

Test Taking Strategies

Short Answer & Essay Questions

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Short Answer

VS

Essay

Same...

- demonstrate knowledge of course concepts.

But Different

- **Short Answer**
 - “mini essay”
 - concise responses
- **Essay**
 - expanded answers
 - provide supporting evidence

How to Prepare

Develop a study guide using SQ4R (and a study plan too!).

- [SQ4R @ mun.ca/asc](http://mun.ca/asc)
- [Exam Study Plan @ mun.ca/asc](http://mun.ca/asc)

Create concept outlines.

Grab a timer and practice.

Read
question descriptions
CAREFULLY.

Short Answer Questions

“Mini Essay”

- introduction
- discussion
- conclusion

5 Common Question Types

- Identify
- Explain/ Discuss
- Compare & Contrast
- Argue/Support.
- Assess.

Know your time & pace yourself.

Essay Questions

Create a Plan

- Thesis statement
- Outline
 - Introduction
 - Discussion
 - Conclusion

Develop & defend your ideas.

- Who, What, Where, When, Why, How...

Know your time & pace yourself.

Tips

- Review Syllabi, Study Guides, & texts for notable concepts/themes.
- Practice test before the test.
- Read the question more than once.
 - Mark or underline important directions
 - Mark important words
- Clearly answer the question that has been asked.
- Plan it before you write it.

www.mun.ca/asc

References

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