ANALYZE YOUR EXAM RESULTS

One way to analyze your past performance on exams (and homework) is to review each question and ask yourself, “Why did I get this question wrong?” Make a mark (or write the question number) beside the reason below that best explains why you missed that question.

Mastery of Information & Concepts

_____ I didn’t know the information.
_____ I didn’t know this topic in enough detail.
_____ I couldn’t remember.
_____ I remembered, but it was fuzzy.
_____ I don’t know how to solve this type of problem.

Thinking Gap

_____ I used the wrong formula, variable, or value.
_____ I didn’t know what the question was asking.
_____ I read the question wrong.
_____ I didn’t choose the best answer.

Method of Test Taking

_____ I didn’t have time to finish the exam.
_____ I read the directions wrong.
_____ I reasoned my way into the wrong answer.
_____ I changed a correct answer to the wrong one during my review of the test.
_____ I made a mistake transferring the answer to the answer sheet.

Reaction to Test Taking Situation

_____ I became nervous during the exam & missed several questions in a row.
_____ I missed most of the _____________ (type) questions.
_____ I got distracted by other people’s actions during the exam.

Now, tally your results in each category. Where did you make your mistakes? See the next page for next steps.
ANALYZE YOUR EXAM RESULTS

Mastery of Information & Concepts and Thinking Gap

- Mistakes in the first two categories tend to indicate that you could work more on your exam preparation strategies, i.e. things you need to do before the exam. See the “Exam Prep Self-Assessment” handout for more information.

Method of Test-Taking and Reaction to Test-Taking Situation

- Mistakes in the last two categories tend to indicate that you could focus some attention on your test-taking strategies, i.e. things you need to do during the exam. See the “Test-Taking Tips” and “Talking Yourself Through Test Anxiety” handouts for more information.

Want to learn more about exam preparation or test-taking strategies? You can meet with an Academic Skills Tutor for free! Click here to learn more. Could we recommend the benefit of office hours and/or tutoring as well?

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