

**From the AVID Department**

**Continued from last issue: 6 TEST TAKING TIPS FOR SUCCESS**

**4. BEFORE A TEST**

- a. Find out what kind of test will be administered.  
Will it be objective, multiple choice, matching, true-false, or fill-in-the-blank questions? Or will it be an essay?
- b. Review past tests to see what kinds of tests have been given.
- c. If you study in a group, be sure to study with the best students that you can. Study areas that you are weak in first.
- d. Don't try to cram everything in the night before. Your brain can take in so much at a time.
- e. Allow yourself at least two or three review/study sessions. While reviewing, make notes of facts that might show up on the test.

**5. IF YOU HAVE DONE ALL OF THESE THINGS:**

- a. Try to relax a bit immediately before the test. All the hard work is already done!
- b. The night before the test, act as if you're getting prepared for an athletic competition.
  - a. Get plenty of rest and sleep the night before the test.
  - b. Get up in plenty of time the next morning so you won't feel rushed.
  - c. Eat a light and nutritious breakfast so your energy won't be low.
- c. You will be more confident and relaxed at test time because you are physically and emotionally prepared.

**6. AT TEST TIME**

- a. Read the test carefully. Some students fail tests simply because they read too fast, skipping over words that may change the meaning of a sentence. Don't guess what a direction or question means—take the time to read it.
- b. Decide which part of the test needs the most time.
- c. Look for the items that are worth the most points.
- d. Stop and Think before you begin to write.
- e. Keep track of time as you take the test. Halfway through the test time, you should be about halfway through the test.
- f. Budget your time. Allow yourself time at the beginning to read and understand directions and time at the end to check your answers, especially for silly mistakes like writing an answer in the wrong place.
- g. Work at a steady pace:
  1. answer questions you know right away
  2. skip questions you are not sure about
  3. go back to skipped questions, working first on questions that are worth the most points
  4. leave really tough questions for last—don't waste time groaning over them when you can be earning other points
  5. keep your test or answer sheet neat—if your paper is too messy to read, you will cheat yourself out of points that you deserve
- h. Relax and do your best work!! Don't worry if you can't answer every question—focus on what you do know, not on what you don't know.

**Look for More Test Taking Tips in the next issue of the Dragon Tales.**