



TestNinjas

DIGITAL SAT

Reading and Writing
Study Guide

2024

8 full-length practice modules

Tutorial for every question type

Expert strategies to increase scores

Access to online practice platform

SAT is a trademark registered of the College Board, which was not involved in the making, and does not endorse, this product.

DSAT Reading and Writing

Test Ninjas Publication

Made in California

2024 Edition

PREVIEW

www.test-ninjas.com

Contents

I	Introduction	6
1	Introduction: About the DSAT	7
1.0.1	Format	7
1.0.2	Test Duration	7
1.0.3	Adaptive Testing	7
1.0.4	Test Experience	8
1.0.5	Question Format	8
1.0.6	Test Security	8
1.0.7	Score Delivery	8
1.0.8	Conclusion	8
2	Reading Question Types	9
2.1	Introduction	9
2.1.1	Domain: Craft and Structure	9
2.1.2	Domain: Information and Ideas	10
2.1.3	Domain: Standard English Conventions	10
2.1.4	Domain: Expression of Ideas	10
3	Scoring 1600	12
3.1	The Ultimate Guide to Scoring 1600 on the SAT: Strategies and Tips	12

3.1.1	Building a Solid Foundation	12
3.1.2	Developing a Customized Study Plan	13
3.1.3	If you scored 1550	14
3.1.4	Non-Traditional Methods	14
3.1.5	Test-Taking Tips	14
3.1.6	Test day preparation	15
3.2	Building Mental Resilience	15
3.3	Mindfulness Meditation	16
3.4	Visualization	16
3.5	Positive Affirmations	17
3.6	Conclusion	17

II “How to Solve” Tutorials 18

4 How to Solve “Craft and Structure - Word In Context” 19

4.1	Example “Craft and Structure - Word In Context” Question	19
4.2	How to solve “Craft and Structure - Word In Context”	20

5 How to Solve “Craft and Structure - Text Structure and Purpose” 23

5.1	Example “Craft and Structure - Text Structure and Purpose” Question	23
5.2	How to solve “Craft and Structure - Text Structure and Purpose”	24

6 How to Solve “Craft and Structure - Cross-Text Connections” 28

6.1	Example “Craft and Structure - Cross-Text Connections” Question	28
6.2	How to solve “Craft and Structure - Cross-Text Connections”	29

7 How to Solve “Information and Ideas - Central Ideas and Details” 33

7.1	Example “Craft and Structure - Cross-Text Connections” Question	33
7.2	How to solve “Information and Ideas - Central Ideas and Details”	34

8	How to Solve “Information and Ideas - Command of Evidence”	38
8.1	Example “Information and Ideas - Command of Evidence” Question	38
8.2	How to solve “Information and Ideas - Command of Evidence”	39
9	How to Solve “Information and Ideas - Inferences”	43
9.1	Example “Inferences” Question	43
9.2	How to solve “Information and Ideas - Inferences”	44
10	How to Solve “Standard English Conventions - Boundaries”	48
10.1	Example “Standard English Conventions - Boundaries” Question	48
10.2	How to solve “Standard English Conventions - Boundaries”	49
11	How to Solve “Standard English Conventions - Form Structure, and Sense”	53
11.1	Example “Standard English Conventions - Form Structure, and Sense” Question . . .	53
11.2	How to solve “Standard English Conventions - Form, Structure, and Sense”	54
12	How to Solve “Expression of Ideas - Rhetorical Synthesis”	56
12.1	Example “Expression of Ideas - Rhetorical Synthesis” Question	57
12.2	How to solve “Expression of Ideas - Rhetorical Synthesis”	58
13	How to Solve “Expression of Ideas - Transitions”	62
13.1	Example “Expression of Ideas - Transitions” Question	62
13.2	How to solve “Expression of Ideas - Transition”	63
13.2.1	Additional Transition Word List	66
III	Practice Modules	69
14	Module 1	70
14.1	Module 1 Reading and Writing - 27 Questions	70
15	Module 1 Answers	85

16 Module 2	90
16.1 Module 2 Reading and Writing - 27 Questions	90
17 Module 2 Answers	105
18 Module 3	110
18.1 Module 3 Reading and Writing - 27 Questions	110
19 Module 3 Answers	125
20 Module 4	130
20.1 Module 4 Reading and Writing - 27 Questions	130
21 Module 4 Answers	145
22 Module 5	150
22.1 Module 5 Reading and Writing - 27 Questions	150
23 Module 5 Answers	165
24 Module 6	170
24.1 Module 6 Reading and Writing - 27 Questions	170
25 Module 6 Answers	185
26 Module 7	190
26.1 Module 7 Reading and Writing - 27 Questions	190
27 Module 7 Answers	205
28 Module 8	210
28.1 Module 8 Reading and Writing - 27 Questions	210
29 Module 8 Answers	225

Part I

Introduction

Chapter 1

Introduction: About the DSAT

The transition from the traditional paper-pencil SAT to the digital SAT brings several key differences that impact the format, test duration, adaptability, test experience, question format, test security, and score delivery. Understanding these differences will help students better prepare for the new digital SAT.

1.0.1 Format

The digital SAT will be taken on a laptop or tablet using a custom exam application, while the old SAT used paper and pencil. The digital format offers greater flexibility and convenience for test-takers, as well as streamlined administration and grading for test centers.

1.0.2 Test Duration

The digital SAT will be shorter, approximately 2 hours long, compared to the old SAT's 3-hour duration. This change in duration reduces test fatigue, allowing students to maintain focus and perform optimally throughout the exam.

1.0.3 Adaptive Testing

The digital SAT will be adaptive, adjusting the questions in the second module based on a student's performance in the first module. The old SAT did not have adaptive testing and followed a fixed question sequence. Adaptive testing allows the digital SAT to provide a more accurate assessment of a student's abilities by tailoring the test to their specific skill level.

1.0.4 Test Experience

The digital SAT will have built-in tools like a countdown clock, flagging questions for review, a built-in graphing calculator, and a math reference sheet. These tools were not available in the old SAT format. The additional tools provided in the digital SAT enhance the testing experience and allow for more efficient test-taking strategies.

1.0.5 Question Format

The digital SAT will feature more direct questions, with the Reading and Writing section containing shorter texts tied to individual questions. The Math section will have more concise word problems. The old SAT had longer reading passages with multiple questions per passage and lengthier word problems. The new question format in the digital SAT aims to streamline the testing process, focusing on the core skills and knowledge required for college and career readiness.

1.0.6 Test Security

The digital SAT provides unique test forms for each student, making it almost impossible to share answers and increasing test security. The old SAT had standardized test forms, which were less secure. By implementing unique test forms, the digital SAT ensures a fair testing environment and protects the integrity of the test results.

1.0.7 Score Delivery

Scores for the digital SAT will be delivered in days instead of weeks, as was the case with the old SAT. The expedited score delivery allows students to receive their results more quickly, enabling them to make timely decisions regarding college applications and other opportunities.

1.0.8 Conclusion

Despite these differences, both the digital and old SAT will measure the same core reading, writing, and math skills, use the same 1600-point scoring scale, and aim to assess college and career readiness. By understanding the key differences between the digital and paper-pencil SAT, students can adapt their preparation strategies and maximize their performance on the new digital SAT format.

Chapter 2

Reading Question Types

2.1 Introduction

The SAT Reading section is designed to assess a student's comprehension, vocabulary, analysis, synthesis, and reasoning skills across various domains. The test focuses on four primary domains: Craft and Structure, Information and Ideas, Standard English Conventions, and Expression of Ideas. Within these domains, ten specific skill areas are evaluated. A thorough understanding of these domains and skills will help you develop effective strategies for tackling the SAT Reading section. In this chapter, we will provide an in-depth introduction to each domain and their associated question types.

2.1.1 Domain: Craft and Structure

The Craft and Structure domain evaluates a student's ability to understand and use high-utility words and phrases, assess texts rhetorically, and establish connections between related texts. There are three primary question types associated with this domain:

- **Words in Context:** These questions require students to determine the meaning of high-utility academic words or phrases in context or to use them precisely and contextually appropriate. To excel at these questions, students should expand their vocabulary and develop skills for understanding words in context.
- **Text Structure and Purpose:** In this question type, students must analyze the structure of a text or determine its main rhetorical purpose. Developing a deep understanding of various text structures and rhetorical purposes will enable students to approach these questions effectively.
- **Cross-Text Connections:** These questions assess a student's ability to draw reasonable connections between two topically related texts. To perform well on these questions, students should practice identifying thematic and structural similarities between different texts.

2.1.2 Domain: Information and Ideas

The Information and Ideas domain measures a student’s comprehension, analysis, and reasoning skills, as well as their ability to locate, interpret, evaluate, and integrate information and ideas from texts and informational graphics. This domain features three main question types:

- **Central Ideas and Details:** In these questions, students are required to determine the central idea of a text and/or interpret the key details supporting that idea. To excel at these questions, students should practice identifying central ideas and relevant details in a variety of texts.
- **Command of Evidence:** These questions challenge students to use textual or quantitative evidence to support, challenge, or respond to a specified claim or point. To succeed in this question type, students must develop skills for finding and interpreting relevant evidence within a text.
- **Inferences:** These questions assess a student’s ability to draw reasonable inferences based on explicit and/or implicit information and ideas in a text. To perform well on these questions, students should practice making logical inferences from various texts.

2.1.3 Domain: Standard English Conventions

The Standard English Conventions domain measures a student’s ability to edit texts to conform to core conventions of Standard English sentence structure, usage, and punctuation. There are two primary question types associated with this domain:

- **Boundaries:** These questions require students to edit text to ensure that sentences are conventionally complete. To excel at these questions, students should familiarize themselves with the rules of Standard English sentence structure.
- **Form, Structure, and Sense:** In this question type, students must edit text to conform to conventional usage, such as agreement and verb tense/aspect. Developing a thorough understanding of the rules governing Standard English usage will enable students to approach these questions effectively.

2.1.4 Domain: Expression of Ideas

The Expression of Ideas domain measures a student’s ability to revise texts to improve

the effectiveness of written expression and to meet specific rhetorical goals. This domain features two main question types:

-
- **Rhetorical Synthesis:** These questions challenge students to strategically integrate provided information and ideas on a topic to form an effective sentence achieving a specified rhetorical aim. To excel at these questions, students should practice synthesizing information from various sources to create coherent and persuasive sentences.
 - **Transitions:** In this question type, students must determine the most effective transition word or phrase to logically connect information and ideas in a text. Developing a deep understanding of various transition words and phrases and their appropriate usage will enable students to approach these questions effectively.

In conclusion, a thorough understanding of the four primary domains and their associated question types is essential for success in the SAT Reading section. By familiarizing yourself with these domains and question types, you can develop targeted strategies to improve your performance and increase your overall score.

Chapter 3

Scoring 1600

3.1 The Ultimate Guide to Scoring 1600 on the SAT: Strategies and Tips

Achieving a perfect score of 1600 on the SAT is an impressive feat that requires dedication, strategy, and the right approach. In this comprehensive guide, we will cover step-by-step strategies, tips, and tricks, as well as non-traditional methods for improving your SAT score, no matter where you currently stand. We will delve into both the Math and Reading sections, as well as general test-taking tips, to help you make the leap to that perfect 1600.

3.1.1 Building a Solid Foundation

To begin your SAT preparation, it's essential to determine your baseline score. This refers to the score you would achieve if you were to take the SAT without any prior preparation. To identify your baseline score, take an official SAT practice test under realistic testing conditions, including adhering to the time limits for each section. Your baseline score serves multiple purposes:

Goal Setting: Knowing your baseline score will help you set realistic goals for your target SAT score. This will allow you to gauge the amount of improvement needed and the time required to reach that goal.

Progress Tracking: As you continue your preparation, taking periodic practice tests will enable you to compare your scores with your baseline and track your progress. This will help you adjust your study plan accordingly, focusing on areas that need improvement.

Motivation: Witnessing your progress from your baseline score can be a powerful motivator, encouraging you to continue your efforts and maintain your focus on achieving your target score. By understanding the SAT format and identifying your baseline score, you're taking the first critical steps toward SAT success. This knowledge will serve as a foundation for your study

plan and empower you to make the most of your preparation time.

3.1.2 Developing a Customized Study Plan

Developing a study schedule tailored to your current score and the time you have until the test date is crucial for success. Allocate more time to areas where you struggle the most, and maintain consistency in following your schedule. Break down your study time into manageable sessions and ensure you include regular breaks to prevent burnout.

Selecting the best study materials is essential for effective preparation. Some recommended resources include:

Official SAT practice tests: These tests provide the most accurate representation of the actual exam, enabling you to gauge your readiness and identify areas for improvement.

Online resources: Websites like Test Ninjas and Khan Academy offer a wealth of study materials, including video lessons, interactive quizzes, and customized study plans.

Strategies for Each Score Range

If you scored 1200

Focus on understanding fundamental concepts and mastering the basics in both Reading and Math.

Develop your reading comprehension skills by regularly reading diverse texts.

Familiarize yourself with the most common grammar rules.

Begin learning essential techniques.

If you scored 1300

Continue building on your foundational knowledge.

Identify weaknesses and work on specific content areas.

Develop test-taking strategies like time management and process of elimination.

If you scored 1400

Refine your strategies and focus on accuracy.

Work on time management and pacing.

Analyze your mistakes and learn from them.

If you scored 1500

Prioritize perfecting your weakest section.

Focus on the most challenging questions.

Develop resilience and a calm mindset for test day.

3.1.3 If you scored 1550

Fine-tune your strategies and focus on eliminating careless errors.

Maintain your skills through regular practice.

Engage in mental preparation and stress management techniques.

3.1.4 Non-Traditional Methods

Mind mapping

Use mind maps to visualize concepts and relationships between topics, especially Reading and Writing. This technique can improve comprehension and retention.

Dual coding

Combine visual and verbal representations of information to improve understanding and recall. Create diagrams, charts, or infographics to accompany your notes.

Interleaved practice

Mix practice sessions by alternating between different subjects and topics to avoid mental fatigue and enhance long-term learning.

3.1.5 Test-Taking Tips

Time management: Allocate a specific amount of time per question, skip difficult questions, and return to them later to maximize efficiency.

Process of elimination: Eliminate incorrect answer choices to increase your chances of selecting the right answer.

Double-check your work: Revisit questions, especially those you were unsure about, to ensure you haven't made any careless mistakes. Review your calculations in the Math section to confirm accuracy.

Maintain a steady pace: Find a balance between speed and accuracy to ensure you have enough time to complete the test without sacrificing precision.

Reading strategies: Skim the passage first for a general understanding, then read more carefully for details. Annotate key points and main ideas to stay engaged and facilitate comprehension. Practice active reading to improve focus and retention.

3.1.6 Test day preparation

The days leading up to the SAT, and the test day itself, can be filled with anxiety and stress. Adequate preparation is essential for achieving the best possible outcome. In this section, we will explore how to effectively prepare for test day, covering the importance of sleep, nutrition, gathering essential materials, dressing for comfort, and arriving at the test center early.

Get a Good Night's Sleep: A good night's sleep is crucial for optimal cognitive functioning. Ensuring that you are well-rested before the test can significantly impact your ability to concentrate, make decisions, and recall information. Aim to establish a consistent sleep schedule in the weeks leading up to the SAT, and prioritize sleep the night before the test.

Eat a Nutritious Breakfast: Eating a balanced and nutritious breakfast on test day provides the fuel your brain needs to function effectively. Choose foods that are rich in complex carbohydrates, proteins, and healthy fats to sustain energy levels throughout the exam. Avoid sugary or overly processed foods, which can lead to energy crashes.

Dressing for Comfort: Wearing comfortable clothing on test day can help minimize distractions and allow you to focus on the exam. Dress in layers to accommodate potential fluctuations in temperature at the testing center. Choose comfortable, loose-fitting clothes and supportive footwear to maximize your comfort throughout the test.

3.2 Building Mental Resilience

Maintaining a strong and healthy mental state is crucial for achieving success on the SAT. Incorporating mindfulness meditation, visualization, positive affirmations, and stress management techniques into your daily routine can significantly improve focus, reduce stress, and enhance overall mental well-being. In this chapter, we will delve into each of these practices and discuss how they can contribute to a more effective SAT preparation experience.

3.3 Mindfulness Meditation

Mindfulness meditation is a practice that involves paying attention to the present moment, without judgment. Regular practice of mindfulness meditation can lead to numerous benefits, such as increased focus, reduced stress, and enhanced emotional regulation. Here are some steps to begin practicing mindfulness meditation:

1. Find a quiet, comfortable space where you can sit or lie down without distractions.
2. Close your eyes and take several deep breaths, inhaling through your nose and exhaling through your mouth.
3. Begin to focus on your breath, paying attention to the sensation of air entering and leaving your body.
4. As thoughts arise, acknowledge them without judgment and gently bring your focus back to your breath.
5. Practice mindfulness meditation for a few minutes each day, gradually increasing the duration as you become more comfortable with the practice.

3.4 Visualization

Visualization is a powerful technique that involves creating vivid mental images of desired outcomes or situations. By visualizing yourself achieving your goal of a perfect 1600 on the SAT, as well as successfully tackling challenges during the test, you can boost your self-confidence and motivation. To practice visualization:

1. Find a quiet, comfortable space where you can sit or lie down without distractions.
2. Close your eyes and take several deep breaths to relax your body and mind.
3. Begin to imagine yourself in the testing environment, feeling confident and prepared.
4. Visualize yourself calmly and accurately answering questions, managing your time effectively, and remaining focused throughout the test.
5. Picture yourself receiving your desired SAT score and experiencing the emotions associated with this accomplishment.
6. Practice visualization for a few minutes each day, ideally before or after your study sessions.

3.5 Positive Affirmations

Positive affirmations are concise, encouraging statements that are used to challenge and replace negative thoughts. Reciting positive affirmations regularly can help reinforce self-belief and counteract negative thoughts. To incorporate positive affirmations into your SAT preparation routine:

1. Write down a list of positive affirmations related to your SAT preparation and goals, such as "I am capable of achieving a perfect score," or "I am a focused and disciplined learner."
2. Read through your list of affirmations each morning and evening, or any time you need a boost of motivation.
3. Repeat your affirmations aloud or silently to yourself, focusing on the words and the positive emotions they evoke.
4. Practice this technique regularly to strengthen your self-belief and maintain a positive mindset during your SAT preparation.

3.6 Conclusion

Achieving a perfect 1600 on the SAT is a challenging but attainable goal with dedication, effective strategies, and consistent effort. By following this comprehensive guide, you will be well-equipped to tackle the SAT with confidence and ultimately reach your target score. Remember, improvement takes time, so be patient, stay persistent, and maintain a positive attitude throughout your journey.

Part II

“How to Solve” Tutorials

Chapter 4

How to Solve "Craft and Structure - Word In Context"

4.1 Example "Craft and Structure - Word In Context" Question

In a democratic society, the citizens are expected to participate in the political process. Voting is the most fundamental form of civic engagement, but it is just one aspect of being an active citizen. Citizens can also engage in public debates, join political parties, or even run for public office. The health of a democracy is often gauged by the level of its citizens' _____ in these various activities.

Which choice completes the text with the most logical and precise word or phrase?

- A) abstention
- B) participation
- C) indifference
- D) rejection

Correct Answer:

B) participation

Explanation:

'participation' is the correct answer because it refers to the active involvement of citizens in the political process, which is the focus of the passage.

Distractor Explanation:

- A) ‘abstention’ is incorrect because it implies non-involvement or non-participation, which is contrary to the message of the passage.
- C) ‘indifference’ is incorrect because it suggests that citizens do not care about the political process, which is not the focus of the passage.
- D) ‘rejection’ is incorrect because it implies that citizens actively oppose the political process, which is not the focus of the passage.

4.2 How to solve “Craft and Structure - Word In Context”

“Craft and Structure - Word In Context” DSAT questions are designed to test your comprehension, vocabulary, analysis, synthesis, and reasoning skills. These questions require you to determine the meaning of a high-utility academic word or phrase in context or use such vocabulary in a precise, contextually appropriate way. In this tutorial, we will go through a step-by-step process to solve these types of questions using the example provided.

Key Steps to Solving Word In Context Questions

1. Read the passage and question carefully with a focus on context
2. Identify the missing word or phrase and the surrounding context
3. Analyze the context of the missing word or phrase
4. Review the choices
5. Evaluate each choice in the context
6. Choose the most logical and precise word or phrase

Step 1: Read the passage and question carefully with a focus on context

Begin by reading the passage and question provided. As you read, pay close attention to the context and main idea of the passage. Take note of any keywords, phrases, or themes that might be relevant to the question.

In our example, the passage discusses the importance of citizen participation in a democratic society and the various ways citizens can engage in the political process. Key themes include democracy, citizen engagement, voting, and political activities.

After reading the passage, read the question and make sure you understand what it is asking. In this case, the question is: "Which choice completes the text with the most logical and precise word or phrase?"

Step 2: Identify the missing word or phrase and the surrounding context

Next, locate the blank space in the passage where the missing word or phrase should be placed. Carefully read the sentence containing the blank space, as well as the sentences immediately before and after it, to understand the context in which the missing word or phrase must fit.

In our example, the blank space is located in the sentence: "The health of a democracy is often gauged by the level of its citizens' _____ in these various activities." The surrounding context includes the previous sentence, which mentions the different forms of civic engagement, such as voting, engaging in public debates, joining political parties, and running for public office.

These extended steps provide you with a deeper understanding of the context in which the missing word or phrase must fit. By focusing on the passage's main idea, key themes, and surrounding context, you'll be better prepared to evaluate the choices provided and select the most logical and precise word or phrase to complete the passage.

Step 3: Analyze the context of the missing word or phrase

Analyze the context around the blank space to understand what the missing word or phrase should convey. In our example, the context suggests that the word or phrase should describe the citizens' involvement in the various political activities mentioned in the passage.

Step 4: Review the choices

Review the choices provided for the missing word or phrase. Consider each choice and whether it fits logically and precisely in the context of the passage. In our example, we have the following choices:

- A) abstention
- B) participation
- C) indifference
- D) rejection

Step 5: Evaluate each choice in the context

Evaluate each choice by placing it in the blank space and determining whether it logically and precisely completes the sentence in the context of the passage.

A) “The health of a democracy is often gauged by the level of its citizens’ abstention in these various activities.”

This choice suggests that the health of a democracy is measured by citizens not participating in political activities, which contradicts the passage’s emphasis on participation.

B) “The health of a democracy is often gauged by the level of its citizens’ participation in these various activities.”

This choice fits the context, as it emphasizes the importance of citizen involvement in political activities for a healthy democracy.

C) “The health of a democracy is often gauged by the level of its citizens’ indifference in these various activities.”

This choice suggests that the health of a democracy is measured by citizens’ lack of interest, which also contradicts the passage’s emphasis on participation.

D) “The health of a democracy is often gauged by the level of its citizens’ rejection in these various activities.”

This choice implies that the health of a democracy is measured by citizens’ rejection of political activities, which again contradicts the passage’s emphasis on participation.

Step 6: Choose the most logical and precise word or phrase

Based on your evaluation in Step 5, choose the word or phrase that most logically and precisely completes the passage. In our example, the correct answer is **B)** participation, as it emphasizes the importance of citizen involvement in political activities for a healthy democracy.

By following these steps, you can effectively solve “Craft and Structure - Word In Context” DSAT questions. Always remember to read the passage and question carefully, analyze the context, evaluate the choices, and select the most logical and precise word or phrase to complete the passage.