ATI Essentials - Part III

ATI Exams

- When you have an ATI exam coming up, we will open the practice tests at a specified time (to be taken at home) and you will be notified of these times. Sometimes, these practice tests are part of your course grade and you will be given specific instructions on how and when you will take them. If they are not part of your grade for the course, you will still be highly encouraged to take the tests several times, in order to become familiar with the types of questions you will see on the ATI exam (which will be very similar to those on NCLEX).

- When you have an ATI exam, you will leave your backpacks and other things at a designated area (the front or back of the room) and only take your laptop to your seat. We will provide scratch paper, earplugs and pencils at each test, so you will not need to bring those. If you need a calculator, there is one available on the exam. Cell phones will remain in your backpacks or purse. And, of course, please turn off your cell phones during the test. It is distracting and annoying to hear a phone ring from inside a backpack, somewhere in the big pile of backpacks!

- For ATI proctored exams, you will sign in at the ATI site (atitesting.com) with your username and password. The proctor will give you the ID code for the exam after everyone is signed in. Once you sign into the exam, you will go to a screen where you will wait to be approved before continuing. This wait may take a few minutes, as the proctor has to approve each student.
individually. This wait does not count against you, as your time does not start until you actually start the exam.

- Please bring your power pack and cord and your ethernet cord to the exam with you - do NOT depend on your battery or Wi-fi.

- If your laptop needs to update, please let it do so before an exam, because if it updates during an exam, the anti-cheating security measures will kick you out!! Not good!

- Most of the ATI exams are 60 questions long, although some have 90 and your Comprehensives (in your last semester) are 180 questions long. ATI allows 1 minute per question, so you will need to monitor your time. There is a clock on the screen, so you will be able to watch your time. All ATI tests also have 5 extra questions on them that are being normed for use in the future, so you will also have those questions with the extra time for them (5 minutes).

- If you have ADA accommodations for time or seclusion, let your instructor (and your Retention Counselor) know as soon as you have your letter from Student Services. We cannot give you the extra time or a quiet room for exams without that letter!

- ATI has very stringent anti-cheating security measures on their online proctored exams. It will monitor your movements on-screen and will kick you out of the exam if you click outside the white area of the test (including trying to go to the Internet). The proctor is notified on her computer when a student has been kicked out and the proctor will have to approve the student to be allowed back into the test. This can also happen when the
student is moving the mouse around too much, so watch your nervous fidgeting!

- At times, you may have trouble getting into the test or your screen may freeze up for a couple of minutes. If this happens, wait a couple of minutes to see if it starts up again. If not, close the site *(not the test)* and sign back in. When you sign back into www.atitesting.com, you should see the exam and be able to click on it to continue. If not, put the code back in and you will see it. You will not have lost any time while this was happening.

- After the exam, you will be able to see your score immediately (unless the instructor decides to do otherwise). There will be a raw score and a Proficiency Level number (on most exams). ATI is an NCLEX preparatory/prediction company, therefore, its scores are indicative of how you will do in this area on NCLEX. In general, the raw scores will be lower than what you would expect from an exam in class. The score you want to pay attention to is the Proficiency Level. There are 4 levels:
  a) **Level 3** (the best – indicates that you have mastered the subject matter and would pass NCLEX in this area);
  b) **Level 2** (indicates that you should pass NCLEX in this area but should continue to study, in order to ensure mastery and be sure of passing);
  c) **Level 1** (indicates that you *might* pass NCLEX in this area and need increased study and probably remediation, in order to pass);
  d) **< (less than) Level 1** (indicates that you do not have an adequate grasp of the subject matter and will need a high level of study and remediation, in order to pass NCLEX).
Most instructors will have those students who score Level 1 or <1 meet with the Retention Counselor to set up a plan of remediation. This is not a punishment, but is only to help! Remember, the purpose of remediation is not to artificially inflate grades, but to ensure that the student has a good grasp on the concepts and can go forward with confidence! We want you to succeed!!

- Your course facilitator has the last say on how ATI exams will be incorporated into the course and what, if any, adjustments will be made on raw scores and how remediation will be done within the course.
- If you have any questions about the exam itself (not the grades) or if you are having difficulty accessing the website or materials, contact your Retention Counselor.