

How to be successful on APES tests

Format

Each classroom test is designed to mimic the format of the actual APES test

- 1) Multiple choice
 - a) Usually between 60-80 questions
 - b) Usually 5 choices per question, sometimes more

- 2) Free-Response
 - a) One per test
 - b) Usually former AP Test questions with a set grading rubric
 - c) This part is timed – you have 20 minutes

Study Tips

- Study a little each day.
- Read the book! As you read, add to your notes to clarify the material. Examples from the text are particularly useful.
- Complete your study guide.
- STUDY your study guide – it was designed after the test was written, so it covers specific things you need to know.
- Consider your learning style when you are preparing for the test. Some of you study better alone while others may benefit from a study buddy or group. Some of you may want to make note cards while others might want to hear the information again, and still others may get a lot from the diagrams in the book. Find something that works for you and use it!

Helpful Hints to remember while taking the test

Multiple choice:

- ✓ Read the question VERY CAREFULLY.
- ✓ Distracters (wrong answers) may be very close to the actual answer, so pick the BEST answer.
- ✓ If you are stuck, use the process of elimination to narrow down your options.
- ✓ Never leave a question blank – guess outright if you have to.

Free-Response:

- ✓ Read the question. Read the question again.
- ✓ If the question has multiple parts (a, b, c), answer one part at a time and label that part.
- ✓ Give a complete answer, but don't include extraneous information.
- ✓ Make sure you answer the way that the question asks you to. If it says "list", you may make a list. If it says "diagram", draw AND LABEL a diagram. Most of the time you will write in paragraph form. Make sure that you use complete sentences.

