

True/False tests can be tricky! Try these strategies to overcome true/false test's challenges.

Strategy #1: Watch out for absolutes and qualifiers!

Absolute words (no, none, never, always, only, etc.) are often associated with false statements. In order for the statement to be true, the conditions must be met, one way or another, 100% of the time. 'In between' qualifiers (usually, seldom, many, generally, etc.) are often associated with true statements.

Strategy #2: Read long statements carefully!

When you choose your answer, make sure that every part of the statement is supported by that answer choice.

Strategy #3: Watch out for faulty logic!

Ex. "Thomas Edison invented the tickertape machine, and as a result, he became world famous." This statement is false, because although he did invent the tickertape machine, he became famous because of his many other inventions.

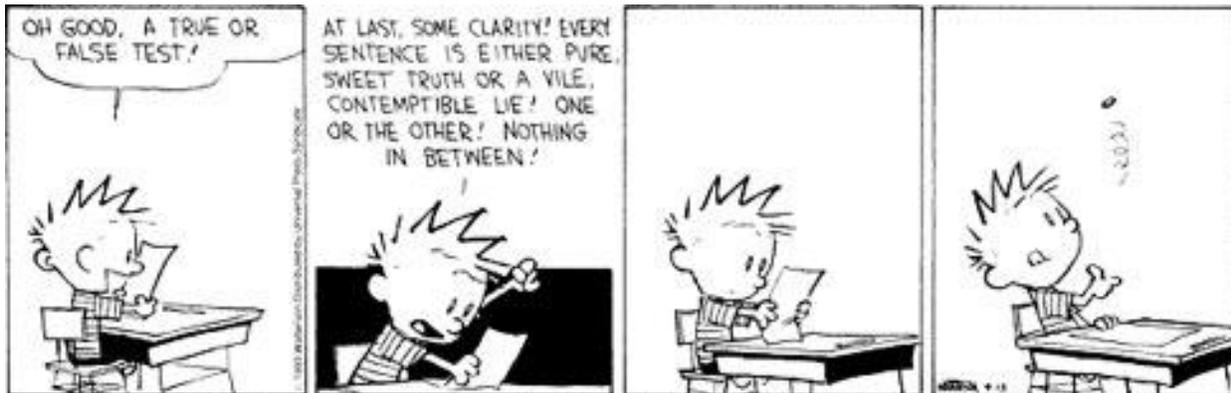
Strategy #4: Beware of negatives!

When a statement contains negatives (no, none, and prefixes such as dis-, un-, -in, etc.) circle or underline them so they stand out. Then read the statement without the negative and determine if it is true or false. Add in one negative at a time and keep checking for truthfulness. Remember that if one part of the statement is false, the answer must be false.

Strategy #5: Assume that an item is true unless you can spot a word or clue that proves it false!

Strategy #6: Guess intelligently!

Look for something you know in the statement, and make your most informed choice.



"Calvin and Hobbes" Comic

Items to Study for True/False Tests

- ✓ Key terms, definitions, and examples
- ✓ Lists of items
- ✓ Specific details and major concepts
- ✓ Points emphasized in class
- ✓ Study guide information
- ✓ Questions from past quizzes and at the end of textbook chapters

Absolutes

- | | | | |
|---------------|---------------|------------------|--------------|
| • always | • only | • without | • no one |
| • everything | • exclusively | exception | • invariably |
| • completely | • definitely | • no matter what | • impossible |
| • never | • no | • all | • every |
| • everyone | • totally | • everybody | • absolutely |
| • exactly | • must | • nobody | • forever |
| • necessarily | | • none | |

Qualifiers

- | | | | |
|----------------|------------------|-----------------|----------|
| • generally | • most | • probably | • many |
| • may | • often | • in most | • almost |
| • sometimes | • frequently | instances | • no |
| • usually | • on the average | • seldom | • might |
| • maybe | • perhaps | • predominantly | |
| • occasionally | • commonly | • almost all | |
| • some | • rarely | • could | |