# TRANSCRIPT: 10 Tips About CompTIA w/ Melissa Hallock

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## **[Opening music with voiceover]**

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## **Speaker (Melissa Hallock):**

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Thank you for joining this podcast on 10 CompTIA exam tricks and secrets to help you pass your exam.

Tip number 1, avoid brain dumps. Brain dumps don't teach you the concepts that you need to know for this exam. If you memorize a bunch of questions and you go take the exam, the questions may not even be the same, and it's highly possible that you're going to fail the exam.

Tip number 2, make sure you get a good study guide. Using a pacing guide inside your learning resource will help you keep on track so that you can get your course completed on time. Also, if you need any more information about getting a good study guide or how you should study for the course, be sure to contact your course instructor.

Tip number 3, be sure to take practice exams. Practice exams can be an amazing indicator to find out if you're actually ready to take the exam. If you're not getting at least 90 percent on an assessment that covers all the possible material, then you're just not ready yet. Be sure to take those practice exams so you know if you're ready or if you're not. The practice exams will help you pinpoint exactly what needs to be practiced so that you can take that time to fill in the missing gaps.

Tip number 4, do not memorize. If you just memorize a bunch of questions, you will not pass this exam. It is incredibly important to make sure that you understand the concept. If you're struggling with a concept and you've gone over and over it, and you're still not quite getting it, then take a few days to just relax from that particular subject. You can move to another subject if you like but take a couple of days to stay away from that subject, then come back to the subject and it just might be a lot more clear for you. Be sure you stay consistent within the course because if you take long breaks, you might forget information that you've already covered.

Tip number 5, mix studying with review. If you're creating checkpoints and making sure that you're understanding what it is that you just read or what it is that you just watched, this helps give your brain a break because you're jumping from one subject to another and it gives your brain a little bit of breathing room.

Tip number 6, know what type of learner you are. Auditory and music learners have a good ear for music, but they can also be distracted easily. Oftentimes if someone's an auditory or music learner, they might hum themselves, they might sing a lot. If you're an auditory music learner, one way you can engage is to record the lessons and listen to those or check out the videos on some of the learning resources that we offer. You could also teach yourself or someone else verbally what you have learned and big tip here is to make sure that you are avoiding distraction. If you're a visual or a spatial learner, then oftentimes you might be a habitual doodler or drawer, and you might be observant to everything that goes on around you. You're not typically easily distracted because you're very focused and you enjoy planning. If that's you, then one way to engage would be to use color codes and queues and make sure you create notes and then copy them during the study. These are just a few examples, but definitely knowing what type of learning you are can really help you learn how to engage in the material so that you're retaining it much better.

Tip number 7, skip strange exam questions. The way the exam is designed is if you miss a question, you may get more questions in that area because the exam is adaptive. If you run across a really strange question and you have no idea what the answer is, don't answer it, flag it and save it until the end. On the other side or the opposite side of that is, don't flag all the performance-based questions. If you do so, the system's going to know you're doing so and you may have a lot of performance-based questions in the end and then run out of time.

Tip number 8 is be prepared for those performance-based questions. One site is passCompTIA.com. They have some simulation questions that can be practiced. Maybe your course instructor will know what type of questions in order to practice. Obviously, you're probably not going to get the same practice questions when you're practicing, but it gives you the practice on working with these types of questions because it's very important to have a clear understanding in order to answer them.

Tip number 9, know the multiple-choice tricks. If you eliminate the known incorrect answers first, there'll be a couple of answers left and you'll need to know the difference between those two answers so that you'll know which answer is the best answer.

Number 10, last but certainly not least, make sure you treat yourself well. Get plenty of rest before you have to take your exam, plan the exam for a time of day when you are most alert, and don't go hungry.

I hope you find these tips helpful and that they help you in your CompTIA exam experience.

## **[Closing voiceover]**

Schedule time with your course instructor to explore more deeply. WGU, A NEW KIND OF U.