

SAT

Family & Student Information

A Guide to Understanding the redesigned SAT



Covered Topics

- ✓ The Who, What, When, Why & How of Michigan High School Testing
- ✓ New changes to SAT
- ✓ SAT Components & Scoring
- ✓ ACT vs. SAT
- ✓ Tips & Strategies
- ✓ Frequently Asked Questions
- ✓ Online Help & Resources

See SAT Family & Student Resource Guide for detailed information on each topic

WHO is required to take the SAT?

- 11th grade & eligible 12th grade students
- Schools are required by state and federal law to test a minimum of 95% of students eligible to test.

WHAT is the SAT?

- The SAT is a college entrance test, created by the College Board.
- The SAT measures student performance in **Evidence-Based Reading & Writing** and **Math**.

WHEN do students take the SAT?

- **Tuesday, April 12th, 2016**
- **Tuesday, April 26th, 2016** *Make-Up Session*
- The test is administered every spring

WHERE do students take the SAT?

- Students will take the SAT at the school where they are enrolled.
 - Hazel Park High School

HOW do students take the SAT?

- For 2016, Michigan students will take a Paper & Pencil version of the test, scored by machine.
- Student essays are scanned into a database and scored by College Board staff.
- Students will receive a printed score report, as well as a online score report.

WHY does the state require schools to administer the SAT?

- Michigan is required by federal law to administer a college entrance test to students prior to exiting high school.
- The change to SAT was made to provide schools with a more rigorous and cost effective tool to measure student readiness for college level learning.
- This information is used to continuously support and improve student learning and hold school accountable.

What's new with SAT



Relevant words
in context



Command of
evidence



Essay analyzing a
source



Math focused on
three key areas



Problems grounded in
real-world contexts



Analysis in science
and social studies



Founding documents
and great global
conversation



No penalty for
wrong answers

SAT Components & Scoring

Test Length	3 Hours, 50 Minutes
Tested Subjects	Reading – 60 Minutes, 52 Questions Writing & Language – 35 Minutes, 44 Questions Math-80 Minutes, 58 Questions Essay- 50 Minutes, 1 Question
Scoring Scale	Overall scale of 400 to 1600: 200-800 - Evidence Based Reading & Writing 200-800 - Math



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ACT

SAT

[2016 Redesign]

Test Length	3 hours, 25 min (with Writing Test)	3 hours, 50 min (with Essay)
Tested Subjects	English (45 min) Reading (35 min) Science (35 min) Math (60 min) Writing (30 min)	Writing and Language (35 min) Reading (65 min) Math (80 min) [One section with calculators and one without] Essay (optional) (50 min)
Scoring Scale	Composite of 1-36 Four scores of 1-36 for each test, averaged for composite Writing Test scored 0-12 with results reported separately	Scale of 400 to 1600 200-800: Evidence-Based Reading and Writing 200-800: Math 2-8 on each of three traits for Essay with results reported separately
Wrong Answer Penalty	No penalty.	No penalty.
Question Types	Reading, Writing, Math, Science 100% multiple choice Essay writing prompt	Reading, Writing 100% passage-based multiple choice Math 78% multiple choice, 22% produced response Essay writing prompt





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CONTENT COMPARISON

English/Language	<p>Usage/Mechanics punctuation, grammar and usage, sentence structure</p> <p>Rhetorical Skills strategy, organization, style</p>	<p>Four passages, 400-450 words per passage Questions on: expression of ideas, standard English, conventions, vocabulary in context, analysis</p>
Reading	<p>Four long passages</p> <p>Reading comprehension focus on showing understanding of: what is directly stated and statements with implied meanings</p> <p>Little emphasis on vocabulary</p>	<p>Four single passages and one paired passage Questions on: vocabulary in context, command of evidence, analysis in history/social studies and science</p> <p>Vocabulary de-emphasized</p>
Science	<p>Focus on scientific reasoning Analysis/interpretation/evaluation of scientific passages, charts, diagrams, etc.</p>	<p>No science section [questions built into math, reading, and writing sections]</p>
Math	<p>Arithmetic, Algebra, Geometry, Algebra II and Trigonometry</p>	<p>Heart of Algebra, Problem Solving and Data Analysis, Passport to Advanced Math, and Additional Topics in Math</p>
Essay	<p>Final Section - 30 min Topic of importance to high school students</p>	<p>Final Section - 50 min Written analysis of a provided source text</p>

Tips & Strategies

- ✓ *SAT personnel strongly recommend* that the best preparation for the SAT is strong school achievement, especially in core content classes and Honors/AP classes.
- ✓ *Put away the calculator (some of the time).* With the guidance of your child's math teacher, help your child get in the habit of math reasoning without the use of a calculator.

Tips & Strategies

- ✓ *Analyze informational graphics.* In addition to practice items from SAT & Khan Academy, talk with your child about informational graphics you encounter in newspapers, magazines, television broadcasts, and internet content.
- ✓ *Build reading stamina.* The newly redesigned SAT includes more complex reading passages, including U.S. Founding documents and texts revolving around global conversations. Have your child read daily and engage them in reflection on what they have read.

Tips & Strategies

- *These are just a few of the many tips and strategies that SAT recommends for students. For the full guide, “Getting Ready for the Redesigned SAT”, visit the following link:*
- <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/pdf/getting-ready-redesigned-sat.pdf>

Frequently Asked Questions

- **Do colleges accept SAT scores?**
 - **YES!** All Michigan Colleges & Universities will accept SAT Scores. Virtually all colleges across the county accept SAT scores too. However, families should thoroughly research the colleges & programs that interest them.

Frequently Asked Questions

- **Do scholarship granting organizations accept SAT scores?**
 - Many scholarship granting organizations accept SAT scores. However, families should research scholarships to see their requirements. Some may only accept ACT scores.

Frequently Asked Questions

- **What is a good SAT score?**
 - The redesigned SAT has new features and new scoring, so data is not available yet on how the new SAT compares to the old SAT or the ACT. The College Board will release this information to the public in May of 2016.

Frequently Asked Questions

- **Should my child still take the ACT?**
 - The SAT score your child will receive should meet their college admissions & scholarship needs. Students are free to take the ACT, but this is an independent family decision. By law, schools must test students with the SAT, regardless of other tests they may have taken.

Online Help & Resources

- The newly redesigned SAT for Michigan
<https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/state-partnerships/michigan>
- The Michigan Department of Education
www.michigan.gov/mde
- Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress
www.mi.gov/mstep
- Khan Academy SAT Partnership
www.khanacademy.org/sat

Download The “Khan Academy” App & “Daily Practice for the New SAT” App to your mobile device! Available for Apple & Android-based devices.