

SAT Information

In March 2016, the SAT moved to a new format. Below is a chart detailing the differences.

Category	Prior to March 2016	New SAT
Total Testing Time	3 hours, 45 minutes	3 hours (plus 50 minutes if complete the optional essay)
Components	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Critical Reading 2. Writing 3. Mathematics 4. Essay 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Evidenced-Based Reading & Writing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading Test • Writing & Language 2. Math 3. Essay (Optional)
Important Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emphasis on general reasoning skills • Emphasis on vocabulary, often in limited contexts • Complex scoring (a point for a correct answer and a deduction for an incorrect answer; blank responses no impact on score) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus on the knowledge, skills, and understandings that research has identified as most important for college & career readiness/success • Greater emphasis on the meaning of words in extended contexts & on how word choice shapes meaning, tone & impact • Rights-only scoring (no penalty for guessing)
Essay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Required & given at beginning of SAT • 25 minutes allotted • Tests writing skill; students take a position on a presented issue 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Optional, given at end of SAT • Postsecondary institutions will determine whether they will require essay for admission • 50 minutes allotted • Tests reading, analysis, writing skills; students produce a written analysis of a provided source text
Score Reporting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scale ranging from 600-2400 • Scale ranging from 200-800 for Critical Reading; 200-800 for Mathematics; 200-800 for Writing • Essay results scaled to multiple-choice writing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scale ranging from 400-1600 • Scale ranging from 200-800 for Evidenced-Based Reading and Writing; 200-800 for Math; 2-8 on each of 3 dimensions for Essay • Essay results reported separately
Subscore Reporting	None	Subscores for every test
Total number of questions/Tasks	171	154 (155 w/Essay)

(See back for helpful SAT prep resources)

Helpful Resources for SAT Preparation:

- [Khan Academy](#) or www.khanacademy.org/sat : Multitude of resources to help teach SAT material, or have students do individualized practice; sign up for a free account for full access.
- [College Board](#) or
- <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat/practice/full-length-practice-tests>
Full length practice tests available here for download.
- SAT Practice Books Available in Guidance office and library for teachers to borrow (currently ordered)