

As most “good” students will tell you, how much or how long you study for an exam won’t make one bit of difference, if you don’t have the RIGHT information to study and the RIGHT presentation of studying it. You don’t have to be young. I am a grandmother of 9 grandchildren. You don’t have to be working in customs. I had only a few months of customs “experience” when I took the test. All you need are the proper tools.

This is where LTS comes in. The method that is presented both on line and in the text/class books is extremely valuable to being able to retain the information needed to pass the broker exam. But to make it all work, you have to think of it as a partnership. They provide the information necessary, but YOU must provide the time and effort to make it happen. You still have to use your brain and add some of your own skills to put it all together. YOU are the one taking the exam, not them. So prepare yourself.

Work in the books the way they are intended. Don’t just go to the exams and then go back and find the answers. READ everything. It definitely helps. Tab the CFR as you are constantly reminded to. Print out the “cheat sheets” these are invaluable. When you see items that look important (dollar values, dates, times, always are a clue that it will probably be on the exam) tab that also, highlight it, then add a reference to the list of items you want to have handy.

Take the chapter tests after reading each chapter, and then at the end of each week, TAKE THEM ALL AGAIN. You will be amazed at what you have forgotten in a weeks time. When something pops out at you during this, then tab highlight and add to your list of important items. DO NOT think that you will remember everything going into the test. You won’t. Tab it, or write it down. (Your local Wal-Mart will wonder why they keep running out of tabs and highlighters!!!)

Take the one week review class just before the exam. This is what I firmly believe, put me over the top. I tried taking the exam without doing this. I failed.

The knowledge that the instructors have is invaluable. They have studied what customs is going to ask. They beat it in your brain as to what you will need to know. They put in the extra time if you need it. That is what makes it work. And you have fun while doing it. The classes are small enough to give the attention you need, while having enough people that you will learn from the questions that others ask also. You will meet people that do customs work for a living, while others that just have decided to learn it new.

Everyone has some ideas that they share on how to study, what to study. You might even make some great contacts!

For the exam

I could go through everything you need here, but guess what??? LTS does that for you, and they keep reminding you what to do, when to do it. What to take. Just follow the instructions given and you will be set. Just make sure you take EVERYTHING with you.

The class notes from the one week class were excellent for having a condensed edition of the major points and categories that the test will be about.

What I can tell you is my experience was: If you think you know the answer, put it down. Don't dwell on it. Chances are you are correct. I was so worried about classifications that I almost didn't complete the test, because I thought the questions were too easy, and kept going over and over them. But, that turned out to not be the case. I actually knew the stuff, and didn't miss one classification. (A big "THANK YOU" to my instructor for FINALLY making it understandable during those last few days!!!)

Make sure you have a watch with you. Pace yourself. If you get stuck, then go away from it and move on. I found it was better to skip those that I knew I would need to spend time on, and go to another question. Sometimes, you might even find the answer to one of the ones you were struggling with, while looking for something else. Remember you don't have to get a 100% to pass, so make sure you can get to all the questions you DO KNOW.

Bottom line is: just follow the lessons and classes from LTS and you will do great. It really is that simple.