

The Midterm and Final Exam Countdown – How to Prepare

4 Weeks before the Exam

- Find all quizzes and tests taken throughout the year (or semester depending on what the exam will cover)
- Make a copy of each quiz and test
- Write out the answers to each problem so that blank assessments are created
- If you think you will need help with difficult problems, make plans to work with a tutor. You should consider a longer session of about 2 hours
- Make a detailed schedule outlining the time you will commit to studying over the next four weeks.

3 Weeks before the Exam

- Work backwards on the blank assessments - begin with the most recent assessments since this is most likely the most difficult material
- Begin working through the problems on the blank assessments - the goal is to complete about 1/3 of the assessments before entering the 2 week mark
- Be sure to re-work EVERY PROBLEM so that you are very comfortable with the concepts
- Place a star next to any questions that cannot be solved so that you can collect the questions and get help
- Go see your teacher and schedule a few appointments to work together during the 2 weeks before the exam

2 Weeks before the Exam

- Continue working through the problems on the blank assessments - the goal is to complete an additional 1/3 of the blank assessments BEFORE entering the last week
- Take the starred problems that you collected to your teacher or tutor. Sessions with your teacher or tutor will only be valuable if you have taken the time to identify areas where you need help.
- Ask your teacher for a list of topics that will be covered on the final exam
- Ask your teacher for a review packet of problems that would be good to do to prepare for the final exam

1 Week before the Exam

- Don't panic! You began your preparation early – Remember?
- Complete the remaining 1/3 of the blank assessments
- Take the starred problems that you collected to your teacher or tutor. Sessions with your teacher or tutor will only be valuable if you have taken the time to identify areas where you need help.
- Begin working on the review packet or problem set assigned by your teacher
- Attend any study session offered by your teacher or another teacher in the same department

A Few Days before the Exam

- Complete the review packet or problem set assigned by your teacher
- Make a final list of any questions that you cannot solve and take these questions and get help from your teacher or tutor
- Make a list of all of the formulae that you need to memorize for the final exam - MEMORIZE THEM
- Choose 3 random (odd) problems from each textbook Chapter Test and solve. Check answers in the back of the book.

Exam Day

After a good night's rest, eat a good breakfast and take a few snacks to school with you. You don't need luck because you are prepared!