



Analyzing Returned Tests

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date of test: _____

Directions:

- List the number for each test question you missed in the item column that corresponds with the reason you answered the question incorrectly.
- Total the number of missed questions in each row to determine what factors most affected your test performance.
- Review possible solutions for test errors.

Table 1. Analyzing Returned Test Questions

Category	Reason for Error	Item	Item	Item	Item	Item	Item	Totals
Ineffective Study Strategies	I did not read the textbook effectively.							
Ineffective Study Strategies	The information was not in my notes.							
Ineffective Study Strategies	I studied the information but could not remember it.							
Ineffective Study Strategies	I knew main ideas but needed details.							
Ineffective Study Strategies	I knew the information but could not apply it.							
Ineffective Study Strategies	I studied the wrong information.							
Ineffective Study Strategies	Missed or did not understand vocabulary or terms.							

Category	Reason for Error	Item	Item	Item	Item	Item	Item	Totals
Ineffective Study Strategies	Answer did not match the essay directive/key word.							
Test Anxiety	I experienced mental block.							
Test Anxiety	I was tired during the test and could not concentrate.							
Test Anxiety	I was hungry during the test and could not concentrate.							
Test Anxiety	I panicked.							
Careless Mistakes	I made careless mistakes; I knew the correct answer.							
Careless Mistakes	I changed a correct answer to a wrong one.							
Careless Mistakes	I misread the directions.							
Careless Mistakes	I misread or misunderstood the question.							
Careless Mistakes	I wrote an incomplete response.							
Lack of Test Wisdom	I did not notice a double negative statement.							
Lack of Test Wisdom	I did not eliminate obviously incorrect choices.							
Lack of Test Wisdom	I did not choose the best answer choice.							

Category	Reason for Error	Item	Item	Item	Item	Item	Item	Totals
Lack of Test Wisdom	I did not notice limiting words.							
Lack of Test Wisdom	I made poor use of the time provided on the test.							

For more information on analyzing returned tests, make an appointment with an [academic coach](#). Appointments are available in person at the [Student Success Center](#) or online.

Adapted from the College Learning and Study Skills, 6th edition, Long and Atkinson, Wadsworth Publishing, 2002.