## Ten Educated Guessing Strategies

Disclaimer: Learning the material and studying is always the best way to improve the likelihood of doing well on an exam. These guessing strategies should only be used as a last resort for answering questions. The University Learning Center does not guarantee that these strategies will improve your exam performance, nor do we accept responsibility for any use of these strategies during exams. Please remember: studying works best!
1.) Guess false if there is a $\mathbf{1 0 0}$ percent modifier (e.g., Always begin by studying your favorite subject first. Attendance in college is required in every class.)
2.) Guess true if there is an in-between modifier (e.g., Reviewing notes from a previous paragraph can sometimes be used to help understand a difficult paragraph. In a sole proprietorship, the person who owns the business is usually the one who operates it.)
3.) Guess false if there is a relationship clue (e.g., Lack of motivation is the reason unsuccessful students avoid using time management. Cramming is not recommended because it used only eight of the Twelve Principles of Memory.)
4.) Guess false if the statement is ridiculous, foolish, insulting, or has unfamiliar terms.
5.) Guess true, the wild-shot guess, if there are no other clues in a true-false question (e.g., if there are no modifiers to use, and there is no relationship shown). Teachers usually prefer to write more true statements than false statements.
6.) If there are numbers as options, eliminate the highest and the lowest; guess one of the options that remain. For example, an average rate of thinking speeds is 800 words $/ \mathrm{min}, 600$ words $/ \mathrm{min}, 400$ words $/ \mathrm{min}, 200$ words $/ \mathrm{min}$. Eliminate the lowest (200) and the highest (800). Thus choose between 600 and 400 words $/ \mathrm{min}$ choices.
7.) If there are multiple-choice options that are almost identical (look alike), choose one of those two options.
8.) If one multiple-choice option is longer in length or more inclusive in content, choose it.
9.) If the last option is "all of the above" and this option is not used throughout the test, choose it.
10.) Guess $\boldsymbol{c}$, the wild-shot guess, if there are no other clues in a multiple-choice question.

