**TNT Study Tips**

- Get to class *early* with all of the materials you need (pen, pencil, calculator, notes etc).

- Read the directions twice and glance over the entire exam before starting. Notice how the points are spread out and spend more time on the sections worth the most points.

- Budget enough time. Be aware of how much time is left and answer everything. Also, do not race to finish the test in 10 minutes. If you finish and there is time left, go back and re-read your answers. Ignore people who turn in their papers early – there is no reward for being the first one done.

- Stay calm during the exam. At first glance the test can be overwhelming – breathe and don’t panic. If you don’t know an answer, move on to the next question and come back later.

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### Essay Tests

- Survey the test quickly to see what topics are covered and how many questions there are.

- Answer the question that is asked. It’s okay to re-read the prompt while writing to make sure you’re on track.

- For a longer essay, brainstorm and organize your answer. Spend a few minutes thinking through your answer before you start writing, jotting down notes and topic sentences on the side.

- Be concise and specific. Avoid unnecessary information that just lengthens your essay. Support all of your main points with *specific examples*.

- Proofread your answer. Leave 5 minutes at the end to re-read and check for spelling, grammar, and development errors. Teachers definitely look and grade these things!

- If you cannot finish in time: consider drawing a horizontal line across your paper, write “I ran out of time,” and quickly list the point you meant to cover. You may get partial credit!

### Multiple Choice Tests

- Read all options, even if the first answer seems correct. Often, you must select the best answer choice.

- Skip the harder questions but write down/circle which ones you skip so you can come back later.

- Read the question first. Cover the answer choices when reading the question to form your own answer. Then, look at your options and pick the choice closest to your “own” answer.

- Eliminate answers. Try reading each answer as a true/false statement.

- For matching questions, match the terms you know best first, then evaluate what is left.

- Always look at graphs and pictures before solving problems or reading the text.

- Trust your first instinct!