

Rowe's Timed Testing Strategy

- After the students have practiced previewing questions, reading and making selective notes, using the process of elimination, and analyzing questions, now is the time for THEM to see if they've got it or not and to feel the time.
- The first week give students ONE passage and give them only the average time they will have for the test. Give them 17-20 minutes this week, but cut it back a minute each week.
- The 2nd week, they get TWO passages and the third week, they get three. (This will change this year with the new test. It used to be three passages in each session but now they may have four), but the goal is to increase the time/#of passages each week until they are at a full session.
- Don't require them to answer every question. It becomes a real eye-opener, though, when they realize that they have left some blank. That usually only happens the first week, At that point discuss how to deal with blank answers. Making an educated guess is better than leaving it blank.
- They respond really well to doing this activity once a week, and past students have stated that this practice made a difference for them.
- Don't spend a lot of time with the evaluation. Put the answers up for them to score their own papers before collecting them.