

True/False Tests

**Change proves true on the day
it is finished**

I Ching, Book of Changes, Chinese
c 2000 B.C.

Every part of a true sentence must be "true"

If any one part of the sentence is false,
the whole sentence is false despite many other true statements.

Pay close attention to

negatives, qualifiers, absolutes, and long strings of statements

Negatives can be confusing.

If the question contains negatives, as "no, not, cannot"

Drop the negative and read what remains.

Decide whether that sentence is true or false.

If it is true, its opposite, or negative, is usually false

Qualifiers are words that restrict or open up general statements.

Words like "sometimes, often, frequently, ordinarily, generally" open up
the possibilities of making accurate statements. They make more modest
claims, are more likely to reflect reality, and usually indicate "true"
answers.

Absolute words restrict possibilities.

"No, never, none, always, every, entirely, only"

imply the statement must be true 100% of the time and usually indicate
"false" answers

Long sentences often include groups of words set off by punctuation.

Pay attention to the "truth" of each of these phrases.

If one is false, it usually indicates a "false" answer

Guessing:

Often true/false tests contain more true answers than false answers. You have
more than 50% chance of being right with "true". However, your teacher may be the
opposite. Review past tests for patterns...