

The New SAT Exam Format

The SAT (Standardized Achievement Test) is a timed test approximately 3 hours and 45 minutes in length that is divided into three sections: Critical Reading, Writing, and Math. Each section is graded on a scale of points ranging from 200-800.

- ✓ **Critical Reading Section:** Contains approximately 52 questions divided into 3 timed sections. Includes questions testing vocabulary, reading comprehension, analysis, and logical inference knowledge.
- ✓ **Writing Section:** Contains approximately 50 questions, plus an essay divided into 3 timed sections. Includes questions testing grammar, sentence structure, and writing style.
- ✓ **Math Section:** Contains approximately 54 questions divided into 3 timed sections. Includes questions testing algebra, geometry, and probability knowledge.

Test Structure

Section	Question Type	# of Questions	Time Allotted
Critical Reading	Sentence Completion	19	(2) 25 Minute Sections, (1) 20 Minute Section
	Passage-based reading	48	Total: 70 minutes
Writing	Identifying sentence errors	18	(2) 25 Minute Sections, (1) 10 Minute Section
	Improving sentences	25	
Writing	Improving paragraphs	6	Total: 60 minutes
	Essay writing	1 Essay	
Math	Multiple Choice	44	(2) 25 Minute Sections; (1) 20 Minute Section
	Grid-Ins	10	Total: 70 minutes

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Suggested Preparation Timeline

Freshmen (Class of 2013)

It's never too late to think about your future. During your freshman year, you have the opportunity to take time to study and prepare for the SAT. You can begin by focusing on your studies, figuring out what subjects most interest you, and getting involved in sports and/or extracurricular activities. It's also a great chance to consider taking the PSAT next fall. Now is the time to begin researching the time/dates of upcoming tests at www.collegeboard.com.



Sophomores (Class of 2012)

Continue to focus on your academic curriculum. If you are taking AP classes, sign up and take the corresponding SAT Subject Test immediately after your AP course has ended while the material is fresh in your mind. Students typically take the PSAT in October of their sophomore or junior year. The PSAT is important for a number of reasons: it is great practice for the SAT and it's the qualifying test for a National Merit Scholarship. A high score could qualify you for a National Merit Scholarship. Since the test is only administered in October, summer is a great time to prepare for the PSAT.

Juniors (class of 2011)

Many juniors take the PSAT in October followed by the SAT in the winter or spring. Do you have to take the SAT in your junior year? No. But it's generally a good idea because it leaves you plenty of time for a second try if you're not happy with your score. Also do not wait until your senior year, because you will be working on your college applications.



Seniors (class of 2010)

Senior year can be complicated because there are several factors that can affect your SAT testing timeline. Answering the questions below can help you figure out your ideal testing plan:

- ✓ Are you applying early decision?
- ✓ Are you applying to highly competitive colleges?
- ✓ Are your current scores far from your goal scores?
- ✓ Do you plan to take both the SAT and the ACT?

If you have answered mostly "yes" to these questions, then October should be the latest you take the SAT exam. If you have answered mostly "no", then you can take the exam up to December of your senior year. We recommend that you prepare for the SAT during the summer before your senior

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year. If you do not have time in the summer, then begin your preparation as early as possible after the school year starts.

Suggested Resource Links

- ✓ www.proprofs.com
- ✓ www.majortests.com
- ✓ www.collegeboard.com
- ✓ www.kidica.com
- ✓ www.my-sat.com
- ✓ www.number2.com
- ✓ www.ets.org
- ✓ www.freevocabulary.com
- ✓ www.algebra.com
- ✓ www.march2success.com
- ✓ www.pearsonreview.com



SAT registration

Registering for the SAT is quick and easy through the College Board website: www.collegeboard.com. Simply create an online account to:

- ✓ register for the test
- ✓ print off an SAT admission ticket
- ✓ view and send your SAT scores following the test

There are many benefits to registering online. Students can:

- ✓ choose the test date and the test center to suit their needs
- ✓ have 24-hour access to print or correct admission tickets

The SATs can be stressful, but with a little preparation, you can help ensure the test goes smoothly! Here are some tips to help you do your best on the big day:

- ✓ Get plenty of sleep the night before the test
- ✓ Eat breakfast - a healthy breakfast will help fuel your brain
- ✓ Bring valid photo ID and your SAT admission ticket
- ✓ Bring a calculator, several sharp No.2 pencils and a good eraser
- ✓ Bring snacks - you'll get a short break at the end of each hour of testing

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What is an Average SAT Score?

<i>Test Section</i>	<i>Average Score for the Class of 2008 in US</i>
Writing	494 out of 800
Critical Reading	502 out of 800
Math	515 out of 800
Essay	7.2 (out of 12)

Upcoming SAT Test Dates

<i>Exam Date</i>	<i>Registration Deadline</i>	<i>Late Registration (Fees May Apply)</i>
October 10, 2009	September 9, 2009	September 10 - 23, 2009
November 7, 2009 @ BHS	October 1, 2009	October 2 - 15, 2009
December 5, 2009 @ BHS	October 30, 2009	October 31 - November 12, 2009
January 23, 2010	December 15, 2009	December 16 - 30, 2009
March 13, 2010 @ BHS	February 4, 2010	February 5 - 18, 2010
May 1, 2010 @ BHS	March 25, 2010	March 26 - April 8, 2010
June 5, 2010	April 29, 2010	April 30 - May 18, 2010

Specific Battlefield SAT Preparation Information

- Please see attached letter your child may receive upon registration for our free SAT workshop held three weeks to date of the test from 2:15pm to 4:00pm.
- Same classroom/school rules apply as we fully expect all students to arrive ready to learn test taking strategies to maximize their success.
- Please contact Mr. McMillan 571.261.4415 or mcmillcs@pwcs.edu with any questions or concerns regarding the new SAT exam format and BHS workshop.

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