**12 STRATEGIES FOR ANSWERING OPEN RESPONSE QUESTIONS – Gr. 9 EQAO MATH**

1. Read the question carefully. Highlight any important information.
2. Identify the key word in the open response question from the given **key word list** to help you better understand how you should formulate your response.
3. Use language and terminology that is familiar to most people. Do not use abbreviations or notations that may not be clearly understood.
4. You will not know the marker personally like you would your teacher, be sure to communicate your thinking as clearly as possible.

Assume the marker has little math experience.

1. It is important to demonstrate your problem solving process. Markers should not have to interpret any part of your solution.
2. Be sure you answered the question. Did you provide a conclusion?
3. If the question asked you to JUSTIFY your answer, have you demonstrated a process for your answer? Did you give reasons to support your answer?
4. Do not spend too much time on any one question. Approximately 5 minutes each.
5. Is there a way to check your answer?
6. Does your answer seem reasonable?
7. Do not leave blanks! Write down as much as you know that relates to the problem. Remember: Teachers cannot read your mind! They will not be able to get a sense of what you know unless it is clearly written.
8. Do your best work!