



What is the SAT and why is it important?

Created by the College Board, the SAT is an entrance exam used by most colleges and universities to make admissions decisions. The idea (in theory, at least) is to provide colleges with one common criterion that can be used to compare all applicants. However, it is just one factor in the admissions decision. Schools also consider your high school GPA, academic transcript, letters of recommendation, extracurricular activities, interviews, and personal essays. The weight placed on SAT scores varies from school to school. The differences between the old SAT and the new SAT are the following:

Changes to the PSAT/NMSQT	Old PSAT/NMSQT (Class of 2016)	New PSAT/NMSQT (Class of 2017 and beyond)
Scoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complex scoring Point for correct answer Deduction for incorrect answer Blank responses have no impact on score No subscores 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rights-only scoring Point for correct answer No deduction for incorrect answer Blank responses have no impact on score Subscores for every test
Anatomy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Critical Reading Writing Mathematics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evidence-Based Reading and Writing test <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reading test Writing and Language test Mathematics test
Timing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 hours 10 minutes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 hours 45 minutes*

What does the SAT test?

As of March 2016, there are two SAT sections: Math, Evidence-Based Reading and Writing, plus an optional Essay. The Essay results are reported separately. Start to finish, the test will take you three hours and 50 minutes.

How is the SAT scored?

Each section of the SAT is scored on a 200 to 800 point scale, making the "perfect" score 1600.

Type of Score	Score Range	Details
Total Score	400-1600	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The sum of the two Section scores—Math score + Evidence-Based Reading & Writing score The Essay score will be reported separately and is not a part of the Total Score
Section Score	200-800	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are two Section scores – one for Math and one for Evidence-Based Reading & Writing The Essay score is scored separately and not included in either Section score
Essay	6-24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Essay will have three scores – Reading, Writing, and Analysis, each scored between 2 and 8.
Test Score	10-40	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are five Test scores – Math, Reading, Writing & Language, History/Social Studies, and Science Two of the Test scores – History/Social Studies and Science – are "Cross-Test Scores". These scores will reflect how students perform on specific questions tied to these subjects as seen in both the Math and Evidence-Based Reading & Writing sections.
Subscore	10-40	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are seven Subscores: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two tied to Reading, Writing & Language Two tied to Writing & Language only Three tied to Math The Reading, Writing & Language Subscores will reflect how students perform on specific questions tied to Command of Evidence and Relevant Words in Context concepts The Writing & Language Subscores will reflect how students perform on specific questions tied to Expression of Ideas and Standard English Conventions concepts The Math Subscores will reflect how students perform on specific questions tied to The Heart of Algebra, Passport to Advanced Math, and Problem Solving and Data Analysis concepts

SAT - Which should I take?

HOW TO PREPARE FOR THE SAT:

PreCollegiate students are given access to the SAT UP test prep application by Score Beyond. This test prep option is personalized for each student. Each student takes a diagnostic test once they begin the application. Based off of the diagnostic they receive an estimated test score and the test prep is based off of the weaknesses and strengths they showed through the diagnostic test. SAT UP gives the students access to tutors 24 hours a day and provides them with mandatory classes they have to take online beginning in January until the day of the test in April. The classes are once a week and can be attended from the comfort of their own home. There is a live instructor giving the class. The instructors and tutors are in California but the students do have access to them at anytime. Attendance is recorded during every class session, PreCollegiate expects the students to communicate with one of the staff members if they can not attend a class.

“Our students put their phones and tablets to good use by practicing thousands of personalized test prep questions on their devices. Every single question they take is carefully selected by our Learning Platform to create a larger learning impact with less practice. Every test result is compared to the activity of 1 million other students to evaluate how your student would perform vs. others on the test day.” -Score Beyond