

BAR REVIEW SECRETS- THE KEY TO WINNING FIRST

- INTRODUCTION- DO I REALLY NEED BARBRI?
 - PURPOSE: ENHANCE THE QUALITY OF YOUR ESSAY TEST ANSWERS
 - GOAL: TO WIN THE 2-12 EXTRA POINTS THROUGH
 - ORGANIZATION, DISCIPLINE, PLANNING, AND EXECUTION
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BAR REVIEW SECRETS- THE KEY TO WINNING FIRST

- INTRODUCTION- CONTINUED
- NOT TRYING TO TEACH OR FOCUS ON CONTENT OR SUBSTANTIVE LAW



BAR REVIEW SECRETS- THE KEY TO WINNING FIRST

- BEGIN BY UNDERSTANDING THE ASSIGNMENT- WHAT IS BEING TESTED
 - THE FLORIDA BAR INSTRUCTIONS
 - Applicable Law
 - Questions on the Florida Bar Examination should be answered in accordance with applicable law in force at the time of examination. Questions on Part A are designed to test your knowledge of both general law and Florida law. When Florida law varies from general law, the question should be answered in accordance with Florida law.
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- **Acceptable Essay Answer**
 - **Analysis of the Problem** - The answer should demonstrate your ability to analyze the question and correctly identify the issues of law presented. The answer should demonstrate your ability to articulate, classify and answer the problem presented. A broad general statement of law indicates an inability to single out a legal issue and apply the law to its solution.
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- *Knowledge of the Law* - *The answer should demonstrate your knowledge of legal rules and principles and your ability to state them accurately on the examination as they relate to the issue presented by the question. The legal principles and rules governing the issues presented by the question should be stated concisely and succinctly without undue elaboration.*
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- Application and Reasoning - *The answer should demonstrate your capacity to reason logically by applying the appropriate rule or principle of law to the facts of the question as a step in reaching a conclusion. This involves making a correct preliminary determination as to which of the facts given in the question are legally important and which, if any, are legally irrelevant insofar as the applicable rule or principle is concerned. The line of reasoning adopted by you should be clear and consistent, without gaps or digressions.*
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- Style - *The answer should be written in a clear, concise expository style with attention to organization and conformity with grammatical rules.*
 - Conclusion - *If the question calls for a specific conclusion or result, the conclusion should clearly appear at the end of the answer, stated concisely without undue elaboration or equivocation. An answer which consists entirely of conclusions, unsupported by statements or discussion of the rules or reasoning on which they are based, is entitled to little credit.*
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- Suggestions:
 - Do not anticipate trick questions or attempt to read in hidden meanings or facts not clearly expressed by the questions.
 - Read and analyze the question carefully before commencing your answer.
 - Think through to your conclusion before writing your opinion.
 - Avoid answers setting forth extensive discussions of the law involved or the historical basis for the law.
 - When the question is sufficiently answered, stop.
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BAR REVIEW SECRETS- THE KEY TO WINNING FIRST

- WHO IS THE CREATOR AND AUTHOR OF THIS TEST?
 - WHO HAS AUTHORITY OVER HOW THIS TEST IS ADMINISTERED TO YOU?
 - WHO WILL ADMINISTER THE GRADING OF YOUR EXAM ANSWERS?
 - WHO WILL DETERMINES WHETHER YOUR EXAM ANSWER EITHER PASS OR FAIL?
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BAR REVIEW SECRETS- THE KEY TO WINNING FIRST

- **(I) ANALYZE, READ AND UNDERSTAND**
 - IDENTIFY THE SPECIFIC ISSUES OF LAW
 - IDENTIFY SPECIFIC LEGAL RULES OR PRINCIPLES
 - AVOID GENERAL STATEMENTS OF THE LAW
 - TAKE A POSITION, BE UNEQUIVOCAL
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- **(R)** ACCURATELY STATE THE LEGAL RULE OR PRINCIPLE OF LAW
 - WRITE/STATE THE RULES OR LEGAL PRINCIPALS IN SHORT PLAIN SENTENCES
 - PRACTICE SIMPLICITY AND BREVITY
 - AVOID FLUFF AND BLA, BLA, BLA!
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- **(A) YOU MUST REASON LOGICALLY ON PAPER= MAKE SENSE!**
 - **REASONING=APPLYING SPECIFIC LAW TO FACTS**
 - **SPECIFIC LAW =LEGAL RULES OR PRINCIPLES**
 - **SPECIFIC LEGAL RULES= EACH/EVERY ELEMENT OF THE RULE**
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- REASONING LOGICALLY-CONTINUED
 - CORRECTLY DETERMINING WHAT FACTS ARE IMPORTANT
 - CORRECTLY DETERMINING WHAT FACTS ARE UNIMPORTANT
 - APPLICATION OF LAW TO FACT MUST BE UNEQUIVOCAL, CLEAR AND CONSISTENT
 - AVOID GAPS= ADDRESS EACH ELEMENT
 - AVOID DIGRESSION= NO POINTS FOR BLA, BLA, BLA!!
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- (C) PLEASE STATE WHAT YOUR CONCLUSION IS
 - RING THE BELL!!
 - TAKE A POSITION, BE UNEQUIVICAL IN YOUR CONCLUSION
 - BE CLEAR, BE CONCISE
 - NO NEED TO ELABORATE- YOU JUST DID THAT!
 - DON'T EQUIVOCATE (I SAID THAT)
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- NOTE ON CONCLUSIONS:
 - *Somebody's exam answer will inevitably consist entirely of conclusions, unsupported by statements or discussion of the rules or reasoning on which they are based and they will get little credit.*
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- WHOSE STYLE IS IMPORTANT, YOURS OR THEIRS?
 - THEY LIKE THE ABCs
 - ACCURACY
 - CLARITY
 - BREVITY-CONCISE
 - THEY LIKE ORGANIZATION
 - THEY LIKE ATTENTION TO GRAMMAR
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BAR REVIEW SECRETS- THE KEY TO WINNING FIRST

- ORGANIZATION TIPS
 - READ THE INSTRUCTIONS AGAIN
 - READ SEVERAL FLORIDA BAR STUDY GUIDES
 - COMMIT AND PLAN FOR A FOCUSED STUDYING REGIMEN
 - YOUR REGIMEN SHOULD ENCOMPASS 8-12 HOURS OF STUDYING PER DAY
 - YOUR REGIMEN SHOULD INCLUDE TIME FOR DAILY LIFE ACTIVITIES (Sleep, exercise, family time, entertainment etc.)
 - DO YOU HAVE TO WORK?
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BAR REVIEW SECRETS- THE KEY TO WINNING FIRST

- **PLANNING TIPS**
 - **ARE YOU COMMITTED**
 - **EXAMINE YOUR STRENGTHS**
 - **EXAMINE YOUR WEAKNESSES**
 - **PLAN AND STUDY TO YOUR WEAKNESS**
 - **PLAN BACKWARDS FROM THE EXAM DATE**
 - **PREPARE YOUR FAMILY, FRIENDS AND JOB IN ADVANCE**
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BAR REVIEW SECRETS- THE KEY TO WINNING FIRST

- DISCIPLINE AND EXECUTION
 - ACCEPT THE GOAL
 - ACCEPT THE PLAN
 - JUST DO IT!

