Test Taking – Help with True/False Tests
The SQUID Method

Statements that are absolute are usually false.

- Words such as these represent absolutes: *ALL*, *EVERY*, *NEVER*, and *NO* are usually FALSE.

- Examples: All animal are reptiles. Every person in the Congress is a man.

> **Usually False:**
>
> Statements that contain the words:
>
> All ~ Every ~ Never ~ No

Qualified statements are usually true.

- Words such as these represent qualifiers: *SOME, MOST* and *SOMETIMES* are usually TRUE.

- Examples: Some animal are reptiles. Most of the persons in the Congress are men.

> **Usually True**
>
> Statements that contain the words:
>
> Some ~ Most ~ Sometimes

Underline the negatives.

- Words such as these are negatives: *NOT, CANNOT, DO NOT, NO,* the prefix *IN* (incomplete) or the prefix *UN* (unimportant) in each statement.

- Examples: Washington D.C. is <u>not</u> the capital of the United States. 365 days is an <u>in</u>complete year.

> <u>**Underline**</u> **negatives:**
>
> Not ~ Cannot ~ Do Not ~ No
>
> In-   ~   Un-

If a statement has 2 negatives, cross out both negatives.

- Cross out both of the negatives and read the sentence without them. This will clearly show the meaning.

- Examples: People will buy luxury goods if they have disposable income. People will ~~not~~ buy luxury good if they do ~~not~~ have disposable income.

> **Delete negatives:**
>
> We will not ski if it does not snow.
>
> We will ~~not~~ ski if it does ~~not~~ snow

Decide that a statement is TRUE only if EVERYTHING about the statement is true.

- Items on a test often include information that is true, except for a detail, so pay close attention to the complete statement.

- Examples: Massachusetts and Virginia were all part of the original 13 colonies (true because bothwere part of the original 13 colonies). Massachusetts, and Montana were all part of the original 13 colonies (not true because Montana was not one of the original 13 colonies).

> **Decide:**
>
> Is everything about the statement TRUE?
>
> If yes, the statement is TRUE
>
> If no, the statement is FALSE

St. Lawrence College

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