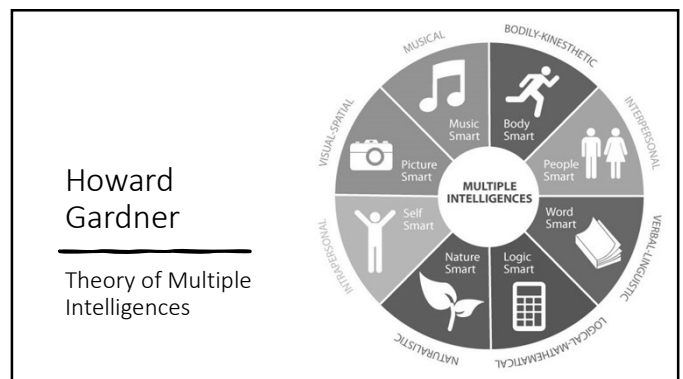
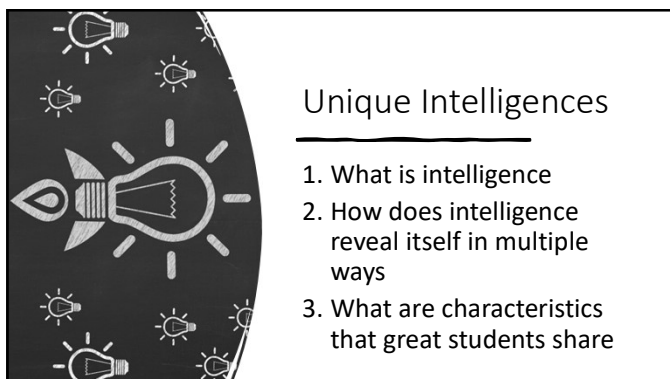
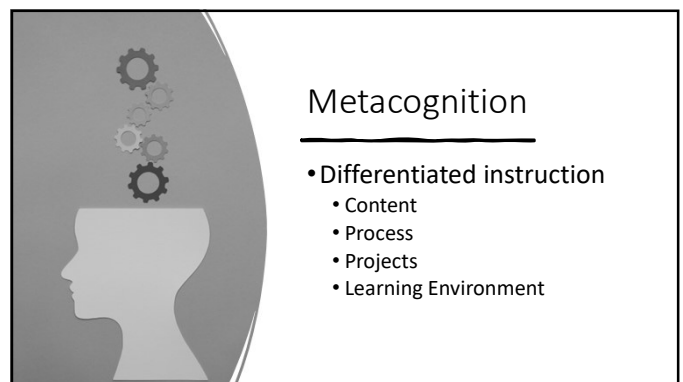
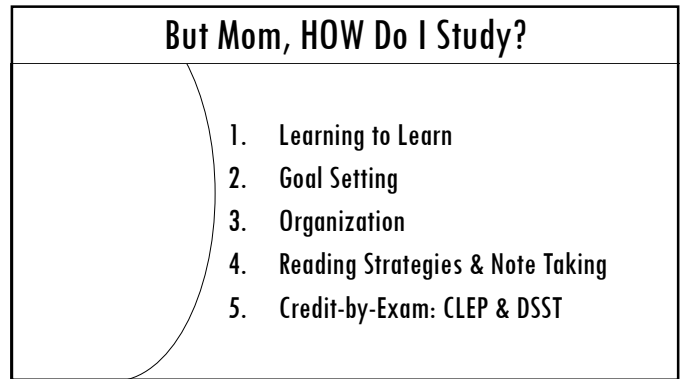
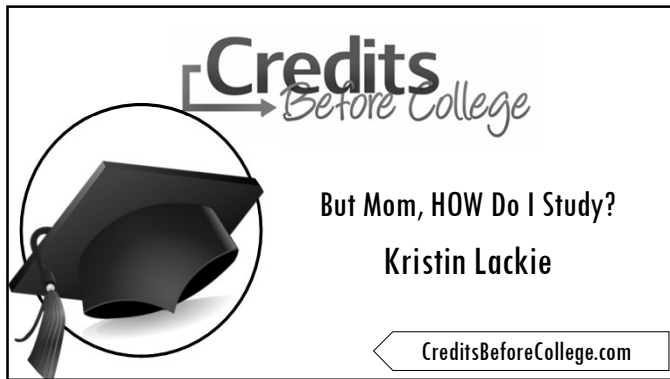


But Mom, HOW Do I Study?



But Mom, HOW Do I Study?

Carl
Jung

Theory of
Personality Types



Neil
Fleming

VARK Learning Styles



What VARK are You?

Vary how you input or
take in information.

Visual – Picture Smart

- Loves to see things
- Remembers faces, places, pictures
- Vivid imagination
- Pictures things in head
- Words float away, so write things down
- Uses concept maps, timelines or flow charts
- Studies pictures, graphs, maps
- Look for explanatory videos
- Draw pictures or diagrams
- Use lots of colors or shapes
- Graph paper



zzz...
bed

But Mom, HOW Do I Study?



Aural or Auditory – Listening Smart



People with a strong aural preference for learning like

- Discussions
- Stories
- Guest speakers
- Chat time

Need to both listen to and speak about the information

Read/Write Visual – Word Smart

- Loves words
- Reading and writing strength
- Summarize main points in writing
- Refine and simplify notes
- Highlight main ideas
- Underline supporting points
- Write out what a graph or chart means using words
- Tutor to simplify concepts

Kinesthetic – Body Smart

- People with a strong kinesthetic preference for learning like
 - Practical exercises
 - Engaging all senses
 - Concrete examples
 - Case studies
 - Trial and error
- Learn best when information is connected experientially

Multimodal

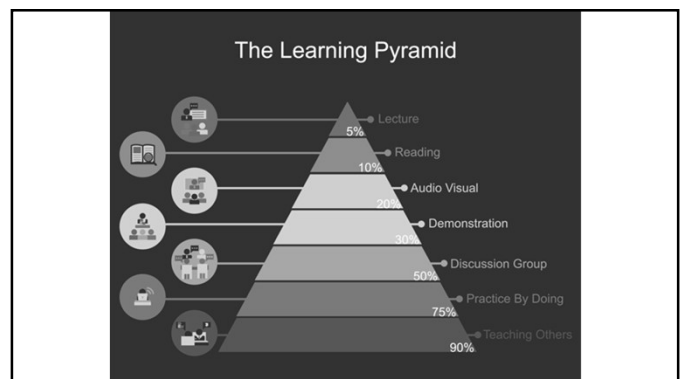
Combination of two or more learning preferences that score evenly across your profile

You need variety in both receiving information and expressing it back

Active Learning Skills

- Make a list of important concepts
- Mark or highlight the most important lines in the text
- Answer questions orally or in writing
- Summarize the text in your own words
- Link new information with examples from your own experiences
- Make an outline, or create a graphic organizer of the important concepts
- Write out subtitles
- Identify concepts and make comparisons
- Define words that are not defined
- Find the main themes
- Make comparisons with previously learned material
- Read to understand the material, and then teach it to someone else

Visual Auditory Read/Write Kinesthetic



But Mom, HOW Do I Study?

Work smarter, not harder!



UNDERSTAND YOUR
PREFERENCE



USE THE STRATEGIES THAT
BELONG TO YOUR PREFERENCE

Vary how you output
information to show
what you know.

Show What You Know

Conduct an interview with an expert.	Write journal/diary entries.	Make an instructional or educational video.	Perform a puppet show.
Compose a song or rap.	Design a comic strip about the topic.	Decorate a box and fill with relevant objects.	Write a "Choose Your Own Adventure" story.
Make and present a PowerPoint.	Create a test about the topic.	Write a report.	Make a pamphlet or brochure.
Create an Internet scavenger hunt.	Write an advice column.	Choreograph a dance/cheer as a review.	Do a newscast.
Write a children's story about the topic.	Create a game.	Perform a skit.	Produce a TV or radio commercial

Focus on the
Process



Dorothy Sayers

For the sole true end of education is simply this: to teach men how to learn for themselves; and whatever instruction fails to do this is effort spent in vain.

Separating Character Issues and Academic Issues

Teach
Turn off
Turn on

But Mom, HOW Do I Study?

Teach
2 Timothy
3:16

Complaining or arguing – Philippians 2: 14-15

Laziness – Proverbs 21:25; Ephesians 5:15-16

Poor association – I Corinthians 15:33

Self control – Titus 2:11-12

Anger – Proverbs 15:1

Self Pity – John 16:33

Anxiety – Philippians 4:6-7

Fear – 2 Timothy 1:7

2. Goal Setting

Mission and Goals

- Faith
- Family
- Friends
- Fortune

Setting Objectives

1. Specific objectives
2. Specific timeline
3. Develop an action plan
4. Write it down
5. Decide the price
6. Measure your success

3. Organization

Organization and Study Environment

1. Organize your day
 - Have a daily planner and check it each day
 - Make a daily “to-do” list and mark it off as you complete the task.
 - Have a system for each task.



But Mom, HOW Do I Study?

Organization and Study Environment

2. Choose a special place to study

- Free of major distractions
- Good lighting
- Comfortable, but not too comfortable
- Has everything you need close at hand



Organization and Study Environment

3. Set your mind to study

- Plan to take five-minute breaks after 20-30 minutes of concentrated study
- Put away all electronics
- Fight procrastination by doing the hardest tasks first
- Plan and prioritize based on where the greatest return will come on your investment of time
- Reward yourself for a job well done



Remember:
Our brains cannot multitask!!!

4. Reading Strategies & Note Taking

Reading Strategies

Reading Process

- Preview
- Question
- Read
- Review
- Test



But Mom, HOW Do I Study?

Note-taking Systems

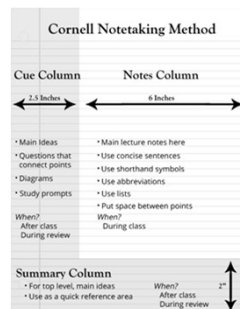
- Cornell
- Outline
- Mapping
- Charting
- Sentence



Cornell Method

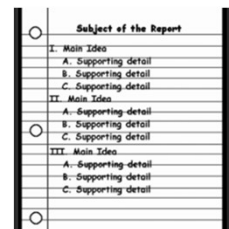
1. First, skim over the entire reading assignment.
2. Rule your paper with a 2 ½ inch margin on the left leaving a six-inch area on the right in which to make notes.
3. While reading, take down information in the six-inch area.
4. When you reach a new point or subheading, skip a few lines.
5. For every significant bit of information, write a cue in the left margin.
6. To review, cover your notes with a card, leaving only the clues exposed. Say the cue out loud, and then say as much as you can of the material underneath the card. When you have said as much as you can, move the card and see if what you said matches what is written. If you can say it, you know it!

Cornell Notetaking Method



Outline Method

- I. Outlining records content as well as relationships.
- II. Write points in an organized pattern based on space indentation.
 - A. The relationships between the different parts are carried out through indenting.
 1. Place major points farthest to the left.
 2. Indent each more specific point to the right.
 - B. Levels of importance will be indicated by distance away from the major point.
 - C. Indentation can be as simple as or as complex as labeling the indentations with Roman numerals or decimals.
- III. Outlining reduces editing and is easy to review by turning main points into questions.



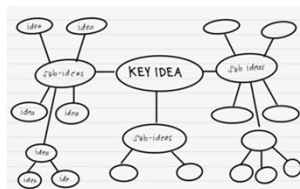
Mapping Method

Mapping is a method that uses comprehension/concentration skills and evolves in a note taking form which relates each fact or idea to every other fact or idea.

Mapping is a graphic representation of the content of a lecture.

Little thinking is needed and relationships can easily be seen.

It is also easy to edit your notes by adding numbers, marks, and color coding.



Charting

Scan chapter before reading to determine the categories to be covered.

Set up your paper in columns headed by these categories.

As you read, record information (words, phrases, main ideas, etc.) into the appropriate category.

HOW?	ADVANTAGES:	DISADVANTAGES:	WHEN TO USE IT?
Set up your paper in columns and label appropriately	Helps pull out most relevant information	Can be a hard system to use during a lecture	If you'll be tested on facts and relationships
Headings	Reduces amount of writing	Not a lot of room to write	If content is heavy and presented quickly
Headings could be categories covered in the lecture			
Insert information (words, phrases, main ideas, etc.)	Provides easy review for memorizing facts and studying comparisons and relationships	Need to know the content that will be covered beforehand	If you want to get an overview of the whole lecture on one sheet of paper
Into appropriate category			

But Mom, HOW Do I Study?

Sentence

1. Write every new thought, fact, or topic on a separate line, numbering as you progress.
2. Advantages: slightly more organized than a paragraph.
3. Disadvantages: Can't determine major or minor points form the numbered sequence.
4. Disadvantages: Difficult to edit without having to rewrite by clustering points which are related.
5. Disadvantages: Difficult to review unless editing cleans up relationships.
6. Tip: It is best to immediately review these notes after class and rank what information is most important and least important.



Sentence Note-taking Example 1

Sample Content – A revolution is any occurrence that affects other aspects of life, such as economic life, social life, and so forth.

Sample Notes – Revolution – occurrence that affects other aspects of life: e.g., econ., soci. etc.

5. Credit-by-Exam: CLEP & DSST

Test Taking

Approach tests confidently
and take them calmly.

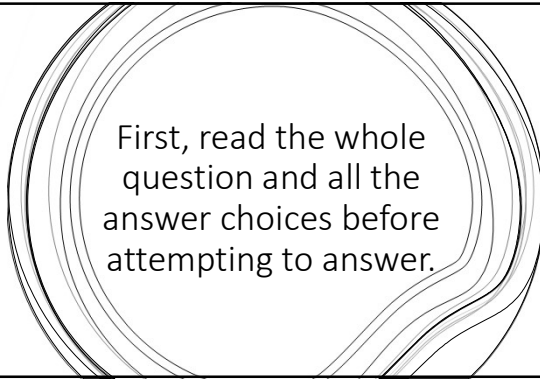
Testing Tips

- Preview the test to acquaint yourself with its parts and plan how to budget your time.
- Carefully read all directions.
- Pay attention to the scoring plan.
- Distribute your time wisely.
- Create an outline for essays in advance before you begin writing.
- Do easy questions first.
- Make sure you understand the question before you answer it.
- Take a deep breath and keep a positive attitude.
- Remember, your first answer is usually the correct one!

Multiple-Choice Test-taking Strategies



But Mom, HOW Do I Study?



First, read the whole question and all the answer choices before attempting to answer.

The best way to select the correct answer on an exam is to study and know the answer.

But if you find yourself in a situation where you have no idea what the correct answer to a question is, some simple guessing strategies can go a long way in helping you achieve success.

Guessing Strategies

- There is not a penalty for wrong answers in DSST or CLEP tests, so always give some type of response.
- You have nothing to lose!
- The benefit of multiple-choice exams is that you don't have to pull the answer out of your brain. The correct answer is already there. You just have to find it.

Process of Elimination

Eliminating answer choices even when you have no idea what the correct answer is will greatly increase your percentage of getting the question correct.

- Randomly guess = 25% chance of getting the question right
- Eliminate 1 answer choice = 33% chance of getting the question right
- Eliminate 2 answer choice = 50% chance of getting the question right

1. You Know that an Answer is Incorrect

- Common sense tells you the answer is incorrect
- IMPORTANT: You have to KNOW it is not correct. It cannot be just a feeling.

But Mom, HOW Do I Study?

Example:

In which city can you find the Liberty Bell?

- A. Washington D.C.
- B. Boston
- C. Philadelphia
- D. Minneapolis

C

Philadelphia

2. Beware of Absolute Words

- *always, never, in all cases, in every case*
- Has to be true 100% of the time
- Most of the time, absolute words are not the correct answer

Example:

How often should you wash your bed sheets?

- A. Every week
- B. Every other week
- C. Once a month
- D. Never

A

Every week

3. Avoid Causal Language

- If you are reading several multiple-choice answer choices and one seems to be much more causally written and non-specific, it is probably not the correct answer.
- The reason for this is that correct answer choices are specific. The test writer wants to make sure that the answer choice is always going to be correct.

But Mom, HOW Do I Study?

Example:

Contemporary authors are much more at liberty to be candid than were authors of previous centuries, but modern writers nevertheless often find themselves _____ portions of their work.

- A. ameliorating
- B. censoring
- C. refuting
- D. liking

B

censoring

4. Eliminate the Outliers

- Extremes
- High and low numbers

Example:

How many bones are there in the human body?

- A. 205
- B. 163
- C. 206
- D. 212
- E. 241

C

206

Example:

What does the “E” in Chuck E. Cheese stand for?

- A. Entertainment
- B. Enjoyment
- C. Engaging
- D. Nothing. It’s just “E.”

But Mom, HOW Do I Study?

A

Entertainment

Finding the
Answer
Within the
Test

- As progress through the test, you notice that several questions are related.
- In some cases, later test questions actually give the answer to a previous question.
- Remember that you can go back and forth to different questions as you take the test.

Example:

In *The Wizard of Oz*, the Tin Man wanted to see the Wizard about getting

- A. a brain
- B. an oil can
- C. a dog
- D. a heart

D

a heart

Example:

In *The Wizard of Oz*, the Tin Man wanted a heart, and the scarecrow wanted

- A. a brain
- B. straw
- C. courage
- D. red slippers

A

a brain

But Mom, HOW Do I Study?

Favor Longer,
More Detailed
Answers

- Many times the correct test answers is going to be more detailed because the test writer wants to make sure that answer is always correct.
- It needs to be explained thoroughly and with great detail in order to ensure the answer is 100%, indisputably correct.

Example:

Samuel Tilden, Grover Cleveland, Al Gore, and Hilary Clinton share what distinction among U.S. presidential candidates?

- A. They were all republicans.
- B. They were all vice-presidents.
- C. They won the popular vote but lost the electoral college vote.
- D. They ran in multiple elections.

C

They won the popular vote but lost the electoral college vote.

All of the
Above

- There is a high probability that "All of the Above" is the correct answer when it is listed as an answer choice.
- If you can confirm at least two of the choices are correct, "All of the Above" is the only choice that could be correct.
- If you know that one of the choices is not correct, you also can eliminate "All of the Above" thereby increasing the probability you will choose the correct answer.

Example:

Which of the following are characters in the beloved children's book, *Winnie the Pooh*?

- A. Roo
- B. Tigger
- C. Eeyore
- D. All of the Above

D

All of the Above

But Mom, HOW Do I Study?

Example:

Which of the following are associated with volcanoes?

- A. fissures
- B. mesocyclones
- C. ice pellets
- D. All of the Above

A

fissures

Identifying
Two Possible
Answers

- Different from narrowing down to two choices.
- You immediately identify that two answers are similar or two answers are opposite.
- Discern between the two answer choices.

Example:

In Pirates of the Caribbean, what was Captain Jack Sparrow's ship's name?

- A. The Marauder
- B. The Black Pearl
- C. The Black Python
- D. The Ranger

B

The Black Pearl

Example:

Which Biblical narrative is connected to Palm Sunday?

- A. Jesus' entry into Jerusalem
- B. Jesus' resurrection
- C. Jesus' leaving Jerusalem
- D. Jesus feeding thousands

But Mom, HOW Do I Study?

A

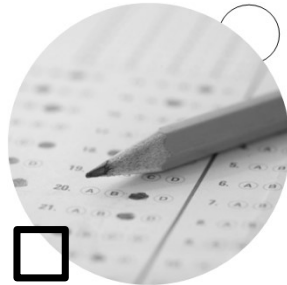
Jesus' entry into Jerusalem

Guessing Strategies Wrap-up

- Process of Elimination
 - You know that an answer is incorrect
 - Beware of absolute words
 - Avoid casual language
 - Eliminate the outliers
- Finding the Answer Within the Test
- Favor Longer, More Detailed Answers
- All of the Above
- Identifying Two Possible Answers

Test-Specific Resources

See also [Credits Before College](#)



Flashcard Websites

- InstaCert.com
 - A trusted online flashcard site designed specifically for students studying for CLEP/DSST exams.
 - The online flashcards are practice questions that are written to teach rather than simply review.
 - Subscribers have access to the flashcards for all DSST and CLEP during their subscription period.
 - Cost: \$20 per month
 - Enter code 85513 for a \$5 discount on the first month
- Quizlet.com
 - Free, student-generated flashcards

Petersons.com

- Full online practice exams for CLEP and DSST titles.
- \$49 a month gives access to all test prep materials including courses, practice tests, quizzes, videos, and flashcards.
- Answers with rationales are included, acting as an additional study resource.

Library

- Check to see if your library subscribes to the online database Gale Center's Test and Education Resource (TERC), Learning Express Library, or INSPIRE.
- These include access to practice exams. If your local library is not a subscriber, you can always request it, or sometimes a neighboring library system will be a subscriber and you can register your card with them to gain access through their system.

But Mom, HOW Do I Study?

Free Clep-Prep

- A well-respected CLEP-advocate has practice exams on his [Website](#) as well as study guides. Some subjects have free content, other guides are available for a fee.
- The exams are unique in that questions are compiled from information provided by previous test takers. These exams should not be used to evaluate test readiness.

REA Guides for CLEP

- Comprehensive review with test-taking tips.
- Each printed book offers 2 full-length practice tests with detailed answer explanations
- Online diagnostic test pinpoints exactly what you need to study.

Official Guide to Mastering DSST Exams by Peterson's (Vol 1 and II)

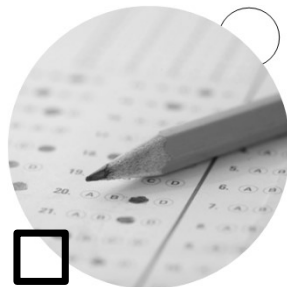
- Each printed book offers a 20-question pre-test, test content review and 60-question post test for featured DSST exams.
- The exams reviewed are different in Vol I and II.
- Answers with rationales are provided as an additional study tool.
- ISBN 978-0768941104

FREE PDF Exams

- Use these internet search terms and you may find what I did
- free pdfs that include practice exams.
 - [netsolutions pdf clep](#)
 - [netsolutions pdf dsst](#)

6 Steps to Credit-by-Exam Prep

Course Guide p. 118-119

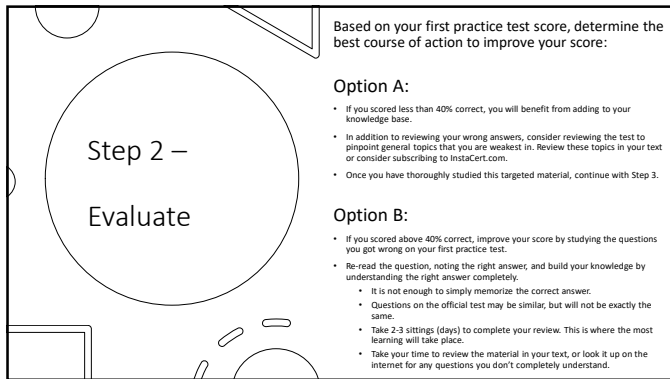


Step 1 –

Take a practice exam to assess your knowledge

- Expect your first practice test to be difficult.
- DSST exams are comprehensive subject exams and, like other credit-by-exam options, are not based on any one textbook.
- Critical thinking is important as you need to eliminate the wrong answers as much as be able to identify the right ones.
- The purpose of the test is not to achieve a high score, but to assess your level of understanding of the material you've just studied and to identify specific areas that you don't know yet.
- Though the official exam will be timed, don't worry about that when taking your first practice test.

But Mom, HOW Do I Study?



Step 2 –
Evaluate

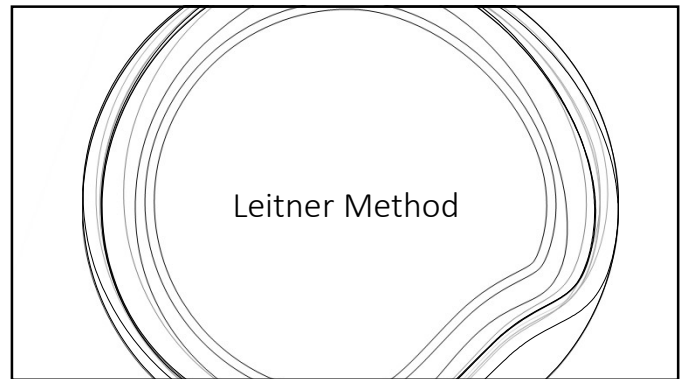
Based on your first practice test score, determine the best course of action to improve your score:

Option A:

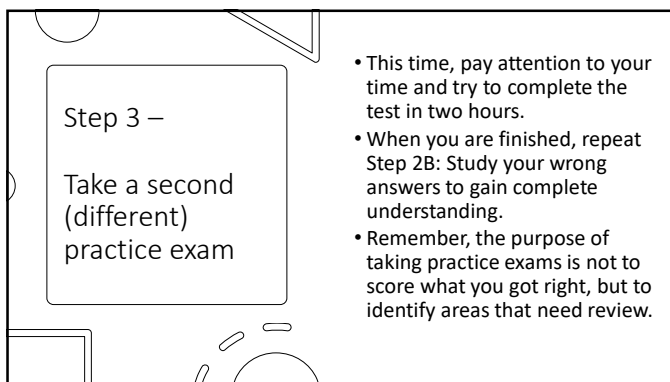
- If you scored less than 40% correct, you will benefit from adding to your knowledge base.
- In addition to reviewing your wrong answers, consider reviewing the test to pinpoint general topics that you are weakest in. Review these topics in your text or consider subscribing to InstaCert.com.
- Once you have thoroughly studied this targeted material, continue with Step 3.

Option B:

- If you scored above 40% correct, improve your score by studying the questions you got wrong on your first practice test.
- Re-read the question, noting the right answer, and build your knowledge by understanding the right answer completely.
 - It is not enough to simply memorize the correct answer.
 - Questions on the official test may be similar, but will not be exactly the same.
- Take 2-3 sittings (days) to complete your review. This is where the most learning will take place.
- Take your time to review the material in your text, or look it up on the internet for any questions you don't completely understand.

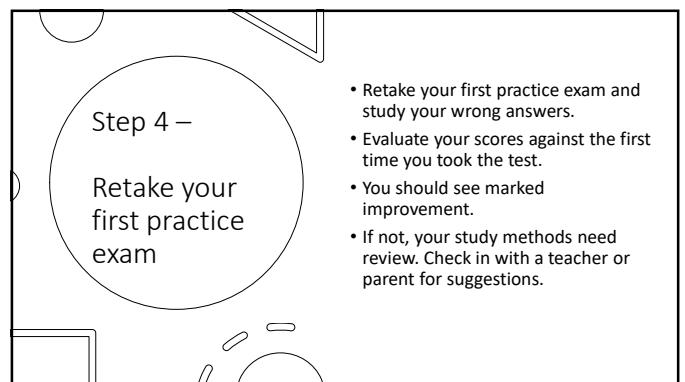


Leitner Method



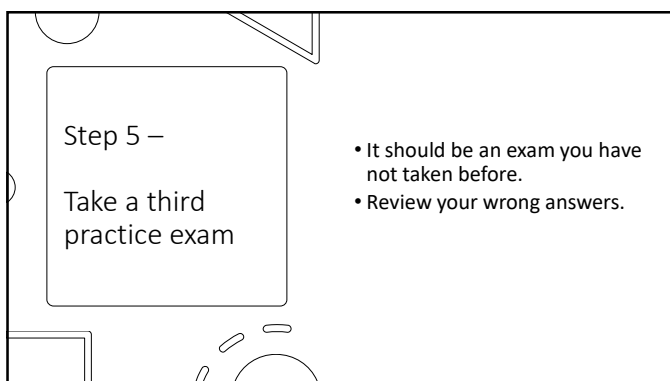
Step 3 –
Take a second
(different)
practice exam

- This time, pay attention to your time and try to complete the test in two hours.
- When you are finished, repeat Step 2B: Study your wrong answers to gain complete understanding.
- Remember, the purpose of taking practice exams is not to score what you got right, but to identify areas that need review.



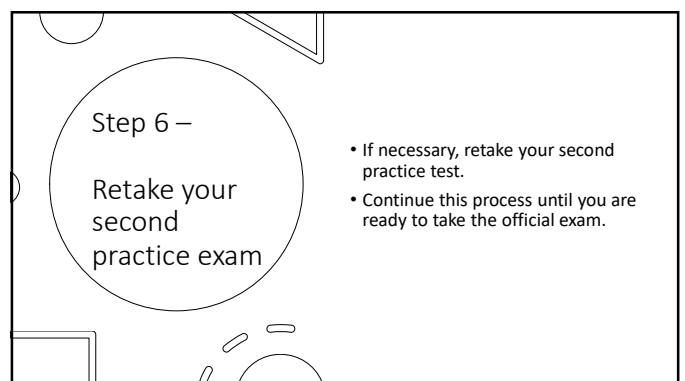
Step 4 –
Retake your
first practice
exam

- Retake your first practice exam and study your wrong answers.
- Evaluate your scores against the first time you took the test.
- You should see marked improvement.
- If not, your study methods need review. Check in with a teacher or parent for suggestions.



Step 5 –
Take a third
practice exam

- It should be an exam you have not taken before.
- Review your wrong answers.



Step 6 –
Retake your
second
practice exam

- If necessary, retake your second practice test.
- Continue this process until you are ready to take the official exam.

But Mom, HOW Do I Study?

Create a Study Calendar

- After you have taken a practice exam and understand how close you are to achieve a passing score, make a 2-4 week study schedule that outlines the topics and supplemental materials you will use for review.
- This will help keep you focused and directed on what you need to do each day.
- Take what you need to do, reduce it to daily bite-sized chunks, and set a goal date for when you will schedule the official exam.
- Creating a study plan is a skill that is very beneficial to practice.

When am I ready to take the official exam?

- Before taking the official exam, we recommend students achieve scores of 60% or higher on a minimum of two new practice tests (ones not previously taken).
- Students are encouraged not to take the official exam based on scores from just one practice exam.

Official Transcripts

- Scores are kept on file with Prometric for 20 years.
- Once a student enrolls in a college, he or she can request that a copy of his transcript be sent to his college.
- The transcript will contain all tests the student took.
- Check the box on the request form to have "only passing scores" included on the transcript.



Download Slides @
CreditsBeforeCollege.com/Handouts23/

Come see me at my booth!
Thank You!