



## Five-Day Test Preparation Plan

*Teaching Study Skills & Strategies in College (Iannuzzi, Strichart & Mangrum, 1983)*

*Note: Preparation for tests should begin on the FIRST day of class.*

*Pay attention in class, take good notes, study before & after class, and complete homework assignments.*

**DAY FIVE:** Organize your study materials (syllabus, textbooks, handouts, class notes). Begin to create a study guide and write down main concepts. Highlight, underline, and outline important information.

**DAY FOUR:** Rewrite the information you highlighted in YOUR OWN WORDS. Try to make connections and draw conclusions. Write down any outstanding questions. **Note:** Contact your professor or TA if specific concepts are still unclear. Meet with an ARC tutor to review concepts.

**DAY THREE:** Use graphic organizers, flashcards, acronyms, and online tools (Quizlet, Study Blue, Khan Academy, etc.) to reinforce and help you to remember the information.

**DAY TWO:** Use your rewritten notes to make a list of questions you think will be on the test. Consult the syllabus to ensure you know what type of test will be given (essay, multiple choice, short answer, etc.). Practice problems are the most efficient way to study. **Note:** Get a good night's sleep, drink a lot of water, and take care of yourself!

**DAY ONE:** TEST DAY! Eat a good breakfast (avoid too much sugar & caffeine). Review the questions and answers you developed. Arrive early to class to prepare.

### DETER Strategy:

**D:** Read the test **DIRECTIONS** carefully.  
**E: EXAMINE** the entire test before answering questions.  
**T:** Determine how much **TIME** is needed for each section.  
**E:** Begin with the **EASIEST** questions first.  
**R: REVIEW** your answers before handing in the test.

### QUOTE Strategy (for essay exams):

**Q:** Find out what the **QUESTION** is asking  
**U: UNDERLINE** key direction words (list, compare, evaluate) in the prompt.  
**O: ORGANIZE/OUTLINE** your facts and key points.  
**T:** Budget your **TIME** appropriately.  
**E: EVALUATE** your essay. Did you answer all the parts of the question? Proofread!

**AFTER THE TEST:** Arrange a time to meet with your professor, TA and/or tutor to review concepts that were missed. Use the test to prepare for your final exam!