USING READING SKILLS IN MULTIPLE-CHOICE QUESTIONS

1) Read the question for face value- do not read into the questions.

2) Divide a long and complex question into parts and analyze each part at a time.

3) Try to determine the answer before looking at the alternatives rather than having the alternatives lead you to the answer.

4) Eliminate incorrect options.

5) Paraphrase a difficult question or answer in order to understand it better.

6) When two alternatives seem to be both correct, ask yourself, “how are they different?”

7) When a question is stated in negative terms, look for the true answers and the remaining false one will be the correct answer.

8) Words in the stem associated with words in the alternative may be used as a guide.

9) An alternative which is not parallel with the others can be eliminated or selected.

10) Grammatical structure in the stem and the selected alternative should agree.

11) Eliminate alternatives which paraphrase each other or are saying similar points in another form.

12) Read carefully for answers which are stated as direct opposites of the correct answer.

13) Alternatives with qualifiers are more likely to be correct than alternatives with absolute terms.

14) Select the more inclusive alternative.

15) Later questions may provide cues to answer earlier questions.

16) First impressions are usually the best answer unless you have a specific reason for changing it.