
What Do Students Need to Know for Post-High-School Success?

The College Board has identified a critical set of knowledge, skills, and understandings that predict student success in college and workforce training programs:

- Comprehend challenging literary and informational texts
- Revise and edit extended texts
- Show command of math, especially algebra and data analysis
- Use evidence in reading and writing
- Analyze data
- Use and understand words in context

Key Features of the SAT Suite of Assessments

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1. Words in Context
 2. Command of Evidence
 3. Essay Analyzing a Source
 4. Math That Matters Most
 5. Problems Grounded in Real-World Contexts
 6. Analysis in Science and Analysis in History/Social Studies
 7. U.S. Founding Documents and the Great Global Conversation
 8. No Penalty for Guessing

Evidence-Based Reading and Writing Overview

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- Evidence-Based Reading and Writing Section comprises the Reading Test and the Writing and Language Test.
 - Text complexity:
 - SAT: range from 9th grade through first-year, post high school
 - PSAT/NMSQT and PSAT 10: range from 9th to 10th grade
 - PSAT 8/9: range from 6th to 10th grade
 - Emphasizes source analysis and use of evidence
 - Incorporates data and informational graphics
 - Focuses on words in context and on word choice for rhetorical effect

Reading Test Overview

- The overall aim of the Reading Test is to determine whether students can demonstrate college and career readiness proficiency in **comprehending a broad range of high-quality, appropriately challenging literary and informational texts** in the content areas of U.S. and world literature, history/social studies, and science.
- The test comprises a series of **passages and associated multiple-choice questions**. Some question sets will refer to **paired passages**, others will refer to only one passage.
- Students must refer to the specific language in the passages and use **careful reasoning to draw supportable inferences**.

Writing and Language Test Overview

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- Assesses college and career readiness proficiency in **revising and editing** a range of texts.
 - **Does not require students to provide written responses**—multiple-choice questions only.
 - Attends to a **core set of standard English language conventions** and to **effective written expression**.
 - Some passages and/or questions will be accompanied by representations of data—**tables, charts, graphs**, etc.
 - All passages will be written **specifically for the test**.
 - The most common question format will require students to **choose the best of three alternatives** to an indicated part of the passage (often an underlined portion) or to determine that the **version presented in the passage is the best option**.

SAT Essay Overview

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- Students who opt to take the SAT Essay are required to make purposeful, substantive use of textual evidence in a way that can be objectively evaluated.
 - The essay isn't designed to elicit students' subjective opinions.
 - The prompt will remain consistent for all administrations of the SAT; only the writing passages will change.
 - Students will receive three scores of 2–8 in Reading, Writing, and Analysis.

Math Test Overview

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- Focus on **content that matters most** for college and career readiness:
 - Assesses fluency with, understanding of, and ability to apply mathematical concepts
 - Algebra and linear equations
 - Problem solving and data analysis
 - Advanced mathematical practices
 - Certain key elements are woven throughout the Math Test:
 - Emphasis on **mathematical application and reasoning**
 - Problems from a **range of disciplines** addressing real-world problems drawn from science, social studies, and careers
 - Inclusion of both **calculator and no-calculator portions**, as well as attention to the use of a calculator as a tool
 - Includes both **multiple-choice questions** and **student-produced response questions**