

# 11 TEST TAKING TIPS

## 1 SATA

- Evaluate each option individually
- Rearrange as a True/False
- Question

## 2 ABSOLUTE WORDS

- Always, Never, None, All, Every
- RED FLAGS
- MAY be correct if it's a safety issue

## 3 OPPOSITES

- Two opposite answer choices usually means one is correct
- Review before other options
- Hyper vs Hypo, Acute vs Chronic, Overload vs Deficit

## 4 SAME

- Answer options with the same concept means both are usually incorrect

## 5 PRIORITY

- ABCs, Pain, Education, Feelings
- Which option is closest to Airway?
- ABCs
- **Airway:** NPO, gag reflex, breathing, airway
- **Breathing:** breath sounds, O2 admin, pulse ox, raise HOB
- **Circulation:** HR, BP, CPR, fluid status, diarrhea, IV fluids, central lines, bleeding
- **Safety:** physical (rugs, nightlight, phone, falls) infection (assessing, temp, hand washing, cultures, antibiotics, wounds)
- **Keywords:** priority, emergency, ambulance, returning to floor, see first

## 6 NURSING PROCESS

- Always follow ADPIE

## 7 ACUTE VS CHRONIC

- Content is KING
- If the question is asking about ACUTE condition, one of the options will be about CHRONIC
- Acute vs Chronic, Short Term vs Long Term, Early Signs vs Late Signs

## 8 WHAT DO THEY WANT TO KNOW?

- Read every word of the question
- Remove distractors
- Don't overthink
- Correct or Incorrect Answer (except/further teaching)

## 9 EXPECTED FINDINGS VS COMPLICATIONS

- Rule out expected findings

## 10 REPEATING WORDS

- Last ditch effort, when all else fails
- Look for repeating words in question and answer options

## 11 NCLEX® QUESTION TRAPS

- No Assessment
- Incomplete Assessment
- Incorrect Assessment
- "First" doesn't always mean assessment
- "Action" doesn't always mean implementation
- Determine the outcome of each answer option