

THE NEW SAT:

Overview of the Exam

truePrep



OLD SAT

NEW SAT

FORMAT

- Math, Critical Reading, Writing (includes essay)
- 5 answer choices for multiple-choice questions
- Essay required

FORMAT

- Math, Reading, Writing, Essay
- 4 answer choices for multiple-choice questions
- Essay optional

SCORING

- 600-2400 total points
- Math: 200-800 points
- Critical Reading: 200-800 points
- Writing: 200-800 points (essay scored on a scale of 2-12)
- Essay included in total score

SCORING

- 400-1600 total points
- Math: 200-800 points
- Evidence-Based Reading and Writing: 200-800 points
- Essay: scored on a scale of 2-8
- Essay not included in total score

GUESSING PENALTY

1/4 point deducted for incorrect answers

GUESSING PENALTY

No deduction for wrong answers

Flip over for...

THE NEW SAT:
Section Breakdown



THE NEW SAT:

Section Breakdown

Here's what you can expect to see on each section of the new exam.

MATH

2 sections: Calculator and No-Calculator

Total time: 80 minutes

- Real-world situations
- Multi-part grid-ins
- Less geometry, more emphasis on algebra and data analysis
- Pre-calculus and trigonometry added
- No calculator for 34% of the math

WRITING & LANGUAGE

4 passages, 44 multiple-choice

Total time: 35 minutes

- Passage-based sentences to edit for grammar and punctuation
- Tests rhetorical skills
- 8 vocabulary questions
- Graphics (at least one passage will include a graph, picture, or table related to the text)

READING

4 long passages, 1 double passage, 52 multiple-choice

Total time: 65 minutes

- Tests vocabulary within passages, fewer old and obscure "SAT Words"
- Graphics (charts, graphs, pictures related to text)
- 10 questions ask students to identify lines in the passage that support their answer
- Founding Documents/Global Conversation passage
- Sentence completions eliminated

ESSAY

1 prompt, 1 full passage

Total time: 50 minutes

- Students will analyze a given passage by discussing how the author uses evidence and develops the passage's argument
- Students must address the provided passage
- Now the last section of the exam

Essay is optional, but many colleges and schools might still require students to submit an essay score.