

HERE ARE **FIVE**  
**THINGS** YOU  
NEED TO KNOW  
**ABOUT** BEFORE  
TAKING **THE**  
NEW **SAT**®.

# FIVE THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT THE NEW SAT®

If you're planning to take the SAT in March 2016 — or any time after — you'll be taking the new test. Check out some of the ways the College Board has made the SAT more focused, clear, and useful.

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1. **It better reflects what you're learning in class.** The best way to practice for the new SAT is to take challenging courses in high school and work hard in those courses.
  2. **"SAT vocabulary words" are gone.** Two words you won't see on the test: "prevaricator" and "sagacious." You may see a word like "synthesis," which you're more likely to use again.
  3. **There's no penalty for guessing.** You'll receive points for the questions you get right.
  4. **It focuses on the math that matters most** for college and a wide variety of careers.
  5. **Free test practice for all.** We've partnered with Khan Academy® to provide free, world-class SAT practice materials that can be personalized just for you. Unlike traditional test prep, which suggests cramming for a single test, our practice tools complement your classwork to help improve your skills long after the test is over.
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Test fee waivers will be available for all eligible students, and most colleges plan to accept scores from both the current and the redesigned SAT for the next few years. Check with prospective colleges to confirm their score policies.

To find out more about the SAT and how we can help you navigate a path to college and career, visit [sat.org/new](http://sat.org/new).

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[sat.org/new](http://sat.org/new)  
#NewSAT





MARCH 2016 WILL  
**MARK** THE FIRST  
ADMINISTRATION OF  
THE NEW SAT<sup>®</sup>. START  
PLANNING **YOUR**  
COLLEGE ADMISSION  
PROCESS WITH THESE  
KEY **CALENDAR** DATES.

# MARK YOUR CALENDAR

## SAT® Timeline: What's Happening When

The SAT is an important part of the college admission process, and we want to make sure you know when to take the test and how to access our free practice help.

We're unveiling the new SAT in **March 2016**. This means that if you're taking the test any time before then, you'll take the current SAT; if you're taking the test from March 2016 onward, you'll take the new SAT.

## Key Dates

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- September 2015** First administration of the PSAT™ 8/9. The PSAT 8/9 is tightly aligned with the SAT and PSAT/NMSQT® and establishes a baseline for college and career readiness as students enter high school.
- October 2015** First administration of the redesigned PSAT/NMSQT. Taking this test is good practice for the new SAT and will give you an idea of what types of questions to expect.
- January 2016** The last time we're offering the current SAT.
- March 2016** First administration of the new SAT.

## Which test will you take?

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- Class of 2016** Most students will take the current SAT to meet the majority of admission deadlines. However, if you're applying to schools with rolling admission or if you plan to take a year off before college, you can take the new SAT near the end of your senior year.
- Class of 2017** While most students will take the new SAT in March 2016, you have the option of taking the current SAT in October, November, December 2015, or January 2016. You may also take both versions.
- Class of 2018** All students will take the new SAT.

## Official SAT Practice on KhanAcademy.org

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We've partnered with Khan Academy® to provide free, world-class test practice for the new SAT. When you sign up at [satpractice.org](http://satpractice.org), you'll be able to access materials created by Khan Academy and the College Board, including:

- ➔ Full-length practice tests
- ➔ Answer explanations for all four practice tests
- ➔ Thousands of official practice questions
- ➔ Personalized practice recommendations

Be sure to check the website often for added features, such as scaled scores, which let you see how you might perform on an actual administration of the new SAT. The site also features practice tools for the current SAT through January 2016. Visit [sat.org/new](http://sat.org/new).

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[sat.org/new](http://sat.org/new)  
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# CURRENT SAT® VS. NEW SAT

Final Administration  
**JANUARY 2016**



**171**  
Questions

**225**  
Minutes



First Administration  
**MARCH 2016**



**154**  
Questions

**180**  
Minutes\*

\*155 with Essay

\*230 with Essay

## SECTIONS

**CRITICAL  
READING**

**MATHEMATICS**

**WRITING**

- Tests general reasoning skills.
- Tests a wide range of math skills.
- Questions in the Critical Reading Section ask students to understand texts but won't ask them to cite evidence in their answers. Writing Section questions are based on sentences or short paragraphs.



**EVIDENCE-BASED  
READING AND WRITING**

**MATH**

- Measures skills and knowledge students need to be ready for college and beyond. Better reflects what students learn in class.
- Focuses on math that research shows is used most in college and career.
- Questions in the Evidence-Based Reading and Writing Section are passage-based. Students are asked to support answers with evidence from a passage.

Includes some uncommon vocabulary words that students may not use regularly.

**ABSTEMIOUS**

**SYNTHESIS**

Tests words students are more likely to use again. They're in context, so students can figure out what words mean from the surrounding text.

**ESSAY REQUIRED**



**ESSAY OPTIONAL**

## SCORING

Score Range:

**600–2400**

**POINTS SUBTRACTED**  
for incorrect answers



Score Range:

**400–1600**

**NO PENALTY**  
for guessing

Most colleges and universities will accept scores from both the current and the new SAT. Students should check with individual schools to learn more about their admission policies. SAT fee waivers are available for all eligible students.

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