



DSTP/Testing Tips

Show What You Know on **Multiple Choice** Items

- Read all the choices
- Reread the question
- Use scrap paper if needed
- Choose the best answer
- Choose an answer for every question

Show What You Know on **Short Answer** Items

- Read the question carefully
- Fill up the lines
- Be specific with your answer
- Read what you wrote
- Did you answer the question?

Show What You Know on **Extended Response** Items

- Read the directions carefully
- Jot down your ideas
- Make a “sloppy copy”
- Edit your work
- Write your response
- Read what you wrote
- Did you answer the question?

What to Do for You

- Sleep eight hours each night
- Eat bananas, apples, celery, carrots, peanuts, fish, peas, cereal, and other vitamin, mineral, and protein-rich foods
- Talk to an adult if you are worried or nervous
- Remember the hints your teachers have given you on word walls, rubrics, class work, and homework
- Ask questions when you do not understand something



A Dozen Hints and Clues

- Read the directions carefully
- Answer the easy questions first, then go back and finish the others
- Circle/underline/highlight key words/phrases when reading
- Watch out for certain words: *but, not, except, always, never, only...*
- Look for clues in the questions:
 - plurals (more than one answer)
 - “use details from the story”
 - “pretend you are...”
- Choose words that will best show what you are trying to say (What words could you use instead of “nice” or “pretty”?)
- Fill up the lines. Lots of lines means there should be a long answer. Fewer lines means it is a shorter answer.
- Stay inside the “box” during the writing test
- Draw pictures, make a table, use simpler numbers to help figure out math problems
- If you are going to use a ruler, make sure you start to measure from the “0” line
- Think about your answer. Did you answer the question?

Listen carefully to the teacher’s directions. Ask questions if you are unsure what to do.