

General Test Taking Tips

- 🕒 Get a good night's sleep each night for a week leading up to your MCAS exam.
- 🕒 Eat right. Have pasta for dinner the night before your test and a high protein breakfast.
- 🕒 Read and follow the directions carefully.
- 🕒 Be prepared to work for the entire test session.
- 🕒 Star problems you are having trouble with, BUT make sure you go back to them when you have finished the other test items.
- 🕒 Read all the options and choose the "best answer." Don't choose the first answer that seems reasonable. Read all of the choices to find the best answer.
- 🕒 Mark your answers neatly and carefully.
- 🕒 If you aren't sure, guess wisely. Eliminate as many answers as you can.
- 🕒 Check your accuracy.



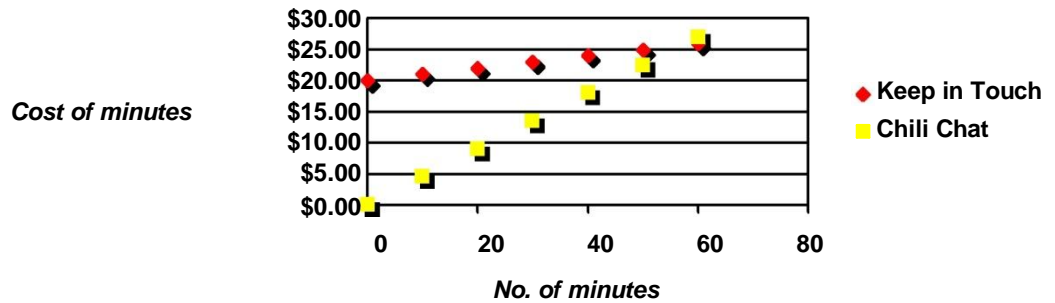
Tips for Answering All Multiple Choice Questions

- 🕒 Read the question completely.
- 🕒 Go back through the question and underline or highlight the details relative to answering the question.
- 🕒 Read all of the answers before making a selection.
- 🕒 Eliminate answers that are obviously wrong.
- 🕒 Make sure you have marked only one answer for each question.
- 🕒 Erase changes or other markings completely.
- 🕒 If you decide to skip a question, make sure you skip it on the answer sheet too.
- 🕒 Go with your first impression; it's usually right!

SHOW WHAT YOU KNOW

Tips for Answering Math Open Response Questions

- Look over any graphs or tables. Write out in words in your test booklet what the information in the graph or table is telling you.



Example: This graph plots the relationship between the number of minutes used (x-axis) and the cost of the minutes (y-axis) for two different plans.

- Read, Read and RE-READ the question. Read the question carefully, more than once, to make sure you understand what the question is asking. As you solve the problem, go back to the question to make sure you have in fact answered it.
- Highlight or underline the question being asked and any other information important to answering the question.

Example: Jeremy had some cinder blocks that he was going to use to build a short wall on his patio, next to his garden. Each block is 10 inches long. What is the total length of a row of 4 blocks? Show your work and explain how you got the answer.

$$10 \text{ in.} + 10 \text{ in.} + 10 \text{ in.} + 10 \text{ in.} = 40 \text{ in.}$$

* Remember that all formulas are on your Math MCAS Reference Sheet.

Tips for Answering Math Open Response Questions (continued)

- Label and clearly show all steps and drawings.
- Include formulas, drawings, math vocabulary, and examples. Be as clear as you can. Don't forget to use your Math MCAS Reference Sheet to help you!

Example: What is the area of a rectangle that has a length of 12 feet and a width of 2 feet?

$$A = l \times w \text{ (The area of a rectangle is the length times width)}$$

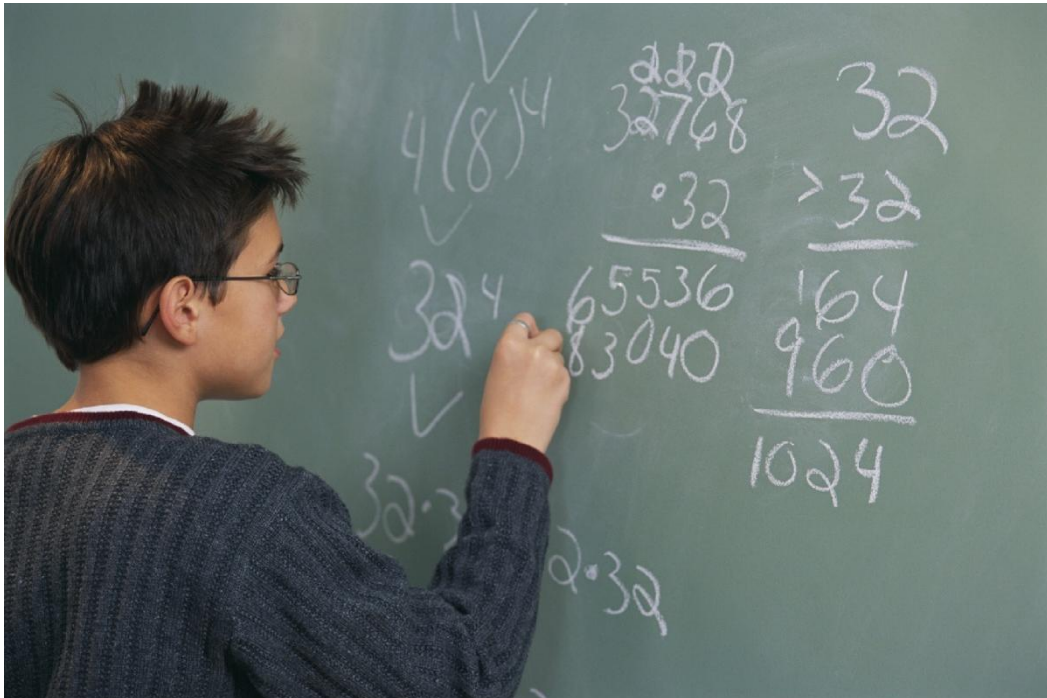


$$A = 12 \text{ ft} \times 2 \text{ ft}$$

$$A = 24 \text{ ft}^2$$

- Restate the question or prompt in your answer.
- Make sure you answered the question that was asked and if you have to, circle the final answer with the correct units.

24 ft²



SHOW WHAT YOU KNOW