

CURRENT SAT

SAT BEGINNING **SPRING 2016**

CONTENT CHANGES

Essay requires students to form their own argument. No fact based evidence is necessary.

Essay requires students to evaluate an existing argument through analysis and presentation of evidence

Passage-based questions do not require students to show work

Passage-based questions require students to cite specific evidence in text to support answer choice

Reading passages draw from a limited number of academic disciplines

Reading passages will include texts from science, history, social studies, and literature

Vocabulary tested includes obscure words and meanings

Vocabulary tested relates to "relevant words in context." Words are widely used in college and professional life and have multiple meanings depending on the context.

Math section is a survey of varying levels of high school math

Math section focused on 3 areas:

- 1) Ratios, percents, proportions
- 2) Linear equations and functions
- 3) Complex equations

Critical Reading and Writing include no graphical information

Evidenced-Based Reading and Writing includes graphs and tables for science and social studies passages

Students have no prior knowledge as to passage content

Each exam will feature a passage from a founding document in American history or from a text that is part of the "great global conversation."

TECHNICAL CHANGES

Three required sections:

- 1) Critical Reading
- 2) Writing
- 3) Math

Two required sections:

- 1) Evidenced-Based Reading and Writing
- 2) Math

Essay is 25 minutes and included in Writing section

Essay is 50 minutes and is optional

Total exam time of around 4 hours

Total exam time of around 3 hours without Essay
Total exam time of around 4 hours with Essay

Highest possible score is 2400, which includes Essay

Highest possible score is 1600
Separate score for Essay

Calculator permitted throughout Math section

Math section includes some no-calculator segments

¼-point penalty for incorrect answers on multiple choice questions

No point deduction for incorrect answers

SAT delivered on paper only

SAT available in both paper and digital formats