

## How to deal with Negative Marking in Entrance Exams

### BEFORE THE EXAMINATION:

- **EXAM PATTERN:** Before giving any exam, be familiar with the exam pattern. This information is easily available from the internet. You should know the Number of questions, Time Limit, Expected Cut-off marks, No. of attempts required with a fair bit of accuracy.
- **ANALYSIS and TIME MANAGEMENT:** As one knows his/her strong domains, you can allocate time for yourself as to how much time is to be devoted to the particular sections. This would avoid you coming in the temptation of doing more than required question in any particular section.
- **SUBJECT KNOWLEDGE:** Just be familiar with formulas, short cut methods, theorems and all the necessary information. You can't just afford to make guesses in the exam.

### DURING THE EXAMINATION:

- **Avoid FLUKES:** There is nothing called "THE MAGIC DICE" that will tell you the right answer. If you continue to go by that approach, be mentally prepared for a disaster.
- **CAPITALIZE on your strengths:** In the heat of the examination, people fail to locate easier questions or the type of questions they have already done. Just scan the paper and mark the questions which you could try to do.
- **Don't be in HURRY:** Panic and stress can lead you to this mistake. Instead of marking option A of Q.34 some people mark the option A of Q.33. While you think you marked a correct option, the result may be a little different than what you anticipated. So, don't rush!!! Just check before you mark the options.
- **No need to ANSWER all questions:** If there is negative marking and if you are familiar with only 80 % of all questions, do them correctly and leave the rest!!!... Do not think that you did better by answering all questions, if you are not sure of many.
- **Try your LUCK only when there are 2 options:** This should be done only after answering all known questions with their correct answers and if you have time and if you are not in panic. If you know that 2 options among 4 are not the right answer and among the other 2 options, one could be a right answer; then try your luck carefully...
- **Avoid Erasing:** Any kind of stray remarks can get you cancel your OMR sheet. Don't keep erasing and changing your answers. Sometimes when they are not completely erased, these can be detected by the machine checking your sheet resulting in NEGATIVE MARKING!!!!