The Nurse Speak Guide to Mastering NCLEX Questions

Carefully read the question and all answer choices. Do you understand what the topic of the question is?

Understanding the Topic of the Question	Do Not Understand Carefully read all answer choices for hints. Identify the topic and move the next step	Yes, I know the topic Move to the next step	Be Careful! The NCLEX typically makes the topic hard to identify
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Are the answer choices related to Nursing Assessment or Nursing Implementation?

Understanding the Answer Choices	If the answer choices are a mix of both assessment and implementation, carefully read the stem of the question to determine if you should assess or implement. Select the correct answer.	If the answer choices are <u>ALL</u> assessment or <u>ALL</u> implementation, move to the next step.	Be Careful! The NCLEX challenges your ability to determine whether you need MORE information before intervening!
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Can you use Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs to help determine the BEST answer?

	If Maslow's Does not Apply	Yes, Maslow's Does Apply	Be Careful!
ABC's versus Psychosocial Needs	If the answer choices are ALL Physical choices, determine which physical answer choice makes sense. If the answer choices are ALL Psychosocial, determine outcome of answer choices (therapeutic communication, etc.)	Eliminate all Psychosocial answers, and focus on the logic of the physical needs. Always apply ABC's before Psychosocial.	The NCLEX often times will word questions to make test-takers choose a POTENTIAL complication over an ACTUAL complication. Always choose answers based on anticipated OUTCOMES!