

# The T.I.Q. Test Taking Strategy

When looking at a reading passage on a test, preview the following elements to see what you can learn about the passage before reading it through:

1. Title
2. Introduction
3. Question(s)



Lisa M. Phillips, M.S. CCC/SLP  
1048 Lancaster Street, Leominster, MA 01453  
Telephone (401) 465-3004 • [www.phillipsspeechtherapy.com](http://www.phillipsspeechtherapy.com)

## **The SCORER Strategy**

**S – Schedule your time.** The student reviews the entire test and plans time to be spent on each item.

**C – Look for Clue words.** For example on true-false items, words such as *always* and *never* usually indicate the statement is false. Words such as *usually* or *sometimes* frequently indicate the statement is true.

**O – Omit difficult questions.** The student should move through the test the first time answering the questions that he/she immediately knows. If he/she finds a question that is not easy to answer, he/she should skip that question and mark it (circle the number or check it, etc.) as a reminder to come back to that question. Students can even jot brief notes in the margin to use later for answering the question.

**R – Read carefully.** A careful reading of test directions and each item often improves test performance by reducing careless errors. Underlining key words with a highlighter or pencil is an effective strategy to follow given direction words.

**E – Estimate your answers.** The student goes back to the question he/she did not answer the first time through the test. The student estimates or makes a best guess. At this point, the student should cross-out choices that he/she knows are incorrect and estimate the answer using the choices that are left.

**R – Review your work.** The student should use every minute available to check his/her work for completion and accuracy. All items should have an answer. The student should not change an answer unless he/she has a good reason. Also, the student should make sure that his/her name is on the test as well as any other information that the teacher requests.