***How to Ace Mathematics Board Examination***

Mathematics is considered to be the most challenging subject of board examinations, though it is the most time consuming but it's also proven to be the highest-scoring one. Many students face anxiety even before attempting the exam, and they burden themselves with the stress of outperforming other students. They are scared of this subject because they find it difficult to complete the answers on time. Mathematics is an application and formula based subject, which requires firm conceptual based knowledge and daily practice to master the skills of solving questions in time.

Recently, CBSE has reformed the pedagogy of teaching mathematics at the higher secondary level as it has introduced two separate levels of papers which are Standard Maths Exam, and Basic Maths Exam having the same syllabus but different levels of questions, in order to relieve the stress of board aspirants. Students who do not wish to pursue mathematics at the higher secondary level can opt-out by selecting a basic mathematics exam. Several factors like an internal assessment, MCQ questions, and more internal choices have successfully led to effective time management during the board examination.

Here are some tips listed below that will help students in the preparation of the exam:

1. **Knowing Structure of the Question Paper**: Students are advised to go through previous year question papers in order to get familiar with the ongoing pattern of the exam, and the marking scheme followed in the paper pattern. There will be 40 questions including objective and MCQ ones which are to be solved under 3 hours.

The first section includes MCQs for a weightage of about 20 marks, these are short answer based questions and time allotment should be of 40 to 45 minutes for this section.

The second section will consist of 6 application based questions for a weightage of about 12 marks, therefore students must be well versed with formulas and they should allow 30 to 35 minutes of time for this section.

The third section includes 8 construction and application-based questions for a total weightage of about 24 marks, which will require effective practice and accuracy for about 40 to 45 minutes.

The last section has 6 questions for a total weightage of 24 marks, based on statistics, trigonometry, and probability with internal choices. Students should avoid calculation mistakes and must allow 40 to 45 minutes for this section.

2. **Knowing the Marking Scheme**: Students should keep in mind the marking scheme for each section they are attempting a question from, and thus devote equivalent time to each section according to its marking importance. Thus, proper time management is followed and no question will be left unanswered due to time constraints. Knowing the marking scheme helps in formulating a well-rehearsed strategy of attempting the examination.

3. **Reading the Questions Thoroughly**: Before the commencement of the exam, students are provided 15 minutes extra to go through the question paper and read and understand each and every question carefully before attempting any section. This strategy helps in preparing a flow in students' minds to answer the questions by prioritizing them, which includes answering the known questions initially. The extra time provided for reading and understanding the questions prove to be vital as several students have earlier missed out on key concepts framed in the questions.

4. **Keeping a Check on Time Elapsed**: Students should wear an analog watch to the examination hall, which is not prohibited by the examiner. While attempting each section, students should keep in mind their strategy towards prioritizing and answering the questions. This will help the students to manage their time adequately in the examination hall under stress.

5. **Starting with Easy Questions**: Students should not waste their time fretting over the complex questions put specifically to waste their time, these questions will develop anxiety in aspirants and they might lose control over their effective performance under pressure. Thus, it is recommended that students should answer known questions which seems easier as it will help them gain confidence and finish most of the paper on time. Solving easy questions beforehand will revise the concepts during exam time, and make the difficult questions seem easier than solving them earlier.