Test Taking Strategies

1. Study on a regular basis, not only the night before the test.
2. Always read the question carefully; figure out what they are asking for specifically.
3. Is there more than one part to the question?
4. Never assume that the reader knows the information; explain what you are writing about.
5. Use key words and terms if you can help to explain your answer.
6. Write down the information you have.
7. Write down the information that you need to solve the question.
8. Look at the words in the question or the term to be defined. You might be able to figure out the answer from the word.
(Ex. Photocurrent -- Phot=light + Current -- a current from light)
9. Plan ahead. Try to come up with test questions that the professor might ask and answer them ahead of time.
10. If you can’t answer a question right away or fairly quickly, move on through the test to make sure that you get all the answers that you can answer quickly. The idea is to answer as many questions as you can get to get as much credit as possible, maybe even partial credit.
11. For essay questions, short or long, figure out what you need to say and write a list or outline to check your answer against. This way, you don’t forget anything.
12. Read the question more than once to make sure that you read it right. Keep trying if you don’t get it the second time, sometimes it take a few times to get into the question.
13. Once at the test, RELAX, there is nothing more that you can do but take the test. Being stressed out will just make it harder for you to articulate your thoughts.