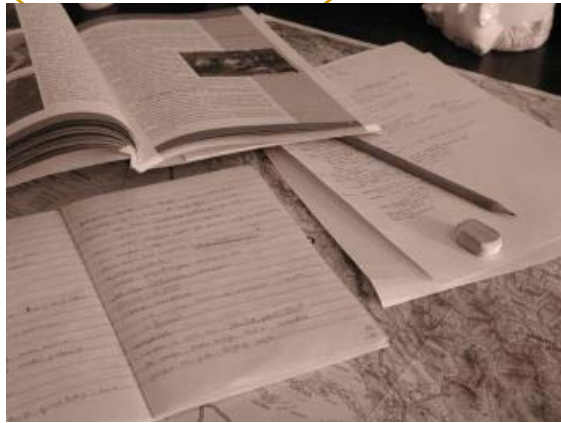


Test taking strategies



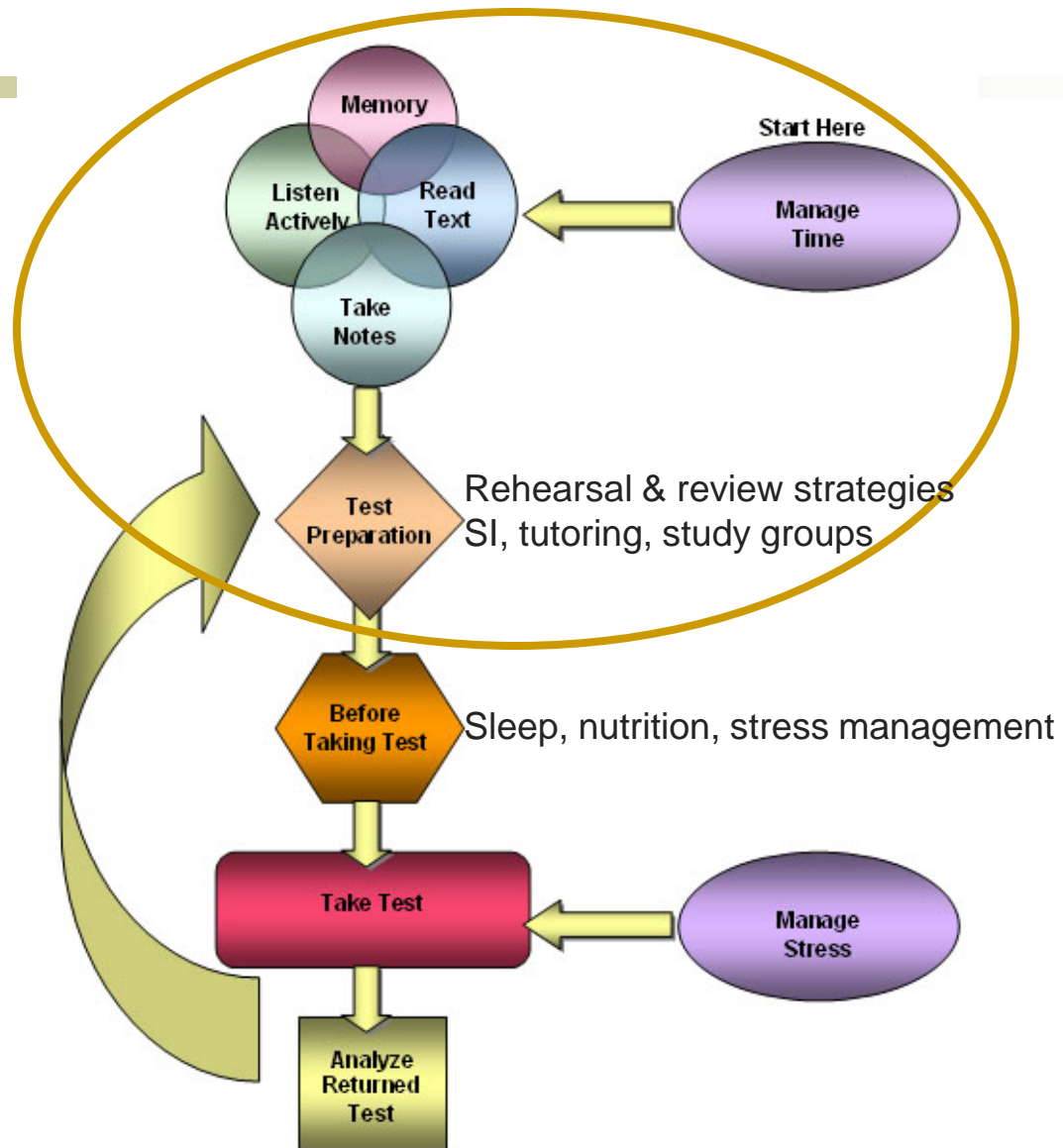
The Before, During & After of Test Taking



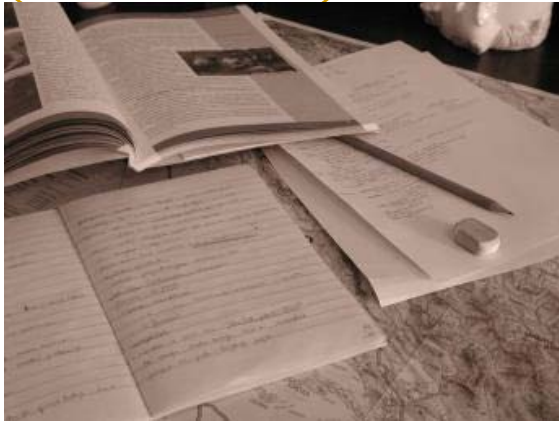
Carol Rosenthal, Director
Academic Resource Center, TSC 305



[Before]

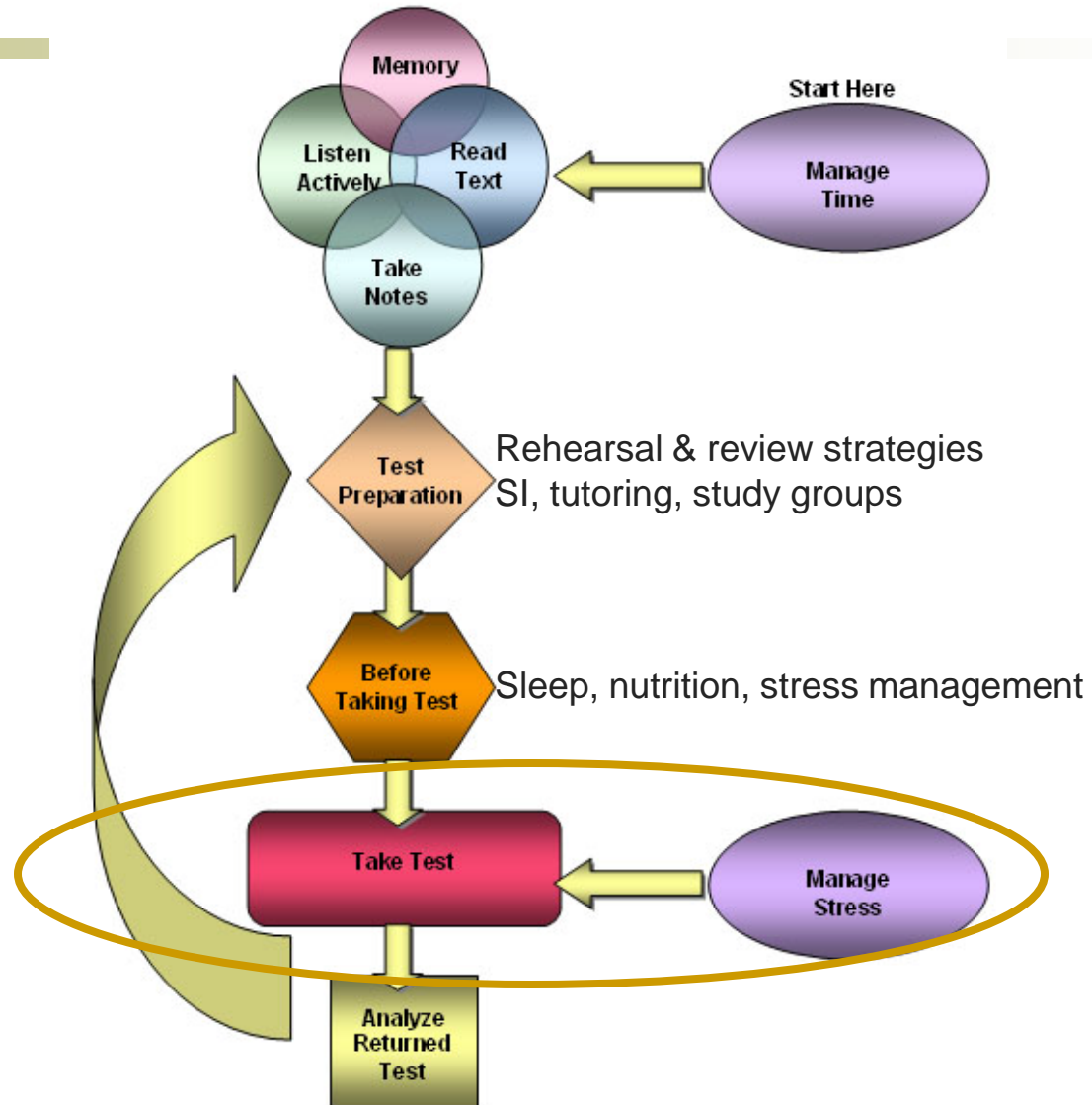


Test taking strategies



Thinking with logic

[During]



General test taking guidelines

- Look over entire test before starting.
 - Determine point values and time per question
 - 45 minutes / 75 questions = 36 sec./question
(doesn't include review time)
- Read each question carefully. Don't "read into".
 - Brian's example

[Guidelines, continued]

- Pass over difficult questions initially.
- Only change answers you absolutely know are incorrect.
- Ask instructor for clarification when needed.
- Make educated guesses: think with logic

[Multiple Choice strategies]

- Look for answers that are grammatically correct.
 - Small salamanders are:
 - a. mole.
 - b. tarpon.
 - c. cowl.
 - d. newts.

Multiple choice strategies

- Look for root words in the answers that are similar to words in the stem.
 - If an individual **dies** without a will, it is called:
 - a. the principle of primogeniture
 - b. dying intestate
 - c. testamentary freedom
 - d. illegal.

Multiple choice strategies

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 - If an individual **dies** without a will, it is called:
 - a. the principle of primogeniture
 - b. **dying intestate**
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 - d. illegal.

Multiple choice strategies

- If there is a range of numbers or values, choose a middle value.
 - As late as 1800, less than ____percent of the world's population lived in cities of 20,000 or more.
 - a. 1
 - b. 3
 - c. 10
 - d. 15

Multiple choice strategies

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 - As late as 1800, less than ____percent of the world's population lived in cities of 20,000 or more.
 - a. 1
 - b. **3**
 - c. **10**
 - d. 15

Multiple choice strategies

- Eliminate silly or suspicious wording suggesting a stereotype.
 - Washo is
 - a. one of the teaching assistants for this course.
 - b. a chimpanzee that was taught American sign language.
 - c. a gorilla who became a sexual deviant in captivity.
 - d. the world's only known talking chimpanzee.

Multiple choice strategies

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Multiple choice strategies

- Be sure the right choice is the best choice.
 - If you do not understand a question during a test, you should:
 - a. ask a friend to explain it to you.
 - b. skip that question.
 - c. look it up in your textbook.
 - d. ask your instructor for clarification.

Multiple choice strategies

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Multiple choice strategies

- Watch for responses that are essentially the same.

The chemically inactive substances used in experiments to determine drug effectiveness are:

- a. prescription medications.
- b. federally controlled pharmaceutical products.
- c. similar to physician-prescribed drugs.
- d. placebos.

Multiple choice strategies

- Watch for responses that are essentially the same.

The chemically inactive substances used in experiments to determine drug effectiveness are:

- prescription medications.
- federally controlled pharmaceutical products.
- similar to physician-prescribed drugs.
- placebos.**

[True/False strategies]

- For a statement to be true, each part must be true.

Jean Piaget made some revolutionary discoveries about child behavior during the nineteenth century.

[True/False strategies]

- For a statement to be true, each part must be true.

False: Jean Piaget made some revolutionary discoveries about child behavior during the ~~nineteenth~~ century.
(he made them during the 20th century)

[True/False strategies]

- Watch for ***absolutes*** or ***qualifiers***.

Absolute wording tends to be false (implies no exceptions). Qualifiers tend to limit meaning, allowing exceptions – thus normally true.

- Everyone should exercise daily.
- Children sometimes have emotional problems following their parents' divorce.

[True/False strategies]

- Watch for *absolutes* or *qualifiers*. Absolute wording tends to be false (implies no exceptions).
- Qualifiers tend to limit meaning, allowing exceptions – thus normally true.
 - **False:** Everyone should exercise daily.
 - **True:** Children sometimes have emotional problems following their parents' divorce.

[True/False strategies]

- Double negatives (two negative words) tend to indicate a positive relationship.
 - Aspirin is not an illegal drug.
 - Aspirin is not an illegal drug.

[Let's make it more difficult:]

- **The example given in the text of two brothers reared in the same family and cultural environment points out that they:**
 - a. would have the same attitudes in life.
 - b. would both be attracted to the same types of people.
 - c. will always be lifelong friends.
 - d. may show very different needs for personal recognition from those around them.

[Let's make it more difficult:]

- The example of **two brothers** reared in the **same family and cultural environment** given in the text points out that they:
 - a. would have the same attitudes in life. **(absolute)**
 - b. would both be attracted to the same types of people. **(absolute)**
 - c. will always be lifelong friends. **(absolute)**
 - d. may show very different needs for personal recognition from those around them. **(qualifier)**

[Last practice one...]

- **At the time of arrest of a juvenile, the primary treatment goal is:**
 - a. to pick up juveniles on suspicion in high delinquency areas so as to protect the public.
 - b. to teach the child a lesson by giving him a sample of what it is like to be a criminal.
 - c. to fingerprint him so that he will be on record.
 - d. police handling that will not further damage juvenile attitudes toward the law.

[Last practice one....]

- At the **time of arrest** of a juvenile, the **primary treatment goal** is:
 - a. pick up...to protect the public. (*not a treatment goal*)
 - b. teach a lesson...what it is like to be a criminal. (*unlikely treatment goal*)
 - c. fingerprint him...be on record. (*not a treatment goal*)
 - d. **police handling...not further damage juvenile attitudes** toward the law. (*at arrest; reasonable treatment goal*)

[Tests of USU:]

True/False:

During photosynthesis, plants create energy that is stored in the bonds of carbohydrates.

[Tests of USU:]

False.

During photosynthesis, plants **create** **convert (solar)** energy that is **(then)** stored in the bonds of carbohydrates.

Energy is neither created nor destroyed. It is simply converted from one form to another.

[Tests of USU:]

Consider the following:

- I. Economics is based on the premise that people act only out of selfish motives.
 - II. Economics suggests that the choices of even an altruistic person will be influenced by changes in perceived personal benefits and costs.
-
- a. I is true; II is false.
 - b. I is false; II is true.
 - c. Both I and II are true.
 - d. Both I and II are false.

[Tests of USU:]

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- a. ~~I is true, II is false.~~
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[Tests of USU:]

If consumer purchases of a good are not very sensitive to the price of the good, economists say the demand for the good is relatively

- a. inelastic.
- b. elastic
- c. robust
- d. inverse.

[Tests of USU:]

If consumer purchases of a good are **not very sensitive to the price** of the good, economists say the demand for the good is relatively

- a. inelastic (meaning: rigid, inflexible, non-responsive).
- b. elastic (meaning: fluid, flexible, pliable)
- c. Robust (meaning: hearty, vigorous, muscular)
- d. inverse. (meaning: directly opposite)

[Tests of USU:]

If consumer purchases of a good are **not very sensitive to the price** of the good, economists say the demand for the good is relatively

- a. inelastic (meaning: rigid, inflexible, non-responsive).
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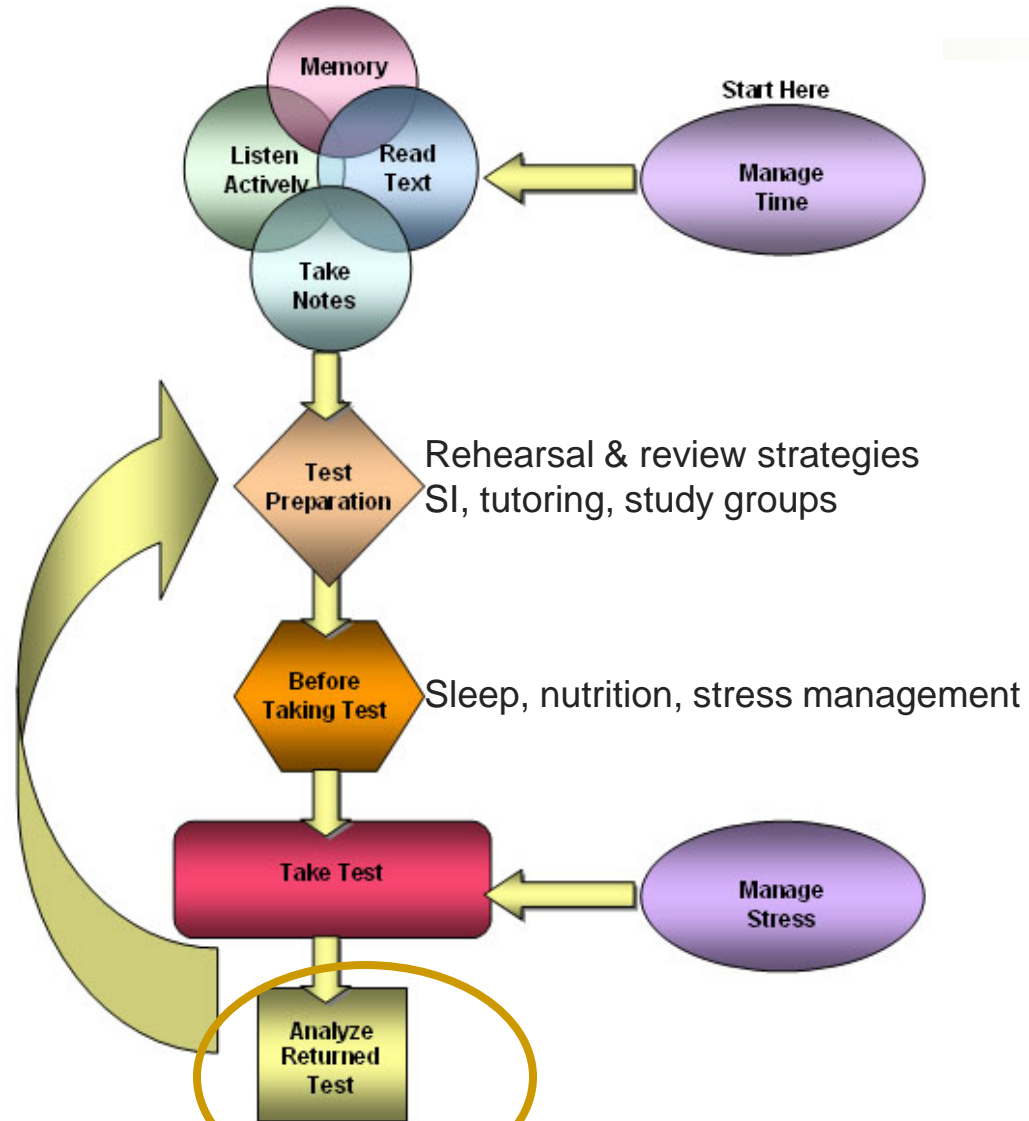
[Tests of USU:]

Which of the following are *not* scarce?

- a. air
- b. bubblegum
- c. compact discs
- d. diamonds

Does “scarce” have a different definition in Economics than in popular use?

[After



[After]

- Post-test analysis
- Adjust your study strategies and test preparation
- Use the assistance that's willing and available:
 - Professor
 - SI, tutoring, study groups
 - Academic advisor
 - Academic Resource Center, Counseling Center (test anxiety), etc.

[Good luck!!!]

