

Module 4 - Objective 4

To successfully complete this Learning Outcome Guide, you should be able to select strategies for preparing and answering questions for multiple choice exams, based on your approach to studying.

Lesson Presentation

As you progressed through your educational program of studies for Respiratory Therapy, you probably came to recognize how you best learned and what your learning style is. In this section, we are going to explore some strategies that several universities have recommended for preparing for a multiple choice exam, as well as strategies to use during the actual examination. As you read through these web links, you may be introduced to some new approaches for preparing and writing that will prove useful for challenging the CBRC exam.

Additional Websites

Refer to this website for an approach to [Effective Study Skills](#), authored by Dr. Bob Kizlik. The Diablo Valley College website has provided a short one page description of the learning process which can be reviewed by clicking on this document entitled "[The Learning Process](#)".

As you can see, using a variety of strategies is necessary to be able to retain the information. As you know, you need to have more than desire to be successful learning; you need to know how to study.

The University of Victoria has developed some information on [multiple choice exams](#). As well, the Learning Services at the University of Guelph has created information to assist students when preparing for [multiple choice exams](#). The University of Southern Queensland has some very practical suggestions for [exam preparation](#) and writing exams with [multiple choice questions](#). York University has published a variety of strategies for [preparing for tests and exams](#).

A practical approach that has proven effective for many students when they sit down to write a major exam is to go through the exam 3 times:

- Go through the exam once, answering all questions that you immediately know the answers to and are very confident with those answers. Do not go back to these questions to change your answer, because usually your first choice is the correct one.
- On the second pass through the exam, answer the questions that you know the answers to (you remember the concepts required), but require additional time to complete calculations or analyze the question and problem solve to achieve the answer. Return to review these questions only if you are checking your thought process and/or calculations.

- On the third pass through the exam, you can no devote the remainder of the exam writing time to the questions you are uncertain of. By this point in the exam, students are usually feeling more relaxed because they have completed the questions they are certain of already. This relaxed state provides an opportunity to remember concepts that may have been forgotten because of stress. In addition, you may have encountered other questions with concepts that will help trigger your memory for the required concepts in the more challenging questions.

Although this approach is not a guarantee for success, it does ensure that you will answer all of the questions that you DO KNOW the answers to before the time allotted for writing the exam has expired. That will in turn result in at least getting marks for the concepts that you do know.

Activity

To utilize some of the strategies that you have read about, prepare a list of techniques that you will use to prepare for the CBRC examination and post to the forum