

# Math Strategies Students Should Know Before the Exam

*(Strategies humbly borrowed from [www.mathacademy.com](http://www.mathacademy.com))*

Many students get anxious when they hear the word exam. Here are some tips to help you do well:

1. Try not to leave studying to the last minute. Practice exercises from your textbook or your homework notes and worksheets. Try to study at least 15 minutes a day at least two weeks before the exam.
2. On exam day try to eat something before the exam. The brain uses a large amount of energy and needs some fuel to help it work.
3. When you get the exam, look it over thoroughly. Read each question, noting whether it has several parts and its overall weight in the exam. If there is some questions that you feel you know immediately how to do, then do these first.
4. It is extremely common to get the exam, look at the questions and have PANIC set in. This initial panic is common (believe it or not, most of the other students taking the exam are having the same experience.) Take a deep breath and try. Use what you know to help you get started and before long you should be on your way.
5. Math exams are usually timed – remember though that it is not a race! Work efficiently; take the time to make your work neat and ordered. If you get stuck – move on and come back later. It is better to get half marks on one question than to sit and risk not completing the exam.
6. In math, there is more value in what you did to get an answer than to getting just the answer. **SHOW YOUR WORK.**
7. Finally place things in perspective. Remember, the exam will not “test” all your knowledge about math. 80% of your final term mark will be based on all of your classroom work and assignments that you have done so far. The exam is only one small part of your final grade, so...

**DO YOUR BEST.**

