Agenda

The Transition Year

ACT Test Updates & SAT and PSAT Changes

Student Impact

SAT Test Changes
Test Change Timeline

ACT:
Enhanced Scoring +
Writing Test

PSAT:
New Test Launches

SAT:
New Test Launches

SAT:
2nd to Last Current Test

SAT:
Last Current Test


SAT Test Changes
## Updated ACT Overview

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Features</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Scoring        | - No changes to 1-36 scoring  
                  |  - New scores reported  
                  |  - ELA  
                  |  - STEM  
                  |  - Career Readiness  
                  |  - Text Complexity  |
| Math           | More probability & statistics                                             |
| Reading        | New paired passages                                                      |
# Updated ACT Overview

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Features</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Essay** | - Now requires analysis of 3 different perspectives  
- More scores provided  
  ✓ Ideas and analysis  
  ✓ Development and support  
  ✓ Organization  
  ✓ Language use |
# New SAT Overview

## Scoring
- No wrong-answer penalty
- Scored on a scale of 1600
  - 800 points for Math
  - 800 points for Evidence-Based Reading and Writing
- Test, Cross-, and Sub-scores reported
- Optional Essay scored separately

## Timing
- 3 hours + 50-minute optional essay
# New SAT Overview

## Evidence-Based Reading and Writing Test
- 65-minute Reading section
- 35-minute Language and Writing section
- All multiple-choice questions have only 4 answer choices

## Math Test
- 55-minute section with calculator
- 25-minute section with no calculator
- Includes grid-ins and multiple choice questions
- All multiple-choice questions have only 4 answer choices

## Essay
- Optional
- 50-minutes long
# New SAT Overview

## Math

- Three areas of concentrated focus:
  - Problem solving and data analysis
  - “The Heart of Algebra”
  - “Passport to Advanced Math”
- Real-world problem solving with informational graphics
- Calculator permitted for 37 questions; not permitted for 20 questions
- Test includes multiple choice and grid-in questions plus one enhanced grid-in
This question presents the student with a reasoning puzzle unrelated to the school mathematics curriculum. Being able to solve unfamiliar problems is valuable, but a test based entirely on this idea does not provide as much assurance that students have learned essential math skills and practices — nor does it reward students for their hard work in doing so.

To see what this shift means, consider the following item from the current SAT:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Family</th>
<th>Number of Consecutive Nights</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jackson</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Callan</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Epstein</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liu</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benton</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The table above shows the number of consecutive nights that each of five families stayed at a certain hotel during a 14-night period. If the Liu family’s stay did not overlap with the Benton family’s stay, which of the 14 nights could be a night on which only one of the five families stayed at the hotel?

A) The 3rd
B) The 5th
C) The 6th
D) The 8th
E) The 10th
EXAMPLE 6

An international bank issues its Traveler credit cards worldwide. When a customer makes a purchase using a Traveler card in a currency different from the customer's home currency, the bank converts the purchase price at the daily foreign exchange rate and then charges a 4% fee on the converted cost.

Sara lives in the United States, but is on vacation in India. She used her Traveler card for a purchase that cost 602 rupees (Indian currency). The bank posted a charge of $9.88 to her account that included the 4% fee.

PART 1

What foreign exchange rate, in Indian rupees per one U.S. dollar, did the bank use for Sara's charge? Round your answer to the nearest whole number.

PART 2

A bank in India sells a prepaid credit card worth 7,500 rupees. Sara can buy the prepaid card using dollars at the daily exchange rate with no fee, but she will lose any money left unspent on the prepaid card. What is the least number of the 7,500 rupees on the prepaid card Sara must spend for the prepaid card to be cheaper than charging all her purchases on the Traveler card? Round your answer to the nearest whole number of rupees.
Questions
Without a Calculator

$4x - y = 3y + 7$
$x + 8y = 4$

Based on the system of equations above, what is the value of the product $xy$?

A) $-\frac{3}{2}$
B) $\frac{1}{4}$
C) $\frac{1}{2}$
D) $\frac{11}{9}$

$\frac{1}{2}x - \frac{1}{4}y = 5$
$ax - 3y = 20$

In the system of linear equations above, $a$ is a constant. If the system has no solution, what is the value of $a$?

A) $\frac{1}{2}$
B) 2
C) 6
D) 12
The scatterplot above shows counts of Florida manatees, a type of sea mammal, from 1991 to 2011. Based on the line of best fit to the data shown, which of the following values is closest to the average yearly increase in the number of manatees?

A) 0.75  
B) 75  
C) 150  
D) 750
It is given that \( \sin x = a \), where \( x \) is the radian measure of an angle and \( \frac{\pi}{2} < x < \pi \).

If \( \sin w = -a \), which of the following could be the value of \( w \)?

A) \( \pi - x \)
B) \( x - \pi \)
C) \( 2\pi + x \)
D) \( x - 2\pi \)

**CONTENT:** Additional Topics in Math

**KEY:** B

**CALCULATOR USAGE:** No calculator
### New Test Overview

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Features</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Evidence-Based Reading and Writing</strong></td>
<td><strong>Reading and Writing combined into new Evidence-Based Reading and Writing section</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Reading details:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>✓ No sentence completions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>✓ Passage topics include US and World Literature, History/Social Studies, and Sciences (500 - 750 words)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Writing and Language details:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>✓ Tests “Expression of Ideas” and “Standard English Conventions” through passages relating to Careers, History/Social Studies, Humanities, and Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>✓ Focus on extended prose (400 - 500 words)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# New Test Overview

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Features</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Essay    | • Essay is optional  
          | • Students have 50 minutes to analyze a 650- to 750-word document and draft an essay  
          | • Tests reading, analysis, and writing skills  
          | • Requires students to analyze a source document and explain how the author builds an argument |
Questions NOT on new SAT

Sentence Completion - Testing Vocabulary

11. Although she earned praise for her striking murals, the artist felt that her sculpture merited greater ________.
   (A) disdain  (B) acclaim  (C) deliberation
   (D) viewing  (E) publicity

IDENTIFYING SENTENCE ERRORS

1. You can receive a paralegal degree in two years, whereby a JD degree takes a minimum of three.
   (A) can receive  (B) in  (C) whereby
   (D) takes  (E) No error
[...] Transportation planners perform critical work within the broader field of urban and regional planning. As of 2010, there were approximately 40,300 urban and regional planners employed in the United States. The United States Bureau of Labor Statistics forecasts steady job growth in this field, projecting that 16 percent of new jobs in all occupations will be related to urban and regional planning. Population growth and concerns about environmental sustainability are expected to spur the need for transportation planning professionals.

Adapted from United States Bureau of Labor Statistics, Employment Projections Program. “All occupations” includes all occupations in the United States economy.

Which choice completes the sentence with accurate data based on the above graph?

A) NO CHANGE
B) warning, however, that job growth in urban and regional planning will slow to 14 percent by 2020.
C) predicting that employment of urban and regional planners will increase 16 percent between 2010 and 2020.
D) indicating that 14 to 18 percent of urban and regional planning positions will remain unfilled.
Write an essay in which you explain how Dana Gioia builds an argument to persuade his audience that the decline of reading in America will have a negative effect on society. In your essay, analyze how Gioia uses one or more of the features listed in the box above (or features of your own choice) to strengthen the logic and persuasiveness of his argument. Be sure that your analysis focuses on the most relevant features of the passage.

Your essay should not explain whether you agree with Gioia’s claims, but rather explain how Gioia builds an argument to persuade his audience.
Scoring Details

Test Scores
- 3 scores: Math, Reading, and Writing & Language
- Range of 10 - 40

Area Score
- Math
- Range of 200 - 800

Area Score
- Evidence-Based Reading + Writing
- Range of 200 - 800

Composite Score
- Sum of the two Area Scores
- Range of 400 - 1600

SAT Test Changes
# Cross-Test Scores

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score Range</th>
<th>10-40</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Scores</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Definition</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Cross-Test Scores:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Analysis in History/Social Sciences</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Analysis in Science</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scores will reflect how students perform on specific questions across Math and Evidence-Based Reading and Writing that are tied to History/Social Studies and Science</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Subscores

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score Range</th>
<th>1-15</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Scores</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Definition</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Reading and Writing &amp; Language:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓ Command of Evidence</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓ Relevant Words in Context</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Writing &amp; Language:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓ Expression of Ideas</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓ Standard English Conventions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Math</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓ The Heart of Algebra</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓ Passport to Advanced Math</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓ Problem Solving and Data Analysis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# New PSAT/NMSQT Overview

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Features</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Scoring</strong></td>
<td>Same as the New SAT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Timing</strong></td>
<td>2 hours, 45 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Structure</strong></td>
<td>Aligned with the New SAT, and almost the same length</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Suite of Tests** | PSAT 8/9  
PSAT 10  
PSAT/NMSQT 11 |
Questions Per Reading Passage Topic

Current SAT
- Sciences
- Humanities
- SS/History
- Literature

New SAT
- Sciences
- Humanities
- SS/History
- Literature
- Careers

ACT
- Sciences
- Humanities
- SS/History
- Literature

SAT Test Changes
Math Skills Tested

Current SAT
- Algebra
- Geometry
- Number & Operations

New SAT
- Algebra
- Geometry
- Data Analysis/Problem Solving
- Trig

ACT
- Algebra
- Data Analysis/Problem Solving
- Geometry
- Trig

SAT Test Changes

KAPLAN TEST PREP
Writing Skills Tested

Current SAT
- Grammar/Usage/Mechanics
- Essay
- Rhetorical Skills

New SAT
- Grammar/Usage/Mechanics
- Rhetorical Skills

ACT
- Grammar/Usage/Mechanics
- Rhetorical Skills

SAT Test Changes
New SAT and ACT: 5 Key Differences

1. The New SAT has a greater focus on History & Social Studies passages

2. Both focus on Algebra, but the New SAT has a greater emphasis on Data Analysis & Problem Solving

3. The ACT requires more Science reading

4. The New SAT requires more mental math

5. The New SAT has grid-in questions, and an extended thinking grid-in question
Curriculum Questions

Math:
• Does increase in Algebra mean students should aim to finish Alg II in Sophomore year?
• How can schools incorporate more data analysis?
• Are changes warranted for few trig questions or not?

English:
• Do students get enough exposure to non-fiction reading passages compared to literature?
• Should students be more prepared to analyze arguments vs. forming opinions?

Science:
• Do students do enough analysis of science reading passages?

SS/History:
• Are students able to glean information from charts such as pop growth over time?

Classical Languages:
• Are Latin and Greek less relevant now that vocab is not tested directly on the SAT?
Helping Students Navigate Changes
## Test Paths

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Profile</th>
<th>Potential Test Path</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>✅ Early Decision&lt;br&gt;✅ APs and Subject Tests</td>
<td>✅ Current SAT or ACT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✅ Regular Decision&lt;br&gt;✅ Preference for SAT</td>
<td>✅ New SAT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✅ Great Test Taker</td>
<td>✅ Current SAT &amp; New SAT &amp; ACT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✅ Anxious test taker&lt;br&gt;✅ Obvious strengths with one test</td>
<td>✅ Current SAT or New SAT or ACT</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Test Change Timeline

- **March 2015**: SAT Test Changes
- **June 2015**: PSAT: New Test Launches
- **September 2015**: ACT: Enhanced Scoring + Writing Test
- **October 2015**: Kaplan: New Suite of Practice Tests
- **December 2015**: College Board: PSAT Sample Test
- **January 2016**: SAT: 2nd to Last Current Test
- **March 2016**: SAT: Last Current Test

SAT Test Changes
# New Kaplan Sample Tests: March 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Request</th>
<th>The Right Test</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Provide exposure to a full-length test</td>
<td>New SAT Sample Test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>New PSAT Sample Test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Help students decide between the New SAT or Current SAT</td>
<td>New SAT/Current SAT Combo Test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Help students decide between the New SAT or ACT</td>
<td>New SAT/ACT Combo Test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Help students decide between the Current SAT or ACT</td>
<td>Current SAT/ACT Combo Test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Help students decide between all three tests</td>
<td>Current SAT/ACT/New SAT Combo Test</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SAT Test Changes**
Discussion