Preparation Tips for NATA:

1)      Tip No 1. The most common misconception among NATA aspirants is that if you draw well, then its half the battle won, which is totally false. Though good sketching is essential, the questions are framed on topics like effects of light & shadow, sense of perspective drawing, understanding scale & proportions, memory drawing, composing 3 - Dimentional elements etc. So, developing these skills are equally important.

2)      Tip No 2. Be Creative - Creativity is a mysterious trait. Many people have tried to define creativity in their own ways but there is no single universally accepted definition. It is difficult to summarise in a few lines but we can say that creativity is the ability to come up with new, original ideas which are not conventional. It is the breaking away from the stereotype, routine, accepted set of thoughts and possessing a deeper insight to problem solving. In short, a creative person experiences rebirth everyday with his or her ideas.

3)      Tip No 3. Understand that your drawing & creative skills are useless if you are not able to present your thoughts in the exam in the limited amount of time. You stand to lose marks for the questions you fail to answer or which are left incomplete, it doesn't matter how good you are at your work. So speed is equally important.

4)      Tip No 4. Go through all previous papers of NATA. Solve at least 10 - 20 past papers within the time limit. Find out a comfortable sequence of answering the paper. If you are faced with a mental block, breathe deeply, relax and then try to answer the question.

5)      Tip No 5. Don't practice in A3 size sketch books. Work in A4 size as that is normally the standard size of answer sheets in the examinations.

6)      Tip No 6. Don't mug up G.K. books but be more aware of the construction work happening around you - Read the newspapers regularly. Increase your observation power. Try to find out about famous architects & their works & how they have contributed to the field of architecture. Read books / magazines & develop a genuine passion for your field.

7)      Tip No 7. Find your own deep and compelling reason to successfully clear NATA. Motivate yourself. Work with enthusiasm & you will be amazed at your ideas & creations.

8)      Tip No 8. In questions requiring drawing, always draw with a light hand first, doing mainly the outlining without the details. When you are satisfied with the proportions & the rough outline, you may finalise. You will save a lot of time that students normally waste in erasing & re-drawing.

9)      Tip No 9. Practice more with dry mediums ( colours ), as they are convenient to use and take less time in exams.

10)    Tip No 10. For XII class students: Plan your time well for NATA preparation if you are also preparing for other entrance exams along with NATA. Use your time effectively with a time table. Don't start your preparations after you finish your XII boards - The earlier you start, better for you.