

# TEST TAKING TIPS

- Take a deep breath.....realize that other students are nervous / anxious too!
- Although this feels really important, remember that: 5 years (even 1 year) from now, you won't even remember this test....it won't matter
- Remember that one test is not going to define your life!
- At this point, all you can do is try your best
- Tell yourself "I can do this!"

## How to Approach the Test:

- Read each question carefully
  - Underline **Key Words**
  - Don't skip words- little words can change the meaning of a question ("Which **is** a\_\_\_\_\_" vs. "Which **is not** a\_\_\_\_\_")
  - Don't spend too much time on any one question....skip it and go back to it later (other questions may help you figure out answer)
  - Figure out about how long you should be spending on each question....or how many questions you should try to answer by 1/2 time (e.g., 20 out of 40 questions in 1/2 hour if 1h test)
  - If really stuck, clarify question with your teacher
  - Don't worry about how long people take...they may be finish before you but that does not mean they have done well
  - When not sure...go with your gut or first answer
  - If you have time, double check your work

## For Multiple Choice:

- Eliminate obviously wrong answers
- Choose best answer
- Other questions may contain information that can help you figure out the answer
- If you have NO CLUE...take a GUESS!

## Short-Answer/ Paragraph

- Don't leave it blank! Take a guess...you may get partial points
- Tackle questions worth the most points first
- Jot down ideas...seeing them on paper can help you organize your thoughts/answer...make plan in point form
- General rule : Make one point/sentence per mark (e.g., if question is worth 3 marks, make 3 points/sentences)
- Reread the question and make sure that what you wrote down actually answers the question