Test Taking Skills

To do well on a test, you must have good knowledge of the information that is being tested. But you must also have a strategy for taking tests that allows you to show what you know. The DETER strategy can help you do your best on any test. Each letter in DETER reminds you what to do.

D = Directions
- Read the test directions very carefully.
- Ask your teacher to explain anything about the test directions you do not understand.

E = Examine
- Examine the entire test to see how much you have to do.

T = Time
- Decide how much time you will spend on each item.
- If there are different points for items, plan to spend the most time on the items that count for the most points.

E = Easiest
- Answer the items you find easiest first.

R = Review
- If you have planned your time correctly, you will have time to review your answers and make them as complete and accurate as possible.