths.
Do not discuss the exam before you take it; anxiety is contagious.

Preview Understand all written and oral directions before taking the exam.
Scan the test and budget time for each section.
Jot notes to yourself on test paper if you think of something you want to remember.

Answer Answer the easiest questions first.
Focus on the questions with highest point value.
Skip questions you cannot answer; mark them so you can return to them later.

Review Save a few minutes to proofread your exam.
Make your best guess rather than leave an answer blank.
Don’t change your first answer unless you’re sure you’re right.
Use all the time allotted. If you leave early, you may miss additional instructions or clarification given after you have gone.
Analyze your returned test when preparing for the next exam.