The Redesigned SAT: March 2016
A Conversation

College Admissions and the New SAT

Ivy League College (5/4/15): “Hmmm, I didn’t know the SAT was changing.”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policy</th>
<th>Percentage of Schools</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accept All Scores?</td>
<td>100% “Yes”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Score Choice Policy?</td>
<td>100% “Staying the Same”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subject Test Policy?</td>
<td>100% “Staying the Same”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Superscoring Old and New SAT Scores?</td>
<td>100% “To Be Determined”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Require Optional SAT Essay?</td>
<td>All over the board, no school said they would give it weight in admissions process.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Evolution of the SAT

1926
• First administration of Scholastic Aptitude Test

1946
• Revised SAT
• Antonyms gone; increased focus on passage-based reading

1961
• Student-produced answer items added (non-multiple choice)
• Calculators allowed

1989
• Measures "achievement, not aptitude"

1995
• First administration of redesigned SAT: March 2016

2007

2010

2015

2016

Example:
A watch was set right at noon on Thursday. At 6 p.m. on the next day, it was thirty minutes fast. At that rate, how much will it gain in half an hour?
Evolution of the SAT

- David Coleman
- Architect of Common Core (CCSSI)
- Hired in 2012
- Announces SAT redesign in 2013

Unstated Goals of SAT Redesign

- Relevance in today's testing world
- Alignment with Common Core
- Regain market share
- More state contracts
- SAT as college admissions test AND state assessment test

Stated Goals of SAT Redesign

- Provide higher education with a better picture of students' college readiness
- Maintain or improve predictive validity
- Clearer and more transparent focus on skills that are essential for college and career readiness
- Better reflection of work being done in best high school courses
- Create better connection between assessment and instruction
Structure and Scoring

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Score (800-1600 scale)</th>
<th>Optional Essay</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Evidence-Based Reading &amp; Writing</td>
<td>4 answer choices per question</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math</td>
<td>“Rights-only” scoring</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Section Scores (200-800 scale)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evidence-Based Reading &amp; Writing</th>
<th>Math</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing &amp; Language</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Cross Test Scores (10-40 scale)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Writing &amp; Language</th>
<th>Math</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Evidence-Based Reading</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Analysis in Science</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Analysis in History / Social Studies</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Subscores (1-15 scale)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evidence-Based Writing &amp; Language</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Words in Context</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heart of Algebra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Command of Evidence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proport to Advanced Mathematics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Problem Solving &amp; Data Analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard English Conventions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Evidence-Based Writing & Language

1 Section – 35 Minutes

4 Passages, 11 Questions Each

Careers, History/Social Studies, Science, Humanities

- Very similar to ACT English
- Questions presented in extended passages
- Focus on editing and revision
- Greater emphasis on punctuation
- At least 1 informational data graphic

SAMPLE

[... ] The transportation planner’s job might involve conducting a traffic count to determine the daily number of vehicles traveling on the road to the new factory. If analysis of the traffic count indicates that there is more traffic than the current design of the road right now can efficiently accommodate, the transportation planner might recommend widening the road to add another lane. [...] 

3. A) NO CHANGE
   B) current design of the road right now
   C) road as it is now currently designed
   D) current design of the road
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 10 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.

6. 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.

Adapted from United States Bureau of Labor Statistics, Employment Projections Program.

Evidence-Based Reading Test

- 1 Section – 65 Minutes
- 4 Single Passages, 1 Pair
- 52 Questions
- US & World Literature, History/Social Studies, Science
- Elimination of Sentence Completions
- Elimination of Short Passages
- Focus on Tier 2 words having multiple meanings (e.g., "channel")
- Students required to cite evidence
- 1 "Great Global Conversation" passage per test
- At least 1 informational data graphic

In lines 48-53 (“Prosecutions ... sense”), what is the most likely reason Jordan draws a distinction between two types of “parties”?
A. To counter the suggestion that impeachment is or should be about partisan politics
B. To disagree with Hamilton’s claim that impeachment proceedings excite passions
C. To contend that Hamilton was too timid in his support for the concept of impeachment
D. To argue that impeachment cases are decided more on the basis of politics than on justice

Which choice provides the best evidence for the answer to the previous question?
A. Lines 13-17 (“... office”)
B. Lines 20-24 (“The division ... astute”)
C. Lines 55-58 (“The drawing ... misdemeanors’”)
Evidence-Based Reading Test

The nature of impeachment: a narrowly channeled exception to the separation of powers maxim. The Federal Convention of 1787 said that it limited impeachment to high crimes and misdemeanors, and discounted and opposed the term "maladministration."...

As used in line 37, "channeled" most nearly means:
A. worn
B. sent
C. constrained
D. siphoned

Focus on Tier 2 words
Words with multiple meanings
Derive meaning from context

Mathematics Test

1 Calculator Section – 55 Minutes
Emphasis on Algebra (35%); less emphasis on Geometry (<10%)
Inclusion of higher level math such as Trigonometry
More real world problems with focus on science and social studies
More word problems; more reading
Multiple questions building off single scenario

1 No-Calculator Section – 25 Minutes

Sample:
Aaron is staying at a hotel that charges $99.95 per night plus tax for a room. A tax of 8% is applied to the room rate, and an additional one-time untaxed fee of $5.00 is charged by the hotel. Which of the following represents Aaron’s total charge, in dollars, for staying x nights?
A. (.99.95 + 0.08x) + 5
B. 1.08(99.95x) + 5
C. 1.08(99.95x + 5)
D. 1.08(99.95) + 5x

Major emphasis on linear equations and inequalities
Mathematics Test

SAMPLE

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.

The Essay Test

Measures students’ ability to explain how an author crafts an argument
• Rates students on strength of analysis and coherence of writing
• Two readers will score each essay from 1-4 in three areas: Reading, Analysis, and Writing*
*Above scoring is provisional, pending research

The Essay Test

As you read the passage below, consider how Dana Gioia uses:
• evidence, such as facts or examples, to support claims.
• reasoning to develop ideas and to connect claims and evidence.
• stylistic or persuasive elements, such as word choice or appeals to emotion, to add power to the ideas expressed.

[High Quality Source Text Here – 650-750 Words]

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.
Primary Themes of Redesigned SAT

- Emphasis on citing evidence; permeates entire test, including Math
- Informational data graphics throughout entire test, including Reading and Writing.
- Reading from wide range of texts, including “Founding Documents” and works from “Great Global Conversation”
- Derive meaning of Tier 2 vocabulary through context, rather than in isolation
- Math focus is narrower and deeper
- Essay requires students to explain and analyze how an author crafts an argument
- Science and History/Social Studies tested throughout. Cross-Test scores generated in both areas.

ACT in Sheep’s Clothing?

- 4 answer choices
- Rights-only scoring
- Writing Test very similar to ACT English Test
- Test of achievement rather than aptitude
- Incorporates science

*See Comparison Chart similarities and differences among old SAT, redesigned SAT, and ACT

New SAT and ACT Differences

New SAT Questions
- More challenging
- Require deeper understanding of concepts
- Narrower focus of skills
- More time per question

ACT Questions
- Straightforward
- Require instant recognition
- Broader scope of skills
- Require constant, rapid pace
New SAT and ACT Differences

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>ACT</th>
<th>Redesigned SAT</th>
<th>% More Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>53 secs</td>
<td>75 secs</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math</td>
<td>60 secs</td>
<td>84 secs</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English/Writing</td>
<td>36 secs</td>
<td>48 secs</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>53 secs</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Test Dates – 2015/2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PSAT</th>
<th>SAT and Subject Tests*</th>
<th>ACT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 14, 2015</td>
<td>October 3, 2015</td>
<td>September 12, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 7, 2015</td>
<td>October 24, 2015</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 5, 2015</td>
<td>December 12, 2015</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 23, 2016</td>
<td>February 6, 2016</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 5, 2016 (SAT only)</td>
<td>April 9, 2016</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 7, 2016</td>
<td>June 11, 2016</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>June 4, 2016</td>
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</tbody>
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*Dates tentative. Please check collegeboard.org for latest information.

Have a Testing Plan

- Which tests should I take?
- When should I take them?
- How and when should I prepare for them?
Guiding Principles

• Students score their best at end of junior year and fall of senior year.
• It is the RARE student who is finished by January of junior year, even high scorers.
• Most students will score the same, no matter what tests they take, but it’s worth looking for a student’s best test.
• Prepping for one test helps prepare for the other.
• A good testing plan prioritizes school work over test prep. Testing early and often is generally not sensible.

Which Test(s)?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Pros</th>
<th>Cons</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current SAT</td>
<td>Familiar, Many real practice tests</td>
<td>Timing is off</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New SAT</td>
<td>Timing is right (mostly)</td>
<td>Unfamiliar, Delayed scores and concordance, Limited # of prototype practice tests</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACT</td>
<td>Familiar, Many real practice tests, Timing is right</td>
<td>Speed of test too much for some students</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Which Test to Choose?

Class of 2017 testing plans should favor which of the following college admissions tests?

Current SAT  ACT  Redesigned SAT
Testing Sequences (Class of 2017)

| Sophomore Fall | Most Students | High Scoring |
|               | Old PSAT (October 2014)? | Recruited Athletes |
|               | X | Junior Spring Abroad |
| Sophomore Winter/Spring | Old PSAT (October 2014)? | X |
| Sophomore Summer | Consider practice tests: old SAT, new SAT, ACT | Consider practice tests: old SAT, new SAT, ACT |
| Junior Fall | New PSAT (October 2015) | New PSAT (October 2015) |
| Junior Winter/Spring | • Feb/Apr/Jun ACTs (1x or 2x) | • Feb/Apr/Jun ACTs (1x or 2x) |
|               | • Consider skipping new SAT | • Consider skipping new SAT |
| Senior Fall | ACT and/or new SAT as needed | ACT and/or new SAT as needed |

Remaining Questions

- The College Reaction: Score Choice, Superscoring, Essay
- Three-way Concordance: old SAT-new SAT-ACT
- Year 1 best practices: ACT-first mindset?
- Testing accommodations
- ACT changes
- Subject Test changes

Looking Forward

- Students: Focus on reading
- Diagnostic testing early summer 2015: New SAT, old SAT, ACT
- Test planning: Which tests? When? How to prepare?
- Counselors: Messaging for parents and students
Last, But Not Least...

Maintain perspective. It’s just a test.

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Summit Educational Group
Focusing on the Individual Student

Grades 5-12 Test Preparation & Academic Support
- One-on-One, In-Home Test Prep and Tutoring
- Classroom-Based Test Prep
- Course Materials and Services

[Logo] [Contact Information]