

Competitive Events Preparation Tips List

Top 10 Ways to Prepare for Objective Tests

1. Review and thoroughly study the competitive event testing expectations at fbla-pbl.org.
2. Visit quizlet.com to find pre-made study sets for the competitive event.
3. Read through a textbook section or chapter on the topic
4. Ask a senior member of your chapter for advice on the topic. Try to find somebody who has competed in the topic before.
5. Watch YouTube videos of university lectures on the topic.
6. Reserve an hour or two each day only for exclusively studying for the topic. Pace yourself so that you don't have to study in the 24 hours before the test.
7. While studying, stay off of your phone and social media.
8. Ask a teacher in the respective topic for help if you are struggling to figure out a topic.
9. Contact the past winners from your state or region and ask for studying advice.
10. Get at least 8 hours of sleep the night before the test.

Top 10 Ways to Prepare for Performance Events

1. Review and thoroughly study the competitive event performance expectations at fbla-pbl.org. Performance events are judged by a straightforward and strict rubric so make sure you are meeting all of the requirements on the rubric.
2. Watch performances of the top competitors at past years' National Leadership Conference. Recording performances can often be found on YouTube.
3. If you are submitting pre-judged material, make sure the material is submitted by the due date (can be found at mdfbla.org).
4. Practice your competitive event to the point where you have your presentation memorized and can compete without a slideshow. Still use the slideshow in your competition but memorizing the slideshow ensures it will be a higher quality presentation.
5. Ask a senior member of your chapter for advice on the topic. Try to find somebody who has competed in the topic before.
6. Make sure that your presentation has a clean design and is visually appealing.
7. Practice the presentation in front of others leading up the competition and revise as necessary.
8. If competing with team members, make sure each person knows their cues to start speaking.
9. If competing with team members, each team member should be familiar with each of their teammates' section in case their teammate is unexpectedly unable to present.
10. Get at least 8 hours of sleep the night before the presentation.