

Reading: Tips and Tricks

This section is not going to give you easy 'tricks' to always get the answer. These tips and tricks are patterns to keep an eye out for and help to guide you towards the right answers.

Answer is always inside the scope of the passage

Answer choice has to be ENTIRELY correct

- ACT frequently makes wrong answer choices where the first half is correct and the second half is incorrect.

Process of elimination is your friend

- Maybe you are not sure of the answer, but can you say for sure it is not one or two of the other answers?
- A 50/50 chance of getting it right is better than a 25% chance

You can do the passages out of order

- If you know one of the passages takes you longer or is harder, you can always do it last. That way if you run out of time, you completed all your best passages and know you will get those points.

It is an open book test!

- Don't forget to go back and find things in the passage. Your recollection will not be 100% accurate, but it doesn't need to be.

ACT has a sneaky way of creating 'trick' answers...

- They use KEY WORDS from the passage that will jog your memory to try to distract you. Make sure the meaning of these answer choices matches the meaning how the keyword(s) are being used in the passage.
- They will list facts that actually happened in the passage, but the fact does not at all answer the question you are being given. Make sure your answer choice is actually answering the given question.