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MAT Test Study Guide

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Chapter 1: Miller Analogies Test

The Miller Analogies Test (MAT) is an analytic ability test utilizing analogy problems. Primarily, verbal analogies are tested, but a few quantitative analogies will also be on the MAT. There are a total of one hundred partial analogies that must be completed in fifty minutes.

The MAT will test your ability to determine relationships between words, mastery of the English language, and a general knowledge of fine arts, history, literature, mathematics, philosophy, and science.

What to Expect

The MAT is a one hundred item, fifty minute verbal analogies test. All

Total amount of time allotted	Number of questions	Time to answer each question
50 min	100	30 seconds

of the questions will be in the form of A:B:C:D. The analogies are written so that A is to B as C is to D. However, your job will be to fill in the missing term by correctly identifying the relationship that exists.

History of the MAT

According to the *Miller Analogies Test Manual* (1970) the test was developed to measure scholastic aptitude at the graduate school level. It is also developed to measure how well the test taker can recognize relationships between words.

Vocabulary plays a very important role on this test. Before you can correctly identify the relationship that exists between the words, you must be able to recognize and comprehend the meaning of the answer choices. Often, it is not reasoning that makes test items difficult. Rather, it is in recognizing the answer choices.

Test Centers, Dates, and Fees

Currently, there are more than six hundred testing centers in fifty states as well as in several foreign countries. If you live more than one hundred miles away from a designated test center, special accommodations can be made. Dates will vary by testing site, so be sure to consult with the test site. The average fee to take the MAT is about $50, though that varies by region.

Scores

When you register to take the MAT, you are asked to provide up to three addresses that you wish to have your score reports sent. Sending your test scores to three schools is included in the test administration fee. However, it is your responsibility to provide accurate addresses for the schools.

Score Reports

Let me state an obvious fact: if you take the MAT three times, you will get three different scores. This is due to the way you feel on test day, the level of preparedness you have, and, despite MAT's claims to the contrary, some tests actually will be easier for you than others.

Since your acceptance and qualification for scholarships will largely depend on your score, you should maximize your chances of success.

On most standardized tests, that means you can take the test multiple times and only report your best score for an application for admission. This is not true for the MAT.

Immediately after you have completed taking the MAT, and while you are still in the testing room, you have the opportunity to cancel sending out your scores, by exercising a "no score option". You have the opportunity to do this before you have ever even seen your unofficial scores.

If you decide to cancel your scores, you will not be able to view your scores. If you do not decide to cancel your scores, then and there, the opportunity has passed. You will not be able to cancel them after that point. Therefore, prepare for this moment in advance. You know your abilities and can probably base a good guess as to what you might expect based on other standardized tests and percentile rankings that you have scored in the past.

By checking with your university of choice, you can determine what score you will need to be accepted or to receive a scholarship. This will give you an idea of how difficult it will be for you to meet your targeted goal. After you have taken the test, if you feel that you have met that goal, go ahead and accept your scores. You should only cancel your scores if you:

1.)expect that you will definitely have the time, money, and desire to take the MAT again
2.)are confident that you did not meet the score that you needed to get into your school of choice

3.)would not be satisfied at another school with a lower standard of admission

Remember, once a score is cancelled, it cannot be reinstated.

In the future when you take another test and submit those scores, that recent score, as well as every MAT score that you have taken in the last five years will also be submitted.

When your scores for the last five years are received, each school approaches the scores differently. Most schools will simply take the most recent score. Some schools have a different approach and will average your scores. Others may disregard any score that is significantly lower than another score, so that the low score will not unfairly distort the student's true ability. A few schools will even take your highest score.

Check with your school of choice and determine what their standard policy on multiple MAT scores. If they only use the latest or highest score, you should definitely consider retaking the test if your score is lower than you expected and needed for admission. Don't take the MAT as a "practice" test. Feel free to take sample tests on your own, but when you go to take the MAT, be prepared, be focused, and do your best the first time!

Determine in advance whether or not you have the time and resources to take the MAT multiple times. Don't make a hasty emotional decision after taking your test. You will feel drained after taking such an intense test and should think through your options ahead of time.

Remember, if you plan to repeatedly take the MAT, check with your schools of choice and determine their policy on multiple MAT scores. That may help in your decision to retake the test.

Chapter 2: Preparing for the MAT

Test Anxiety

Almost every student has experienced some level of anxiety when taking a test. Although this is a common experience, it can often impair performance on an instrument to the extent that the student's actual ability is not reflected. Don't let this happen to you. Part of preparing for the MAT is preparing to manage your test anxiety.

First, identify the causes of your anxiety. Identifying the source of your anxiety will help you to prepare yourself for the day of the test. Go to the test site location and allow yourself to become familiar with

the test environment. However, if you feel that the test anxiety is more than you can manage on your own, consider consulting a mental health professional. Many are trained in special techniques to help you reduce the anxiety and optimize your performance.

Do not procrastinate. You must prepare for the MAT. The more familiar you are with the exam, the better you will be able to perform.

Standardized Testing Strategies and Skills

To succeed on the MAT, you must use your time wisely. Most students do not finish every question. The time limit is shown in the table below:

As you can see, the time constraint is challanging. To succeed, you must ration your time properly. The reason that time is so critical is that every question counts the same toward your final score. If you run out of time, the questions that you do not answer will hurt your score far more than earlier questions that you spent extra time on and feel certain are correct.

Wear a watch to the MAT Test. At the beginning of the test, check the time (or start a chronometer on your watch to count the minutes), and check the time after every few questions to make sure you are "on schedule." If you are taking the computer based test, an onscreen clock display will keep track of your remaining time, but it may be easier for you to monitor your pace based on how many minutes have been used, rather than how many minutes remain.

Remember that you have exactly thirty seconds per question, which makes it easy to keep track of your time.

If you find that you are falling behind time during the test, you must speed up. Even though a rushed answer is more likely to be incorrect, it is better to miss a couple of questions by being rushed, than to completely miss later questions by
not having enough time. It is better to end with more time than you need than to run out of time.

If you are forced to speed up, do it efficiently. Usually one or more answer choices can be eliminated without too much difficulty. Above all, don't panic. Don't speed up and just begin guessing at random choices. By pacing yourself, and continually monitoring your progress against the clock or your watch, you will always know exactly how far ahead or behind you are with your available time. If you find that you are a few minutes behind, don't skip questions without spending any time on it, just to catch back up. Spend a little less than 30 seconds per question on the next few questions and you will catch back up more gradually. Once you catch back up, you can continue working each problem at your normal pace. If you have time at the end, go back then and finish the questions that you left behind.

Furthermore, don't dwell on the problems that you were rushed on. If a problem was taking up too much time and you made a hurried guess, it must have been difficult. The difficult questions are the ones you are most likely to miss anyway, so it isn't a big loss. If you have time left over, as you review the skipped questions, start at the

earliest skipped question, spend at most another 30 seconds, and then move on to the next skipped question.

Finally, remember that it is beneficial to slow down if you are constantly getting ahead of time. You are always more likely to catch a careless mistake by working more slowly than quickly, and among very high-scoring students (those who are likely to have lots of time left over), careless errors affect the score more than mastery of material.

You probably know that guessing is a good idea on the MAT- unlike other standardized tests; there is no penalty for getting a wrong answer. Even if you have no idea about a question, you still have a 20-25% chance of getting it right.

Most students do not understand the impact that proper guessing can have on their score. Unless you score extremely high, guessing will contribute a significant amount of points to your score.

If you have only four answer choices, then you have approximately a 25% chance of getting it correct. What most students don't realize is that to ensure a 25% chance, you have to guess randomly. If you put twenty children in a room to take the MAT, assuming they answered once per question and behaved themselves, on average they would get 25% of the questions correct. Put twenty college students in the room, and the average will be much lower among guessed questions. Why?

1. MAT intentionally writes deceptive answer choices that "look" right. A student has no idea about a question, so picks the "best looking" answer, which is often wrong. The monkey has no idea what looks good and what doesn't, so will consistently be lucky about 25% of the time.
2. Students will eliminate answer choices from the guessing pool based on a hunch or intuition. Simple but correct answers often get excluded, leaving a 0% chance of being correct. The monkey has no clue, and often gets lucky with the best choice.

This is why the process of elimination endorsed by most test courses is flawed and detrimental to your performance- students don't guess, they make an ignorant stab in the dark that is usually worse than random.

Let me introduce one of the most valuable ideas of this manual- the $10 bet:

You only mark your "best guess" if you are willing to bet $10 on it. You only eliminate choices from guessing if you are willing to bet $10 on it.

Why $10? Ten dollars is an amount of money that is small yet not insignificant, and can really add up fast (20 questions could cost you $200). Likewise, each answer choice on one question of the MAT will have a small impact on your overall score, but it can really add up to a lot of points in the end.

The process of elimination IS valuable. The following shows your chance of guessing it right:

If you eliminate this many choices:	0	1	2	3
Chance of getting it correct:	25%	33%	50%	100 %

If you accidentally eliminate the right answer or go on a hunch for an incorrect answer, your chances drop dramatically: to 0%. By guessing among all the answer choices, you are GUARANTEED to have a shot at the right answer.

That's why the $10 bet is so valuable- if you give up the advantage and safety of a pure guess, it had better be worth the risk.

What we still haven't covered is how to be sure that whatever guess you make is truly random. Here's the easiest way:

Always pick the first answer choice among those remaining.

Such a technique means that you have decided, before you see a single test question, exactly how you are going to guess- and since the order of choices tells you nothing about which one is correct, this guessing technique is perfectly random.

Let's try an example-

A student encounters the following problem:

A Tale of Two Cities: Dickens :: Moby Dick : (a. Cervantes, b. Melville, c. Hawthorne, d. Trotsky)

The student has a small idea about this question- he is pretty sure that Moby Dick was written by Hawthorne, but he wouldn't bet $5 on it. He knows that the novel was written by an American writer, so he is willing to bet $5 on both choices A and D not being correct. Now he is down to B and C. At this point, he guesses B, since B is the first choice remaining.

The student is correct by choosing B, since Herman Melville was the author of Moby Dick. He only eliminated those choices he was willing to bet money on, AND he did not let his stale memories (often things not known definitely will get mixed up in the exact opposite arrangement in one's head) about American writers influence his guess. He blindly chose the first remaining choice, and was rewarded with the fruits of a random guess.

This section is not meant to scare you away from making educated guesses or eliminating choices- you just need to define when a choice is worth eliminating.
The $10 test, along with a pre-defined random guessing strategy, is the best way to make sure you reap all of the benefits of guessing.

Specific Skills

1. Direct Opposites

When you have two answer choices that are direct opposites, one of them is usually the correct answer.
Example:

(a.light, b. dark)

3. Family of Answer Choices

These two answer choices are very similar and fall into the same family of answer choices. A family of answer choices is when two or three answer choices are related.

Example:

(a. frigid, b. hot, c. cold, d. fresh)

See how the first three choices are all related? They all ask about temperature. Beware of immediately recognizing choices B and C as opposites and choosing one of those two. Choice A is in the same family of questions and should be considered as well. However, choice D is not in the same family of questions. It has nothing to do with temperature and can be discounted in most cases.

Eliminate as many choices as you can by using the $10 bet. Use the common guessing strategies to help in the elimination process, but only eliminate choices that pass the $10 test. Among the remaining choices, only pick your "best guess" if it passes the $10 bet. Otherwise, guess randomly by picking the first remaining choice that was not eliminated.

The Month Before

Research shows that you will do better if you spread your studying out a little bit over a longer period of time as opposed to a couple of intensive cramming sessions. You can not cram it all in right before the test. Therefore, it is in your best interest to start studying in segments as soon as you decide to take the exam.

Many students delay the test preparation process because they dread the awful amounts of practice time they think necessary to succeed on the test

There are a number of unique challenges confronting you when taking the MAT. Among these are answering questions, finishing in time, and mastering test-taking strategies. All must be executed on the day of the test at peak performance, or your score will suffer. The MAT is a mental marathon that has a large impact on your future.

Just like a marathon runner, it is important to work your way up to the full challenge. So first you just worry about questions, and then time, and finally strategy.

Find a good source for MAT practice tests. The cheapest source for these will be the current and past "practice/registration packets" from MAT. Your school's test center can provide you with the current one, and, if you're lucky, they may have a supply of old ones as well. You will need at least three practice tests.

If you are willing to make a larger time investment (or if you want to really "learn" the material, a time consuming but ultimately valuable endeavor), consider buying one of the better study guides on the market.

Take a practice test with no time constraints, with all study helps "open book." Take your time with questions and focus on applying the strategies.

1. Take another test, this time with time constraints, with all guides "open book."
2. Take a final practice test with no open material and time limits.

3. If you have time to take more practice tests, just repeat the steps. By gradually exposing yourself to the full rigors of the test environment, you will condition your mind to the stress of test day and maximize your success.

The Week Before

When you take the practice tests, take them under as similar to the actual testing conditions as you can. Remember, this is more than just answering a set of standardized questions. You will have to answer these questions under the pressure of strict time constraints. It will help you if you take the practice tests under the same condition.

Chapter 3: Solving the Analogies

Description of an Analogy

The MAT tests analogies. Analogies are pairs of terms that have a common relationship. Unlike most analogy tests, not only will you have to determine what is the common relationship between two pairs of terms, you will also have to determine which terms make up each pair. You will be given four terms in the format A : B :: C : D, which can make up two distinctly different pairs of terms.

First, you can have A : B and C : D, which could be read, "A is related to B as C is related to D".

Example: Sun : Day :: Moon : Night, or "Sun is related to Day as Moon is related to Night.

Second, you can have A : C and B : D, which could be read, "A is related to C as B is related to D".

Example: Sun : Moon :: Day : Night, or "Sun is related to Day as Moon is related to Night.

While the Sun and Moon are both heavenly bodies, and Day and Night are both parts of a 24 hour cycle, for the analogy to make sense, you must link Sun and Day together, and Moon and Night together.

Perceiving Relationships

There are three types of relationships in the analogies on the MAT:

1.)Association
2.)Inclusion
3.)Meaning

Association

This is the most common relationship type in the MAT. It covers relationships between related but distinct ideas. Usually the terms are nouns, but they may be other grammatical forms.

There are four types of Association analogies:

1.)Transformation
2.)Object/Characteristic
3.)Order
4.)Agent/Object

Transformation

These are analogies in which one term is either a fraction, grammatical form, translation, or a wordplay of another term.

Fraction or Multiple

9: 81 – 81 is the square of 9.

Seasonally: Yearly – Seasonally represents a time period that is one-fourth as long as Yearly.

5:35 – 35 is seven times as much as 5.

Grammatical Transformation

Ran: Run – These are different tenses of the same verb.

Die: Dice – These are singular and plural forms.

We: Our – These are pronouns related to groups.

Translation

Satan: Lucifer – These are both names for the devil.

Bon Voyage: Farewell – These are the French and English names for goodbye.

Japan: Nippon – These are two names for the same country.

Wordplay

Liar: Rail – These two words are the letter inverse of each other. Liar is Rail spelled backwards.

Led: Lead – These two words are homophones. They sound the same but have different meanings.

Tower: Owe – The second word in contained in the first. The middle three letters of the word "tower" spell the word "owe".

Object/Characteristic

These are analogies in which one term is either a characteristic, source, or location of another term.

Characteristic

Some characteristic analogies will focus on a characteristic of something else.

Dog: Paw – The foot of a dog is its paw.

Lady: Lovely – A lady has a lovely personality.

Some characteristic analogies will focus on something that is NOT a characteristic of something else.

Desert: Humidity – A desert does not have humidity.

Job: Unemployed – A person without a job is unemployed.

Quick: Considered – A quick decision is often not very considered.

Source

Casting: Metal – A casting is made from metal.

Forest: Trees – A forest is composed of trees.

Slogans: Banners – A slogan is printed on banners.

Location

Eiffel Tower: Paris – The Eiffel Tower is a structure in Paris.

Welsh: Wales – The Welsh are the inhabitants of Wales.

Pound: England – The pound is the monetary unit of England.

Order

These are analogies in which one term has either a sequential or reciprocal relationship to another term.

Sequential

One: Two – These are consecutive numbers.

Birth: Death – These are the first and last events of a life or project.

Spring: Summer – The season of Spring immediately precedes Summer.

Reciprocal

Parent: Child – A parent cannot exist without a child.

Power: Work – Power is a function of work.

Owner: Possession – For possession to occur, there must be an owner.

Agent / Object

These are analogies in which one term has either a cause/effect, creator/creation, provider/provision, object/function, or user/tool relationship to another term.

Cause / Effect

Storm: Hail – Hail can be caused by a storm.

Heat: Fire – Heat results from a fire.

Monotony: Boredom – Boredom is a consequence of monotony.

Creator / Creation

Carpenter: House – A carpenter builds a house.

Painter: Portrait – A painter makes a portrait.

Burroughs: Tarzan – Edgar Rice Burroughs wrote the novel Tarzan.

Provider / Provision

Job: Salary – A job provides a salary.

Therapist: Treatment – A therapist treats patients.

Army: Defense – An army enables national defense.

Object / Function

Pencil: Write – A pencil is used to write.

Pressure: Barometer – A barometer measures pressure.

Frown: Unhappy – A frown shows unhappiness.

User / Tool

Carpenter: Hammer – A carpenter uses a hammer.

Teacher: Chalk – A teacher uses chalk.

Farmer: Tractor – A farmer drives a tractor.

Inclusion

These relationships are focused upon the hierarchy of terms.

There are two types of Inclusion analogies:

1.)Category

2.)Membership

Category

These are analogies in which one term is either a type or example of the other one.

Battalion: Regiment – A regiment is a subdivision of a battalion.

Personality: Aggressive – Aggressiveness is one type of personality.

AARP: Organization – AARP is an example of an organization.

Membership

These are analogies in which either one term is part of the other term, or both terms are a part of the same category.

Whole/Part

Door: House – A door is part of a house.

State: Country – A country is made up of states.

Day: Month – A month consists of many days.

Category

Door: Window – Both a door and a window are parts of a house.

Thigh: Shin – Both a thigh and a shin are parts of a leg.

Measles: Mumps – Both measles and mumps are types of diseases.

Meaning

These relationships are focused upon the definitions of terms.

There are four types of Meaning analogies:

1.)Synonym or Definition
2.)Antonym or Contrast
3.)Intensity
4.)Word Part/Meaning

Synonym or Definition

These are analogies in which both terms have a similar meaning.

Chase: Pursue – Both of these terms mean to "go after".

Achieve: Accomplish – Both of these terms refer to the successful attainment of a goal.

Satiate: Satisfy – Both of these terms mean to gratify a desire.

Antonym or Contrast

These are analogies in which both terms have an opposite meaning.

Disguise: Reveal – To disguise something is not to reveal it, but to conceal it.

Peace: War – Peace is a state in which there is no war.

Forget: Remember – The word "remember" means not to forget something.

Intensity

These are analogies in which either one term expresses a higher degree of something than the other term.

Exuberant: Happy – To be exuberant is to be extremely happy.
Break: Shatter – To shatter is to strongly break.
Deluge: Rain – A deluge is a heavy rain.

Word Part / Meaning

These are analogies in which one term explains what the other term means.

Pre-: Before – The prefix "pre-" means before; for example, predetermine means to determine before understanding or seeing all of the facts.

Excessiveness: -ard – The suffix "-ard" means to do something excessively; for example, a drunkard is someone that drinks excessively

Mis-: Poorly – The prefix "mis-" means to do something poorly; for example, to misspell a word is to spell it poorly.

Common Mistakes

A very common mistake is to try to find a relationship between the first and the fourth or the second and third terms on an item. Do not make this mistake. Incorrect answers are just waiting for this kind of flawed reasoning. It is a very common trap on the MAT. Recognize it and avoid it.

Don't focus on the meanings, but rather the relationship between the two words.

To understand the relationship, first create a sentence that links the two words and puts them into perspective. The sentence that you use to connect the words can be simple at first.

Example:
Wood : Fire
Wood feeds a *fire*.

Then go through each answer choice and replace the words with the answer choices. If the question is easy, then that may be all that is necessary. If the question is hard, you might have to fine-tune your sentence.

Example:
Wood : Fire :: (a. grass, b. farmer) : Cow

Using the initial sentence, you would state "Grass feeds a cow." This is correct, but then so is the next answer choice "Farmer feeds a cow." So which is right? Modify the sentence to be more specific.

Example: "Wood feeds a fire and is consumed."

This modified sentence makes answer choice B incorrect and answer choice A clearly correct, because while "Grass feeds a cow and is consumed" is correct, "farmer feeds a cow and is consumed" is definitely wrong.

If your initial sentence seems correct with more than one answer choice, then keep modifying it until only one answer choice makes sense.
If you don't know the word, don't worry. Look at the answer choices and just use them. Remember that three of the answer choices will always be wrong. If you can find a common relationship between any

three answer choices, then you know they are all wrong. Find the answer choice that does not have a common relationship to the other answer choices and it will be the correct answer.

Example:
Tough : Rugged :: (a. soft, b. easy, c. delicate, d. rigid) : Hard

In this example the first three choices are all opposites of the term "hard". Even if you don't know that rigid means the same as hard, you know it must be correct, because the other three all had the same relationship. They were all opposites, so they must all be wrong. The one that has a different relationship from the other three must be correct. So don't worry if you don't know a word. Focus on the answer choices that you do understand and see if you can identify common relationships. Even identifying two word pairs with the same relationship (for example, two word pairs that are both opposites) will allow you to eliminate those two answer choices, for they are both wrong.

A simple way to remember this is that if you have two or more answer choices that have the exact same relationship, then they are both or all wrong.

Example:
(a. neat, b. orderly)

Since the two answer choices above are synonyms and therefore have the same relationship with the matching term, then you know that

they both must be wrong, because they both can't be correct, and for all intents and purposes they are the same word.

Be sure to read all of the choices. You may find an answer choice that seems right at first, but continue reading and you may find a better choice.

Difficult words are usually synonyms or antonyms (opposites). Whenever you have extremely difficult words that you don't understand, look at the answer choices. Try and identify whether two or more of the answer choices are either synonyms or antonyms. Remember that if you can find two word pairs that have the same relationship (for example, they are both synonyms) then you can eliminate them both.

Reversal Errors

A common mistake is when a reversal occurs.

Example: Bird: Parrot:: (a. boy, b. species, c. mammal, d. phylum) : Human

The relationship is that a parrot is a type of bird and a human is a type of mammal. However, it would be very easy to read the analogy as a parrot is a kind of bird and a boy is a kind of human. Although this is a correct relationship, it is not the relationship the question is asking for on this item.

Levels of Difficulty

The analogies on this test differ greatly in degree of difficulty. In general, one analogy may be more or less difficult than another analogy for any number of reasons. As you prepare to take this test, it will be helpful for you to understand the reasons that the difficulty levels vary.

1. Difficulty of Words

   An analogy may be more difficult because it contains words with which you are unfamiliar. When this is true, you may feel limited by your knowledge of vocabulary before you even begin to understand the relationships. Thus, the degree of difficulty of a particular analogy may be based upon your exposure to the words contained in the analogy.

2. Difficulty of Relation between A and B

   You may be familiar with the meanings of all of the words contained within the analogy, but you can not determine the nature of the relationships.

3. Difficulty of Relation between A and C

   An analogy may be difficult because it is not immediately clear how the first and third items are related.

4. Difficulty of Relation between C and D

   Sometime you may think you are able to infer the relation that exists between A and B, but find that you have problems applying the relation from C to D.

5. Difficulty of Relation between D and An Answer you Can Not Find

Sometimes, you may discover an analogy that for one reason or another seems to have a perfect answer. However, that perfect answer is not among those listed as answer choices. When this happens, it is wise to reconsider the way you have interpreted the analogy or else simply pick the answer which seems the closest to the perfect one.

Selecting the Correct Answer

Read all of the options. You must choose the best of the four alternative options which are presented. Keep in mind that the individuals who develop the test make a deliberate and often successful effort to make more than one answer choice seem to be correct. Your job is to find the most correct answer. Often, errors are made when an individual is rushing through the item and does not take the time needed to read through all of the answer items. When this happens, they may be tricked into selecting a plausible, but incorrect answer.

Remember to check the parts of speech. In selecting an option, be systematic in your approach. When you don't know all the meanings of the terms used in the analogy, or when you are struggling with the relationship that is represented, try to use the context cues to figure out the best answer. Remember that while not all terms used in the analogy must be the same part of speech, they can be of no more than two parts of speech. That is unless it is a nonsemantic analogy. Otherwise, if the answer option you are considering introduces a third part of speech, it is likely to be incorrect.

Use word association. You will be very likely to encounter some analogies on the MAT in which you find yourself simply unable to infer the relationship between the given terms. When all else fails, a strategy that is slightly better than wild guessing is to try and use word association. In using word association, you are attempting to select the option that seems most closely related, in whatever way, to the given terms of the analogy.

Hints for Solving the Analogies

Eliminate choices as soon as you realize they are wrong. But be careful! Make sure you consider all of the possible answer choices. Just because one appears right, doesn't mean that the next one won't be even better! MAT will usually put
more than one good answer choice for every question, so read all of them. Don't worry if you are stuck between two that seem right. By eliminating the other two possible choices, your odds are now 50/50. Rather than wasting too much time, play the odds. You are guessing, but guessing wisely, because you've been able to knock out some of the answer choices that you know are wrong. If you are eliminating choices and realize that the answer choice you are left with is also obviously wrong, don't panic. Start over and consider each choice again. There may easily be something that you missed the first time and will realize on the second pass.

Word Types

The correct answer choice will contain words that are the same type of word as those in the word pair.

Example:

Artist : Paintbrush

In this example, an artist is a person, while a paintbrush is an object. The correct answer will have one word that describes a person and another word that describes an object.
Example:
Gardener : Hedge :: (a. wind, b. sculptor) : Rock

In this example, you could create the sentence, "Gardener cuts away at hedges." Both answer choices seem correct with this sentence, "Wind cuts away at rocks" through the process of erosion, and "sculptor cuts away at rocks" using a hammer and chisel. The difference is that a gardener is a person, as is a sculptor, while the wind is a thing, which makes answer choice B correct.

Opposites

When you have determined which pair of terms you should work with, and know that the provided pair is an opposite, then you must find the opposite of the
remaining unmatched term. Nearly opposite may often be more correct, because the goal is to test your understanding of the nuances, or little differences, between words. A perfect opposite may not exist, so don't be concerned if your answer choice is not a complete opposite. Focus upon edging closer to the word. Eliminate the words that you know aren't correct first. Then narrow your search. Cross out the words that are the most similar to the main word until you are left with the one that is the least similar.

Prefixes

Take advantage of every clue that the word might include. Prefixes and suffixes can be a huge help. Usually they allow you to determine a basic meaning. Pre- means before, post- means after, pro – is positive, de- is negative. From these prefixes and suffixes, you can get an idea of the general meaning of the word and look for its opposite. Beware though of any traps. Just because con is the opposite of pro, doesn't necessarily mean congress is the opposite of progress!

Positive vs. Negative

Many words can be easily determined to be a positive word or a negative word. Words such as despicable, and gruesome, bleak are all negative. Words such as ecstatic, praiseworthy, and magnificent are all positive. You will be surprised at how many words can be considered as either positive or negative. If you recognize a positive/negative relationship between the given pair of terms, then focus in on the answer choices that would duplicate that positive/negative relationship with the remaining term.

Word Strength

When analyzing a word, determine how strong it is. For example, stupendous and good are both positive words. However, stupendous is a much stronger positive adjective than good. Also, towering or gigantic are stronger words than tall or large. Search for an answer choice with either the same or opposite
strength (depending on the relationship of the matched terms) to the remaining term.

Type and Topic

Another key is what type of word is the unmatched term. If the unmatched term is an adjective describing height, then look for the answer choice to be an adjective describing height as well. Match both the type and topic of the main word. The type refers the parts of speech, whether the word is an adjective, adverb, or verb. The topic refers to what the definition of the word includes, such as descriptive sizes (large, small, gigantic, etc).

Form a Sentence

Many words seem more natural in a sentence. *Specious* reasoning, *irresistible* force, and *uncanny* resemblance are just a few of the word combinations that usually go together. When faced with an uncommon word that you barely understand (and on the MAT there will be many), try to put the word in a sentence that makes sense. It will help you to understand the word's meaning and make it easier to determine its relationship. Once you have a good descriptive sentence that utilizes a main term or answer choice properly, plug in the answer choice or main term and see if a solid relationship can be established.

Use Logic

Ask yourself questions about each answer choice to see if they are logical.

Example:

Poundings : (a. seen, b. heard) :: Aromas : Smelt

Would resonating poundings be "seen"? or Would resonating pounding be "heard"? It can logically be deduced that poundings are heard.

Familiar Words

Don't just choose a word because you recognize it. On difficult questions, you may only recognize one or two words. MAT doesn't put "make-believe" words on the test, so don't think that just because you only recognize one word means that word must be correct. If you don't recognize three words, then focus on the one that you do recognize. Is it correct? Try your best to determine if it fits the sentence you've created that shows the relationship between terms. If it does, that is great, but if it doesn't, eliminate it. Each word you eliminate increases your chances of getting the question correct.

Tricky Words

Don't use your existing knowledge of the word. MAT will often ask questions that will include homonyms and it may not be readily obvious which meaning they intend to be correct. Look at the other terms and try to determine the relationship from the contextual clues in order to determine what meaning of the word you should use. Don't simply use the first meaning you can think of, or the most popular definition.

Look for contextual clues. An answer choice can have a relationship to one of the terms, but not be correct. The contextual clues will help you find the answer that is most right and is correct. Understand the context in which the relationship of the other pair terms is stated. This will provide the distinction in cases of words with multiple meanings (homonyms).

These multiple meaning words go with a warning. An example is "lead" which can mean a type of metal and an action taken by a leader. These differences in meaning can completely alter the relationship and correct answer. Watch out! Make sure you understand which meaning is being asked for.

Tough Questions

If you are stumped on a problem or it appears too hard or too difficult, don't waste time. Move on! Remember though, if you can quickly check for obviously incorrect answer choices, your chances of guessing correctly are greatly improved. Before you completely give up, at least try to knock out a couple of possible answers. Eliminate what you can and then guess at the remainder before moving on.

Common Sense

When in doubt, use common sense. Always accept the situation in the problem at face value. Don't read too much into it. These problems will not require you to make huge leaps of logic. The MAT isn't trying to throw you off with a cheap trick. If you have to go beyond creativity and make a leap of logic in order to establish a relationship between two terms, then you should start over and find another relationship. Don't overcomplicate the problem by creating theoretical relationships that will warp time or space. These are normal problems rooted in reality. It's just that the pair of terms that go together and the applicable relationships may not be readily apparent and you have to figure things out. Use your common sense to interpret anything that isn't clear.

Read Carefully

Understand the analogy. Read the terms and answer choices carefully. Don't miss the question because you misread the terms. There are only a few words in each question, so you can spend time reading them carefully. Yet a happy medium must be attained, so don't waste too much time. You must read carefully, but efficiently.

Tricky Relationships

MAT will intentionally create false answer choices that have relationships with the terms in each question. However, these tricky relationships can be used against the answer choices to prove them wrong.

If you are sure about which pair of terms goes together, then the matched pair of terms provided will not have a relationship with any answer choices. This is because the correct term will only have a relationship with its proper match and you know which term is the proper match, even if you don't know what is the correct answer choice. Any answer choices that do have a relationship with the known pair of terms is wrong! Those can be immediately discounted and you can focus on those that remain.

Example: Car : (a. driver, b. jockey, c. brush, d. paint) :: Horse : Hair

First, you must consider which pair of terms goes together. In this case, you could have an answer choice match with either car or hair. If you consider choice C, brush, then you have "brush is related to hair", which is a valid relationship. However, clearly brush is not related to hair, as car is related to horse, since a brush is used on hair,

while cars and horses are both forms of transportation. So at this point, since brush was the only term that went well with hair, you may conclude that Horse and Hair is the given relationship, and Car remains to be paired with one of the answer choices. Since brush is definitely linked (however falsely and incorrectly) to hair, and you know that hair is correctly linked to horse, then you can safely eliminate brush as a choice.

The match must therefore lie with either choice A, choice B, or choice D. Choice B, jockey, is definitely linked to Horse and since Horse is already removed from consideration, you know that Choice B must be wrong.

Both driver and paint share a relationship with the term "car". But once you consider the relationship between horse and hair, then you realize that since hair is the outer covering of a horse, then paint is correct, because it is the outer covering of a car.

Due to the link between car and choice A, driver, you can rest assured that you have gotten the answer correctly. If choice A was a word you did not know, then you might not be certain if you had chosen correctly. But since you know the meaning and understand the relationship between car and driver, then you can be confident that MAT put driver as an answer choice specifically because of its relationship to a car. This forces you to think at a higher level and recognize the true analogous relationship existing with the other pair of terms (horse and hair).

The idea is to chain terms together. If you know that an answer choice goes with one of the terms, then if you can confidently decide that term is matched with another given term, then you can decide with equal confidence that the former answer choice is incorrect and can be eliminated. If you already have two terms definitely linked, then any answer choices that MAT included with "false" links to those two terms can be discounted.

MAT offers false answer choices that have valid relationships with other terms. If you know you're not trying to match that other term (because you've already matched it with another term), then any false answer choices that have relationships with that term can be removed from consideration.

Brainstorm

If you get stuck on a difficult analogy, spend a few seconds quickly brainstorming. Run through the complete list of possible relationships. Break down each answer choice into all of the potential combinations with the two possible analogous terms. Since there are four answer choices and each answer choice could form a pair with one of two terms, then there are only eight possible relationships to test. Look at each relationship and see if it would make sense. Test with sentences to determine if any relationship can be established. By systematically going through all possibilities, you may find something that you would otherwise overlook.

Quick Calculations

Quantitative relationships involving numbers may represent only a fixed number of possibilities. If you see a problem with numbers and don't immediately recognize the relationship, run through all of the possibilities.

Is the relationship based on sequence?

Example: 3 : 4 :: 15 : (**a.16**, b. 18, c. 27, d. 25)

3 + 1 = 4, and 15 + 1 = 16

Is the relationship based on sequence and unusual characteristics? Ask yourself what the numbers have in common.

Example: 5 : 7 :: 13 : (a. 2, b. 5, c. 12, **d. 17**)

One thing all of these numbers have in common is that they are all prime numbers. Seven is the first prime number after five. Seventeen is the first prime number after thirteen. It may seem tricky, but if you think all of the possibilities through in a systematic fashion, you'll find the relationship.

Is the relationship based on multiplication?

Example: 9 : 27 :: 22 : (a. 30, **b. 66**, c. 90, d. 100)

9 * 3 = 27, and 22 * 3 = 66

Is the relationship based on division?

Example: 8 : 4 :: 6 : (a. 1, b. 2, **c. 3**, d. 7)

8 / 2 = 4, and 6 / 2 = 3

Is the relationship based on exponents?
Example: 2 : 8 :: 3 : (a. 13, **b. 27**, c. 31, d. 45)

$2^3 = 8$, and $3^3 = 27$ Two raised to the 3rd power equals 2 * 2 * 2 = 8, and three raised to the 3rd power equals 3*3*3 = 27.

Is the relationship based on roots?
Example: 16 : 4 :: 25 : (a. 1, b. 2, c. 3, **d. 5**)

$\sqrt{16} = 4$, and $\sqrt{25} = 5$. The square root of 16 is 4, and the square root of 25 is 5.

If you are puzzled by a number problem, don't go blank. Work through the different possibilities systematically until you find the relationship. There are a limited number of possible mathematical relationships, so just run through all of them until you find the right one.

Exponents

When exponents are multiplied together, the exponents are added to get the final result.
Example: $x*x = x^2$, where x^1 is implied and 1 + 1 = 2.
When exponents in parentheses have an exponent, the exponents are multiplied to get the final result.
Example: $(x^3)^2 = x^6$, because 3*2 = 6.
Another way to think of this is that $(x^3)^2$ is the same as $(x^3)*(x^3)$. Now you can use the multiplication rule given above and add the exponents, 3 + 3 = 6, so $(x^3)^2 = x^6$

Scientific Notation

This usually involves converting back and forth between scientific notation and decimal numbers (e.g. 0.02 is the same as 2×10^{-2}). There's an old "cheat" to this problem: if the number is less than 1, the number of digits behind the decimal point is the same as the exponent that 10 is raised to in scientific notation, except that the exponent is negative. If the number is greater than 1, the exponent that 10 is raised to in scientific notation is equal to the number of digits ahead of the decimal point minus 1.

Example: Convert 3000 to decimal notation.

Answer: 3×10^{3}, since 4 digits are ahead of the decimal, the number is greater than 1, and (4-1) = 3.

Example: Convert 0.05 to decimal notation.

Answer: 5×10^{-2}, since the five is two places behind the decimal (remember, the exponent is negative for numbers less than 1).

Any number raised to an exponent of zero is always 1. Also, unless you're confident in your mathematical ability, always convert scientific notation to "regular" decimal numbers before doing arithmetic and trying to make a comparison between numbers.

Time Management

On technical questions, don't get lost on the technical terms. Don't spend too much time on any one question. If you don't know what a term means, then since you don't have a dictionary, odds are you aren't going to get much further. You should immediately recognize terms as whether or not you know them. If you don't, work with the other clues that you have, the other answer choices and terms provided, but don't waste too much time trying to figure out a difficult term.

Spend precious time trying to understand each term only as a last resort, if that will definitely make a difference in your answer selection.

Answer easier questions before difficult questions. If you have a general idea of most of the terms in a question, but are having difficulty with understanding the relationship, move on. You can always come back if you have extra time and puzzle over the problem then. Get the easier questions out of the way before tackling the more time consuming ones.

Identify each question by type, whether social sciences, natural sciences, mathematics, humanities, or vocabulary. Usually the terms and answer choices will tell you what type of question you are facing. You alone know which question types you customarily handle with ease and which give you trouble and will require more time. Save the difficult questions for last.

Chapter 4: Review for the MAT

The MAT is a test of vocabulary and general information as well as specific information from a myriad of areas. While it is not possible to review all content in all of the possible subject areas that may be included on the MAT, a brief refresher can be helpful. The purpose of these subject summaries is to help you recall important names, events, dates and significant concepts in different areas. If you feel

that you are weaker in one of these areas, it may be beneficial to spend additional time on that topic.

Art and Architecture

Abstract art: an art form that assumes that artistic value resides in form and color; focus is not on the subject of the work

Art deco: 1920's to 1930's art movement stressing highly decorative art

Baroque: late 16th century to early 18th century movement from Italy that stressed
grand theatrical effects and elaborate ornamentation

Classicism: art attributed to ancient Greece and Rome that is characterized by discipline, objectivity and reason

Expressionism: 20th century art in which the expression of the artist is the subject; focus is on emotion

Futurism: 1910 Italian art movement that stressed motion and movement

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History

Explorers

Cartier, Jacques (1491 – 1557) St. Lawrence river region

Coranado, Francisoc Vasquez de (1510 -1554) Aztec nation

Drake, Bartolommeu (1450 – 1500) British man who circumnavigated the globe and helped defeat the Spanish Armada

Hudson, Henry (d. 1611) Hudson River, Hudson Bay area

The American Revolution

Lexington and Concord; first battles

Bunker Hill, Ft. Ticonderoga, Saratoga, Valley Forge: major battles

Declaration of Independence

Constitution

American Civil War

Harper's Ferry; start of the war

Bull Run and Ft. Sumter; first battles

Appomatox; end of war

Literature

Allegory: a narrative poem or prose work in which persons, events, and places represent or stand for something else

Alliteration: the repetition of consonant sounds in two or more words

Bildungsroman: a novel, usually an autobiography

Blank verse: a form of unrhymed poetry in which each line must have ten syllables

Canto: a major division of a long poem

Couplet: two successive rhyming lines of poetry

Epithalamion: a song or poem written in celebration of a marriage

Genre: a type or classification of literary work

Haiku: form of verse or poetry made up of three unrhymed lines containing five,
seven and five syllables

Sonnet: a four-teen line poem with rigidly prescribed rhyme scheme

Music

Alto: a high adult male voice

Bass: the lowest male voice

Buffo: comic bass, as in opera

Cadence: a progression of chords giving an effect of closing a sentence

Chord: a blending of two or more notes

Coda: section of movement added as a rounding off rather than a structural necessity

Concerto: work making contrasted use of solo instruments

Crescendo: music that becomes louder

Interval: distance between two notes

Largo: slow

Lento: slow

Nocturne: melancholy composition of one or more instruments

Opera: drama in which all characters sing the story

Presto: fast

Quartet: four musical instruments played together

Rondo: a form of composition in which one section recurs intermittently

Sonata: instrumental musical composition usually of three or four movements

Soprano: highest female voice

Symphony: grand orchestral work in four movements

Tenor: highest normal male voice

Mythology

Adonis: Greek god of male beauty

Apollo: one of the twins of Zeus; Greek god of prophecy

Ares: Greek god of war
Diana: Roman goddess of the moon, forest and animals
Hera: Greek goddess and twin sister and wife of Zeus. Queen of the gods
Juno: Roman goddess; wife and sister of Jupiter
Neptune: Roman sea god
Odin: Norse king of the gods
Olympus: home of the Greek gods
Thor: Norse god of thunder
Venus: Roman goddess of love
Zeus: Greek king of the gods

Vocabulary

The vocabulary list consists of words which are often used on graduate test. For select words, synonyms, antonyms and other related concepts are provided to help you solve the analogies.

Abdicate: to denounce; to discard; to abandon
Aberration: something not typical, deviation
Abhorrence: repugnance, detestation
Abjure: to renounce upon oath
Abnegation: self-denial
Abrogate: to break, as a treaty of law
Abscond: to depart secretly; to hide
Absolve: to set free from obligation or the consequences of guilt
Abstruse: hard to understand; hard to grasp
Abut: to border on; to terminate the boundary

Accolade: an award or honor; high praise

Acquiesce: to agree silently

Acrophobia: the fear of heights

Acumen: keenness

Adamant: unyielding; stubborn

Anomaly: an aberration; a deviation, an irregularity

Apogee: the point in a satellite's orbit that is farthest from the center of the Earth

Arachnophobia: the fear of spiders

Arid: dull; unimaginative; extremely dry

Atrophy: wasting a way

Austral: southern (antonym: boreal)

Balmy: soothing, mild

Banal: commonplace; trite

Biennial" occurs every two years

Broach: to make known for the first time; to open up a subject for conversation

Brook: to bear or to tolerate

Buccal: pertaining to the cheeks or the inside of the mouth

Buffoon: a clown; someone who amuses with tricks

Burnish: to polish or to make shine

Burnoose: a hooded Arabic cloak

Cache: a hiding place; something hidden in a secure place

Cajole: to persuade a reluctant person; to coax

Candid: frank

Capitulate: to surrender; to give in

Carp: to complain

Caustic: acid; sharp

Chaff: waste material from the harvesting of wheat

Chicanery: artful deception

Choleric: easily angered, hot tempered

Clandestine: secret

Cloy: to satiate

Coda: a passage that include a musical or literary work

Cooper: a maker of casks or barrels

Cowl: a hood; a cover for an engine

Culinary: having to do with a kitchen or cooking

Cynosure: the center of interest

Dauntless: fearless

Debonair: sauve; sophisticated

Decorous: proper; in good taste; correct

Delusion: a false psychotic belief, a deception

Depraved: morally corrupt; evil

Dialectic: logical argument

Diatribe: a bitter denunciation (antonym: panegyric)

Dint: a force; power

Dissenter: one who disagrees

Dissuade: to persuade someone not to do something

Dolt: a stupid person

Duplicity: concealment of one's true intentions by misleading words; deception

Eclectic: from many sources; varied

Effete: exhausted; worn out

Egress: exit; to go out of

Eminent: prominent

Erratic: wandering; unpredictable

Exigent: urgent; requires prompt attention

Explicate: to explain

Expunge: to erase; to strike out

Fagoting: a type of embroidery

Fallacious: misleading; deceiving

Fealty: allegiance

Feckless: feeble; worthless

Fervid: very hot; intense

Fitful: irregular

Flag: to slow down; to weaken

Fraught: laden; charged

Frugal: cheap; economical

Fuchsia: vivid pink purple

Fulminate: to denounce

Gainsay: to deny; contradict

Garner: to collect; to accumulate

Gauche: lacking social grace; crude

Goad: to urge; to incite

Gourmand: one who eats and drinks excessively; glutton

Griffin: a mythical animal having the head and wings of an eagle and the body of a lion

Guffaw: a loud burst of laughter

Gulch: a deep pit; a ravine

Haiku: a type of unrhymed Japanese poem consisting of three lines

Halcyon: peaceful; serene

Hiatus: a gap or interruption

Hoary: gray or white with age

Hone: to sharpen

Hypocritical: dissembling

Hypothetical: not based on evidence; speculated

Idyllic: carefree; lighthearted

Imbue: to permeate or influence

Impolitic: unwise

Imprecate: to curse

Impugn: to attack

Incisive: keen; direct; decisive

Indigent: poor

Innuendo: a suggestion; an insinuation

Induction: an initiation; reasoning from parts to whole

Inimical: hostile; unfriendly

Inure: to accustom to accept something undesirable; habituate

Jargon: lingo; specialized vocabulary

Jejune: immature; childlike

Jenny: a female donkey

Jetty: a projection or structure extending out

Jocose: witty; funny

Junk: trash; a type of Chinese ship

Junta: a political group or committee

Juxtapose: to place next to something else

Kindle: to inspire

Kinetic: related to motion

Knave: a sly deceitful man

Kudos: praise

Laconic: concise

Lambent: flickering

Lampoon: harsh; attacking an individual

Lassitude: fatigue, weariness

Levity: not serious, frivolity

Lucid: clear; sane; aware

Litigate: to try in court

Lucre: profit; monetary gain

Lurid: gruesome; shocking; ghastly

Malignant: evil; tending to produce death (antonym of benign)

Mandatory; required; necessary

Maverick: a rebel; a nonconformist

Millennium: a thousand years

Mitigate: to soften; extenuating

Moot: questionable

Munificent: lavish, extravagant

Napery: table linens

Necropolis: cemetery

Nexus: a connection or a link

Noisome: offensive

Nuance: subtle variation; a small detail;

Nullify: to legally void

Obdurate: unyielding

Obloquy: abusive language

Obtrude: to force

Officious: meddling; interfering

Oligarchy: a form of government in which control is placed in the hands of a few

Omnipotent: all-powerful, all-knowing

Onus: burden

Ossify: to become hard as a bone

Oviparous: producing eggs that hatch outside the maternal body

Palliate: to cover up with excuses, to extenuate

Paradox: something true that appears to be fals

Pariah: an outcast

Parsimony: the quality of being careful with money; thrifty

Paucity: a small amount; scarce

Peruse: to study; to read carefully

Pervade: to spread throughout

Poltroon: a coward

Proxy: a person authorized to act for some one else

Pundit: an expert; an authority

Quaff: to drink heartily

Qualm: a sudden onset of illness; nausea; uneasy

Quell: to suppress

Quisling: a traitor

Quixotic: foolish; impractical

Quizzical: eccentric; odd

Quondam; former; sometime

Raze: to demolish; to destroy

Recidivism: repeated criminal activity

Recusant: marked by refusal to obey authority

Relegate: to banish

Reprobate: a villain; an immoral person

Roseate: cheerful

Rotund: round, plump

Ruminate: to reflect on something; to ponder

Sanction: to authorize or approve

Sanguine: hopeful

Satiric: using ridicule or sarcasm

Striated: referring to muscle with dark and light bands as opposed to smooth muscle

Staid: sedate; serious; grave

Surmise: to imagine; to conclude

Sybaritic: sensual

Sycophant: parasite

Tacit: unspoken; implied

Tactile: tangible; perception of touch

Tenet: a doctrine upheld by members of an organization

Tepid: lukewarm; room temperature

Terse: polished; refined; concise

Tirade: a long speech

Torque: a twisting or turning force; to cause to rotate or to twist

Tort: a civil wrong

Turbid: muddy

Umbrage: a feeling of offense

Undulate: to fluctuate

Unduly: excessive

Ungainly: hard to handle

Urbane: polished or polite

Utopian: impossible ideal; paradise

Vapid: insipid; spiritless

Verbose: wordy

Viable: able to stand; capable

Vilify: to slander

Virago: a loud overbearing woman

Volatile: easily aroused; explosive

Wan: pale; sickly

Whet: to stimulate; to incite; to make more intense

Wroth: very angry

Xanthic: yellow color

Xenophobia: fear of strangers

Yean: to give birth; used of sheep or goats

Yore: time long past

Yowl: to cry out loudly

Zealot: one who is enthusiastic, sometimes fanatical about a cause

Final Notes

Always use your time efficiently. Don't panic. Stay focused. Work systematically. Read the problem carefully. Eliminate the answer choices that are definitely wrong. Keep narrowing the search until you are either left with the answer or must guess at the answer from a more selective group of choices.

Don't Panic

Panicking will not answer any questions for you. Therefore, it isn't helpful. When you first see the question, if your mind goes blank, take a deep breath. Force yourself to mechanically go through the strategies listed above.

Secondly, don't get consumed by the clock. It's easy to be overwhelmed when you're looking at a page full of analogies, your mind is full of random thoughts and feeling confused, and the clock is ticking down faster than you would like. Calm down and maintain the pace that you have set for yourself. As long as you are on track by monitoring your pace, you are guaranteed to have enough time for yourself. Five minutes may not seem like much time if you have ten questions left, but remember that you finished all of the other questions in that same span of time and you can finish these just as easily.

Answer Selection

The best way to pick an answer choice is to eliminate all of those that are wrong, until only one is left and confirm that is the correct answer. Sometimes though, an answer choice may immediately look right. Be careful! Take a second to make sure that the other choices are not equally obvious. Don't make a hasty mistake. There are only two times that you should stop before checking other answers. First is when you are positive that the answer choice you have selected is correct. Second is when time is almost out and you have to make a quick guess!

Check Your Work

Since you will probably not know every term listed and the answer to every analogy, it is important that you get credit for the ones that you do know. Don't miss any questions through careless mistakes. If at all possible, try to save yourself a few minutes at the end to go back over and check you work. Spend those extra seconds on a problem that was puzzling you. Clean up any minor mistakes that you might quickly recognize with that last minute review that can make a huge difference. Most of all, make sure that you've answered every question. Since every question counts the same, you definitely do not want to have any left blank. Finally, be proud and confident of the test you've just taken.