Test-Taking Tip #3

Critical Reading

Your points on a test come from answering the question correctly, not from reading the passage (sad, but true).

* Big Picture Questions ask about the main point/ purpose of the passage, the author’s tone, and the logic of the argument
* Small Picture Questions ask about drawing conclusions or relating parts between portions of the passage (2/3 of the SAT questions may be small picture questions)
1. Cover your answers
2. Read the Title, the first paragraph, and the first sentence of each subsequent paragraph.
3. Read the question.
4. Find the portion of the passage that the question deals with.
5. Predict your answer.
6. Eliminate.
7. Guess.