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Test Preparation Report Prepared for

Sample Report

Student Name

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## Your Personalized Guide to Effective Test Preparation

Each individual has a personal test-taking style that influences how he or she tends to study and prepare for tests, which can impact performance. Knowing your style allows you to take advantage of the better ways for you to listen, process, study, and respond on tests, allowing you to more effectively manage the learning and develop strategies that will work best for you.

These suggestions are aimed at the style you selected based on your responses when you took the MMTIC® assessment. On occasion an individual may disagree with the results. Examine the ideas offered and determine if they fit you well.

Everyone has a test preparation style with unique testing strengths, challenges, and factors that cause stress. Recognizing yours gives you an edge to help you do your best.



*"If your question is good, my answer will be good."*



### Your Testing Strengths

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You tend to clarify your thinking and learning best when you study independently. If you chose to work with a team, you will want them to stretch your learning to new levels. You enjoy the challenge of learning but want to get assigned tasks off your list so you can concentrate on what is interesting in life. Reading the information thoroughly prior to a group review, allows you to create mental files for the information that you can review later. When you explain your ideas to others, they tend to be clearly organized and precise. Playful banter while you study together can be annoying if you begin to believe the playfulness is interfering with the effectiveness of the study session. Generating new possibilities is where you excel and when working with others inspires new insights the session was worth your effort.

- Independent study gives you the chance to organize information and working with a team gives you the chance to explore your ideas in new ways.
- Reduce playful banter during the study session but allocate time for social interaction during breaks.
- Make a list of the topics to be assessed to be sure you invest some time studying each of the areas. Working with others will help clarify if there is a weak area that requires more attention.

You tend to use information to inspire new thoughts. The information can come from multiple points and can be randomly presented so long as you are able to tie a connection between the singular pieces. At periodic times you will need to stop creating new ideas and gather supporting details. Begin by taking the chapter outlines or the test areas and make a list under each of the specifics that you must know. This will help you limit your energy to the more critical elements to be learned.

- Collecting facts and recalling details is a stretch for you unless you see their relevance to a main idea.
- Develop a frame or outline of the topics to be tested. Challenge yourself to be able to list three to four specifics under each of the topic areas.
- Visualize each topic as a "mental hanger" and let the supporting facts "hang onto" that hanger. You learn well with visualizations and this strategy allows you to identify the themes the specific units of information comprise so you get a better "bigger picture" of the information.

You prefer working on multiple tasks so long as you have time to complete all of the assignments. If you are studying math you may take a break by completing a vocabulary review. Workbooks and textbooks provide less effective review for you because specific questions limit your range of interests. The practice of taking the pretests will help acquaint you with the phrasing of the exam questions. You may want to argue the relevance or the phrasing of many of the questions but that opportunity will not be there on test day so the practice lets you get your potential irritation at the style out of your system.

Essays allow you the opportunity to explore multiple perspectives and to present a case for your position and you readily use data and details to support your position statements.

- Multiple-choice tests are good so long as you can defend your choice. You look at the issues uniquely and can bring a new perspective during discussions or essay exams that can be missed in a multiple-choice test. The results may underestimate your knowledge level of the topic.
- Workbooks give you a chance to practice according to the structure of the test as it is designed.
- Using the idea of a hanger allows you to group your recall of details under a theme (a hanger) so you can recall several specifics for each topic area.

You are a person who values intuition and new thoughts. One practice opportunity may be sufficient to help you get a general idea of the test format. Essays, when available, give you the chance to take the concepts in new directions and expose your learning best. Working with others is a way to process information informally and to learn how others apply the information. The interchange will also allow you the opportunity to share your ideas and defend them adequately with sufficient details if challenged by the group.

You tend to prefer general overviews with an outline format such as you would find in pre-packaged materials. Challenge yourself to be able to identify at least three or four specific comments or examples about each topic area. Practice problems help you prepare but you get bored with them quickly and may only want to review them once. Repeating the process does not seem to increase your effectiveness. Errors in answers are more likely from not being able to determine what the question was asking than in not knowing the information about the topic.

- Pre-packaged overviews are helpful.

## Your Testing Challenges

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You tend to work in planful bursts of energy. You may work diligently for a while, put the material away for weeks, and then plunge in again for another review so long as it is part of your overall plan to get the studying done before the test date. Working against the deadline is stressful so you are better prepared if you have periodic times to study. You also like to get the task completed so you may even choose to jump in and study intensely so you can be prepared early. Details learned months ago can be easily forgotten unless there is a hanger or mnemonic to help your recall. Since details can clog your natural inclinations, you must force yourself to develop a system for recalling them.

- Have a timeline generated that allows you to dedicate time to study. In depth studying interspersed with other projects allows you to respect your need for variety while still getting closure to the obligation to review everything.
- Have a system for organizing details to facilitate their recall.

When the concept is complicated and you are able to understand it, the task is fun. When the concept is complicated and you are unable to understand it, the task is frustrating. Have a person in mind that you can call to help you clarify concepts when they are confusing. Work in a quiet location when the concepts are difficult. Have a mentor you can call for assistance if needed so you can keep on studying.

- When tasks are open-ended, you do your best. You want to know clearly what is expected so you can do that and more. Vague questions can be annoying unless you have a prepared strategy to filter the vague phrases into more accurate questions. Essay questions that require you to explore new possible connections are exciting because this gives you the freedom to demonstrate what you know and to defend your position.
- Prepare yourself for specific questions. Acknowledge that multiple answers are possible but ask yourself what is the most realistic or what the majority of others would likely select.

Planning your study routine helps you to study more effectively and efficiently. Have one or two coping strategies to help you when life throws a bump into your plans and you have to reorganize your study schedule to accommodate unexpected events.

- Have one or two coping strategies to use when others violate your plans and you have to accommodate unexpected changes.

You tend to do well with objective multiple-choice exams unless you get caught up with the wording of the question. You may read so quickly that you think you knew what they were asking but miss significant words as "not." You may assume what they should be asking under that topic but the specific nature of the question was ignored. You should be able to explain to yourself why each answer is incorrect. If you cannot, reread the question. At times, you may read so extensively that you "overlearn" the material and test questions appear too basic. You may read more into the question than was intended when you change the simple into something more complex.

You also have a tendency to be skeptical about the value of tests to determine a person's competency so a part of you will resist having to take the test in the first place. Once you commit to taking the test, you will want to do well to prove that you did learn the needed information.

- You may read more into questions than was intended.
- Be able to identify why each answer choice is wrong or why the correct one is accurate. If you cannot, reread the question for accuracy.

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## Your Test Preparation Style

There are many ways to prepare for a test. Your style tends to prefer those that are marked but you can and should consider using any strategy that helps advance your skills and prepares you for the content of the test you will take.

Test Preparation Tools	Your Style Preferences
Reading printed test preparation materials	✓
Participating in interactive online tutorials	
Accessing online tutorials that are review only	
Accessing personal one-to-one tutorials	✓
Taking practice tests	
Taking a practice test that tells why every choice is right or wrong and why	✓
Taking a classroom course in the content and testing format	
Participating in team or group study (unstructured)	
Participating in team or group study (structured and led by a trainer)	✓
Mentoring or consulting with others who took the test previously to learn of their experiences	
Listening to audio recordings	
Using "massed practice" or cramming at the last moment	
Using "distributed practice" or studying an hour a day over time	✓
Using chat room study with others who will take the test if you can participate by listening	
Being "quizzed" by someone and getting immediate feedback about your answers	✓
Taking frequent breaks while studying	
Studying topics of interest first followed by less interesting content	✓
Studying topics sequentially so one set of information builds on the other	
Playing content-based video challenge games (may not be available in all content areas)	
Setting a study goal that paces your work and divides it over time	✓

Each style has a preferred type of test to take. At times, how a test question is written (the length of the sentences, confusing terms, multiple outcomes, etc.) will be more critical than the overall format of the test. Your style preferences are indicated below.

Test Format	Your Style Preference
Multiple Choice with one correct answer	
Multiple Choice with multiple correct answers	✓
Essay	✓
True/False	✓
Penalized for guessing	
Not penalized for guessing	✓

### Study Suggestions That Work Best for Your Style

You may not always prefer to study this way but the suggestions will work well for helping you prepare best for the test you will take.

- Study in planned bursts of energy and set goals for each session. Keep to the plan once it is developed.
- Be able to read a practice question and tell why the answer is correct or why the choice is incorrect. This will prepare you for changes in the phrasing of similar questions.
- Participate in a webinar that allows you to enter and exit as needed for specific review sections.
- Review a completed essay to be sure you have included sufficient details for the reader to clearly understand the foundation for your position.
- Make a list of topics that **MUST** be mastered for the test
- Use analogies and metaphors to increase your recall of specifics.
- Study on your own. Review difficult material with knowledgeable others.
- Read the content thoroughly before group study. Scan it later for review.
- Use a planned schedule for study. Plan for breaks and for emergency interruptions by including some flex time in your schedule.
- Know whether guessing will be penalized. You tend to guess well and count on that freedom to increase your score. Knowing there is no penalty encourages you to risk more answers. If there is a significant penalty you may want to resist the urge to guess.
- Research ways others prepare to gain hints that may be helpful for you, also.



Center for Applications of Psychological Type, Inc | 2815 NW 13th Street, Suite 401 | Gainesville, FL 32609 USA | [www.capt.org](http://www.capt.org)

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