

Get Smart !

You may know the right answer, but do you always get the best grade? Learn the tricks of the trade that will help your score zoom to the top!

S

Sentences are always complete.

Q: *Buenaventura sometimes was called by this name.*


Good: Mission Buenaventura sometimes was called "Mission by the Sea."

Bad: Mission by the Sea.

M

Mark key words in the question.

Q: *Name three skills that the Native Americans learned at the mission.*

q: Name three skills that the Native Americans learned at the mission. 

A

Answer is accurate.

Q: *Mission San Miguel was named after who?*

Good: Mission San Miguel was named after the Arcangel Michael.

Bad: Mission San Miguel was named after Saint Miguel.

A

Avoid "because" as a beginning.

Q: *Why was Mission Santa Cruz destroyed in 1840?*

Good: Mission Santa Cruz was destroyed in 1840 by a devastating earthquake.

Bad: Because of the earthquake.

R

Rephrase the question in the answer.

Q: *What was the name of the pirate that tried to loot Mission Santa Cruz?*

Good: The name of the pirate that tried to loot Mission Santa Cruz was Bouchard.

Bad: The pirate's name was Bouchard.

T

Take time for reasons & examples.

Q: *What is now on the site of the original Santa Cruz Mission?*

Good: If you go to the site of the original Santa Cruz Mission, you will see a church. This church is named Holy Cross Church and it is very beautiful. It was built in a gothic style with a tall steeple which has a dome on top.

Bad: If you go to the site of the original Santa Cruz Mission, you will see a church.