Mapping

The mapping questions that you will encounter on the PATI exam involve determining how quickly you can travel between intersections. In the map below, each box is an intersection. The lines in between each intersection represent one city block.

You will be asked questions such as: how long would it take you to drive from A to B if it takes 3 minutes to drive each block? A to B represents one block of travel time, so the trip would take three minutes.

When you are calculating time for mapping questions, the most efficient way to do this is to add up the total number of blocks and then multiply the number of blocks by the time it takes to navigate each block.

For example, if it takes 3 minutes to drive a block, and you must drive from A to K, your best course of action would be to count the number of blocks from A to K. The fastest route would be 4 blocks.

Now multiply 4 x 3 = 12 minutes.

Be prepared for questions that involve changes in times for turning corners, routes that are obstructed and combining modes of transportation at different speeds. For example, if you are told that every turn requires an additional 30 seconds of travel time, choose a route with as few turns as possible. Example B below requires fewer turns, so it would be the faster route in this scenario.
Pattern Solving

When attempting to solve patterns look for consistent changes and developments. These changes can include, but are not exclusive to:

1) Number of objects
2) Size of objects
3) Colour of objects
4) Shape of objects
5) Rotation / Flip of objects
6) Number of unique identifying marks

There are a number of different clues you must look for. The only way to improve your skills for this stage of the exam is to practice the puzzles in this book, on the website or puzzle books you may find in bookstores.

The object is rotating clockwise by ¼ turns. The next logical shape would be:

The object is steadily increasing by one larger circle each time. The next logical shape would be:

Sometimes you have to ignore information to detect the pattern.

You must ignore the shapes in this case. The image is increasing the number of highlighted objects one at a time (0, 1, 2, 3). The next logical shape would be:
Matching

Matching questions are intended to challenge your observation skills. You will be given four images and be asked to select the image that does not belong. There are a variety of differences that you will have to watch out for including, but not exclusive to:

1) Different lines / shapes on an object (for example, longer hair).

2) Different shapes (round versus square).

3) Odd versus even numbers.

4) Different component shapes (curved lines versus straight).

5) Different meanings the images represent (men or women).

Example 1:

D is the only image that is three dimensional in nature and therefore does not belong.

Example 2:

B is the only image not pointing right and therefore does not belong.