

Test-Taker Personalities

Do you know what type of test-taker you are? Knowing what type of test-taker you are can help you to become more successful!

<p>The Rusher</p> <p>High risk for misreading, misinterpreting, and mistaking due to focus on just getting through the test!</p> <p>Characteristics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hurries through the test in a desperate rush to finish the exam before facts are forgotten• Arrives early, anxiously mumbling bits of information• Tightened body• While most students are completing the initial items, the rusher is one-third through the exam <p>Suggestions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Practice relaxation exercises• Lessen cramming with a plan of study allowing for time to review• Practice test-taking strategies	<p>The Turtle</p> <p>Suffers from a lack of time and inability to complete all the items rather than a lack of knowledge or poor preparation.</p> <p>Characteristics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Moves through each question slowly, methodically, and deliberately• Last one to finish or does not finish• Scores better in the first part of the exam compared to the end of the exam <p>Suggestions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Take practice tests• Focus in increasing reading speed and comprehension• Use a clock or timer during exams• Calculate the amount of time allotted for each question• Check pace at various points of the exam, then increase speed if necessary• Determine questions that are answerable. For extremely difficult questions, make a best guess and then mark for later review.
<p>The Personalizer</p> <p>Gives answers relying upon what one has learned from observation and experience only.</p> <p>Characteristics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Usually older, more mature students• Knowledge/insight gained through life experience	<p>The Second Guesser</p> <p>Observes that I had it right, but then I changed it!</p> <p>Characteristics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Plays roles of both the examinee and the examiner• Changes answers because they seem wrong

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reliance on experience causes incorrect answers <p>Suggestions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus on broad principles that support actions • Avoid making mental connections between test scenarios and personal experience • Focus on generalities about the content • Formulate decisions in testing situations based on professional standards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proceeds through the test as if correcting it <p>Suggestions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only go back and check marked items • Avoid changing responses unless you can state exactly why an answer is wrong • Move through the test carefully • Avoid using extra time to grade the exam
<p>The Philosopher</p> <p>Answers questions with own additional information instead of the intent of the original question was written.</p> <p>Characteristics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Places high value on understanding the complexities of the situation • Doesn't believe he/she knows enough about the topic • Pours over selected questions with great intensity • Overanalyzes and reads into test questions looking for an unstated intent or trick • Has great difficulty reading items as they are • Tends to select responses that only provide his/her own view of the truth <p>Suggestions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop self-confidence • Focus on items as they are written • Avoid overreading test questions • Use practice tests and questions 	<p>The Squisher</p> <p>Emphasis in planning avoidance of the exam vs. preparing for the actual test.</p> <p>Characteristics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Views exams as a hurdle to jump • Preoccupied with grades; fears failure • Avoids responsibility associated with the testing experience • Develops mental lists for test preparation that are never fully actualized • Attempts to squish information into the mind just before a test, a time when the mind's ability to learn new knowledge is at its lowest <p>Suggestions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determine a plan for progressive, discipline study • View test preparation as a step-by-step process • Devise time frames for completion of study tasks • Develop a consistent study plan