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**Answering Multiple Choice Questions**

**-The HIDE Method-**

Do you panic when you have multiple choice questions on a test? Do you get overwhelmed when you read all the possible answers? Do you have trouble selecting the right answer?

This strategy can be used when doing multiple choice tests. It facilitates **retrieval** – getting that information you studied from long-term memory to working memory so you can actively use it.

**H**ide the answers.

* Don’t look at the possible answers!
* Cover up the answers with a piece of paper.

**I**nterpret the question.

* Understand the question by reading it carefully.
* Consider underlining or highlighting important words, including key words such as most, some, often, always, never, all, etc.
* You may want to cross out unimportant words.
* Resist the urge to look at the answers at this point.

 **D**evelop an answer.

* Before looking at the possible solutions, come up with an answer to the question. Believe in your own knowledge!
* It often helps to quickly write down the answer.

**E**mbrace an answer.

* After you’ve developed an answer, you can reveal the possible answers.
* Select the one that best matches the answer you came up with.
* If an answer doesn’t match, you may be able to narrow down the choices by elimination. Also, consider giving each option the ‘true-false’ test to rule out possibilities.

**Extra Resources:** Don’t like the HIDE acronym? Check out the CRAM strategy at <http://coe.jmu.edu/learningtoolbox/cram.html>