

**Table 1. Rubric items used to evaluate MCQ quality and associated item-writing flaws**

<b>Rubric Item</b>	<b>Definition</b>	<b>Related Item-Writing Flaws</b>
stem_clarity	Is the question stem phrased clearly and unambiguously, facilitating the understanding of what is being asked?	Ambiguous or unclear information, Unfocused stem
stem_conciseness	Is the question stem free of unnecessary information for answering the question?	Gratuitous information
options_clarity	Are all options phrased clearly and unambiguously?	Ambiguous or unclear information
distractors_plausibility	Are the incorrect options feasible to students with partial understanding, yet clearly incorrect for well-prepared students?	Implausible distractors
grammatical_consistency	Are all options grammatically consistent with the stem?	Grammatical cues
option_uniformity	Are all options similar in length and structure, avoiding cues that could lead to the correct answer?	Longest option correct
single_answer	Is there exactly one, and only one, option that is clearly the best or correct answer among those provided?	More than one correct
absence_cues	Is the correct answer identified by knowledge on the topic instead of repeating words found in the question stem and not in distractors?	Word repeats
topic_related	Is the question related to the topic given in the prompt?	—
grammatical_correctness	Is the entire question grammatically correct and free from typographical errors?	—
complexity	Does the question require deeper analysis, more than basic fact recall/memorization?	—
poscomp_aligned	Is the question aligned with the format usually covered in past POSCOMP exams?	—