Question Types & Strategies

BPS

Question Type	Main Characteristics	Strategy
Background	Tests basic or explicit knowledge; facts	Mainly memorization
Foreground	Tests application of the facts to a potentially real life situation requiring tacit knowledge	Utilize explicit knowledge along with greater depth where understanding occurs.
Negative	Uses words like Not, Except, and Never; asking for the answer that doesn't fit	Consider turning question into a T/F where the false answer is correct
Conjunction	Connects 2 components that are equally important using words like and, but, for, nor, yet	Treat each part as its own question. If one part of the answer is wrong, all of it is wrong and it can be eliminated
Two-Step	2 component question in which the second component is dependent on the answer to the first	Work in order on one component at a time, and again BOTH component need to be satisfied for the answer to be correct
Bait & Switch	Begins to lead you in one direction, but then switches gears	Identify the actual question being asked - usually the last sentence
Case-Based	Provides a lot of background information in order to assess your ability to problem solve, make decisions, and think critically. i.e., "Clinical judgement"	Read the ENTIRE case to maintain context for the question. Do not skip to the question and then try to find the info.