

Short Answer Tests

Conciseness is the sister of talent
Checkhov,
Russian

An instructor's primary purpose

in giving a short-answer test is to cover the material.

Go over your notes and the assigned reading:

- **Prepare for the test**
by studying off of summary sheets that are packed with information within condensed space. Try to categorize the material
- **Use grammatical clues**
within a statement as hints for the correct answer
- **If you can think of several answers**
for a blank or short answer question, let the instructor know.
The instructor may give you a clue to the correct answer he/she's looking for
- **A guess made with common sense**
could get you more test points than if you leave an answer blank.
Don't be a smart aleck if you guess
- **Write your short answers in simple**, telegraphic sentences.
Packing as much information as you can is more important than literary style.

Adapted from Walter Pauk's *How to Study In College*.