

Do not "second-guess" yourself and change your original answers.

Research has indicated that your first hunch is more likely to be correct.

You should only change answers to questions if you originally misread them or if you have encountered information elsewhere in the test that indicates with certainty that your first choice is incorrect.

Guessing:

Always guess when there is no penalty for guessing or you can eliminate options

Don't change your answers unless you are sure of the correction

Use hints from questions you know to answer questions you do not.

Play the odds. If you don't know the answer, write something. If you are answering a 4 possibility multiple choice question you will still have a 25% chance of being correct!



Short Answer Questions

Use grammatical clues within a statement as hints for the correct answer

Write your short answers in simple, telegraphic sentences. Packing as much information as you can is more important than literary style.

Short answer responses require no introduction and should be brief and to the point.

Do not fall into the trap of elaborating on a short answer question because you feel confident of your response. Answer succinctly and continue onward.

The Extended Response Questions

Read through the questions once and note if you have any choice in answering questions

Pay attention to how the question is phrased, or to the "directives", or words such as "compare", "contrast", "criticize", etc.

Answers will come to mind immediately for some questions

Write down their key words, listings, etc, as they are fresh in mind. Otherwise these ideas may be blocked (or be unavailable) when the time comes to write the later