

Here are a few of my thoughts - I passed on my first attempt on the Oct. 2007 test.

-You MUST pay attention to every single little word on the exam and in the regs. I cannot stress enough how important it is to read slowly and thoroughly. Though during the exam, your brain is telling you to hurry, hurry, hurry, take the extra few seconds to read each question completely and process what you read instead of jumping ahead to find the answer. There is often one little word that makes or breaks the answer.

-Prior to the exam, sit down and take one of the practice tests provided by LTS. Make the conditions as close as possible to the real thing. (time yourself to exactly 4 hours, give yourself a small work area, etc). I truly believe this is great practice, so plan on taking several previous exams this way. It will give you a good indication of where your strengths and weaknesses are. This will also help you plan out your test-taking strategy. Personally, I am weakest with classification. My strategy was to skip right over that section, complete all the other sections and do classification last. That way I did not spend a lot of time on something I struggled with anyway, and did not rush myself through the sections in which I usually scored better.

-Classify, classify, classify. If you are not at least somewhat comfortable with classification, think twice before taking the exam.

-With regard to classification, I cannot stress enough that you need to read all those section and chapter notes when attempting to classify something!!!

-Even if you think you know an answer, do a quick double check just to be sure. You may find that, as you do the double check, you missed a word which completely changes the answer.

-This is an extremely difficult test. However, if you study the LTS materials *exactly* as directed, I believe you have an excellent chance of passing.