

**DYNAMICS OF TEST-TAKING IN COLLEGE STUDENTS AT THE UNITED
ARAB EMIRATES UNIVERSITY**

AHMED A. ALNAJJAR

United Arab Emirates University (UAEU) Department of Psychology and Counselling
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Al Ain, United Arab Emirates

ABSTRACT

This paper investigated the dynamics of test-taking, relative to the extent to which college students in the United Arab Emirates, employed test-taking strategies, before the test; in managing their time for the test; during the test; and after the test. This paper applied the test-taking strategy scale, developed by Dodeen (2008), who called for additional applications, to validate the scale using different samples, from different educational levels. All in all, a total of 549 students from different colleges in the United Arab Emirates University, participated in the survey. The findings showed that, the students employed a wide variety of test-taking strategies and responded to tests, either proactively or reactively, depending on the degree of preparation that they have. It was also evident that, the extent of use of test-taking strategies was crucial to the preparation and actual test action. On the whole, the dynamics of test-taking, among the students can be shaped by the confluence of a number of factors, but having greater control over circumstances generated by the inevitability of test-taking, can likely translate to better performance, when reinforced by proper skills in test taking.

KEYWORDS: Test-Taking, Test-Taking Strategy, Academic Anxiety, Time Management, After-Test Strategy