

Noontime Knowledge: The Digital SAT & Using Accommodations

Thursday, April 20, 2023

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Thank you for inviting us to join this series!



Noontime Knowledge

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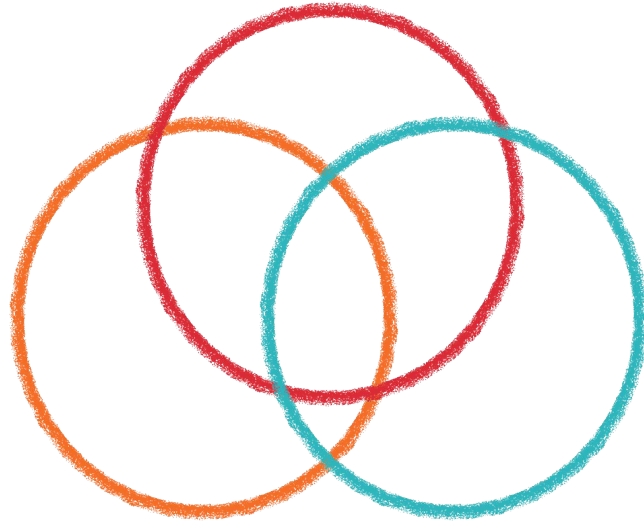
A 3 part webinar series

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Applerouth: Our Why



When you change students' self-beliefs,
you change their lives.

Building Skills for School and Beyond

**Academic
Tutoring**

**Test
Prep**

**Executive
Function
Coaching**

The SAT is changing, again

1994

Drop antonyms
Score Recentering

2005

Integrate Writing
Add the Essay
Drop Analogies

2016

Common Core
Alignment
Vocab Overhaul
New Math

2023

Digital Delivery for
International students
Adaptive
Short form passages

Roughly every 10 years the test gets an update. The digital change is as big of a change as the 2016 overhaul

CB has been preparing for a digital test for years

- CB has been administering Computer based SAT tests at the district level for years
- CB gained valuable experience administering AP exams online to millions of students during the pandemic
- CB is moving directly to Computer Adaptive Testing

Timelines

- Paper ended for international students with the administration of the first digital adaptive SAT March 2023.
- For US students, the SAT migration takes place March 2024.

Digital Testing Timeline

2022

- ✓ Summer: format and practice released
- ✓ Fall: Practice tests released via Khan Academy and CB
- ✓ First reportable scores from digital SAT pilots in August.

2023

- ✓ **March Test was digital for all internationals**
 - October PSAT is digital for all domestic students, grades 8,9,11
 - Fall- release of predictive validity study of digital and paper SATs

2024

- March Test is digital for all US students

CB has been hitting its targets, inspiring more confidence in the rollout dates

The practice tests are available

October 18th the College Board released 4 much-awaited, full-length digital practice tests as well as 4 linear, paper-tests.

These tests are static, so all students will see the same practice items and sections. Official tests will be dynamic, and each students will see a unique assortment of questions.

Bluebook is the app for digital SATs

Download Bluebook

Download requires Windows 10 or later and 250 MB of available disk space.

If you're testing with a school-managed device and you can't complete the download, reach out to someone at your school for help.

 Download for Windows

Installation Instructions

Click the download button above, then follow these instructions to install the app on your device.

- 1** Find Your Download
Open your Downloads folder and double-click on Bluebook Setup 0.9.106.exe. This will create a shortcut to the app on your desktop.
- 2** Open the App
From your desktop, double-click the shortcut (the star icon) to open the app.

<https://bluebook.app.collegeboard.org/>

Bluebook is impressive

- The Bluebook app is streamlined and largely intuitive. The digital tools are easy to find, use, and then hide once you are done with them.
- Bluebook is the app for both practice and for official testing.



How bluebook works

- Students will download the Bluebook app onto a personal laptop or tablet and bring their device in on test-day (or coordinate in advance to receive a device from the College Board).
- The application will block other apps from running
- Students will enter a code at the test center, and a previously downloaded test will be activated and unlocked.



4 Linear Practice tests are now available for study

- <https://satsuite.collegeboard.org/digital/digital-practice-preparation/practice-tests/linear>
- Google “SAT linear practice tests”
- 4 tests for free practice

Why Digital testing?

Digital tests have lots of potential advantages over paper ones.

- Eliminates the need for human proctors to manage time; makes the test **more consistent and reliable**
- Eliminates issues with bubbling or gridding in answers, or **the need for scantrons**;
- Makes it easier to schedule school-day tests or offer **SATs on demand**;
- **Increases test security**, making it less likely whole test administrations will need to be cancelled;
- **Improves accommodations** available for students with learning differences
- Results will be available **faster** (within days, not weeks)
- Test can be **more efficient**, saving students time (and focus!)

Dramatically more secure

- Paper tests have always had the issue of item exposure- a person getting their hands on a copy of the test, or on the answers to specific test items. (This led to test cancellations in many countries around the world.)
- The College Board will create unique baseline and adaptive sections for each student, drawn from an enormous bank of problems and using technology that allows items to be slightly modified.
- In a given test room, different students will have different baseline sections (as with the GRE), so there will be no use telling another student the answers. There's no longer a fixed test form for all students.
- This format effectively eliminates item exposure
- This format requires the College Board to develop enormous problem banks and section banks, which has become easier leveraging technology, machine learning and such.

Major Changes

- The test will be **shorter** (2:24 rather than 3:15)
- Students will get **more time to answer questions**, so there will be less emphasis on speed
- The reading passages will be **shorter** (one question per passage) and cover a **wider range of topics**
- Students will be able to use a **calculator** throughout the math test (no non-calc section)

Other changes

- Schools will have much more **flexibility in scheduling**, so we should expect to see a lot more in-school testing. (School day is major for CB: 36% School day in 2018. vs 63% School day for class of 2022)
- Scores will be returned within days, not weeks!

What's staying the same?

- Test content is largely unchanged.
- SAT Math is testing the same material, although the number of word problems is decreasing- less reading burden
- Reading and Writing section will test the same material, with the exception of the change in format to shorter form reading sections.
- Scoring is staying the same. CB indicates that students should score similarly on the paper and digital versions of the test, and will release validity data later. If the scores are truly equivalent, new concordance tables with the ACT will be unnecessary.

Timing of the digital SAT

- The total timing for the test administration, including the 10-minute break between the “verbal” (Reading and Writing) and math sections, is 2 hours and 24 minutes.
- This is a remarkably **shorter test** than the current SAT and the ACT.
- The amount of **time per question has been significantly increased** on both sections of the test.

Much more time per question

Question type	Seconds per question
dSAT verbal (R+W)	71.0
ACT verbal (R+E)	44.3
dSAT math	95.5
ACT math	60.0

Compared to the ACT, the digital SAT allows a whopping **60.5%** increase in the amount of time allotted per question on verbal and **59%** more time per question on math.

Psychometricians decreased the number of items so more kids would finish the digital SAT

- By increasing the verbal section from 60 minutes to 64 minutes and cutting the number of questions from 56 to 54, an “additional segment of the test-taking population [was able to] finish the section without rushing.”
- The psychometricians reduced the math section by 2 questions to achieve this same goal.

Test Structure

Initial set up		
Reading and Writing baseline module	32 minutes	27 questions
Reading and writing adaptive module (Easier or Harder)	32 minutes	27 questions
10-minute break		
Math baseline module	35 minutes	22 questions
Math adaptive module (Easier or Harder)	35 minutes	22 question

2:24 Total Testing Time

Section Structure

Timing per section	Number of questions per section	
Reading and writing	32 minutes	27 questions: 25 operational and 2 experimental
Math	35 minutes	22 questions: 20 operational and 2 experimental



Embedded experimental items, not sections

- CB is integrating experimental items within sections to gauge the difficulty and reliability of those items for future administrations.
- 8% of the test items, 8 of the 98 total, will be experimental.
- Given that students will see different tests, CB can try out thousands of experimental items on a given administration.
- This allows the test to remain very short.

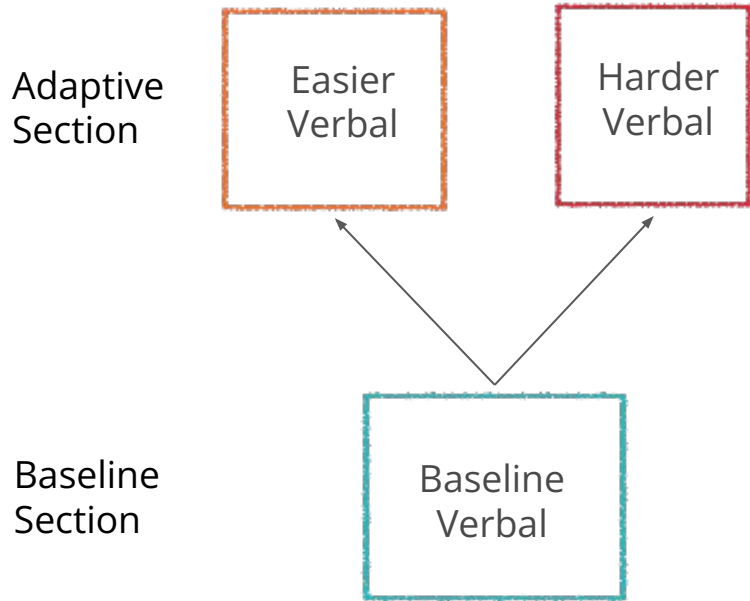
What does “adaptive” mean?

- The new SAT will be **SECTION-adaptive**, as opposed to QUESTION-adaptive. Students will see reading/writing and math each twice. Section One will be set, and Section Two will vary based on how the student performs in Section One.
- The second module will adapt in only one of two ways- the questions will be, on average, easier than the baseline, or harder than the baseline
- In adaptive testing, there’s **no single, set test form**
- **Earlier questions** can affect students’ scores more than later ones

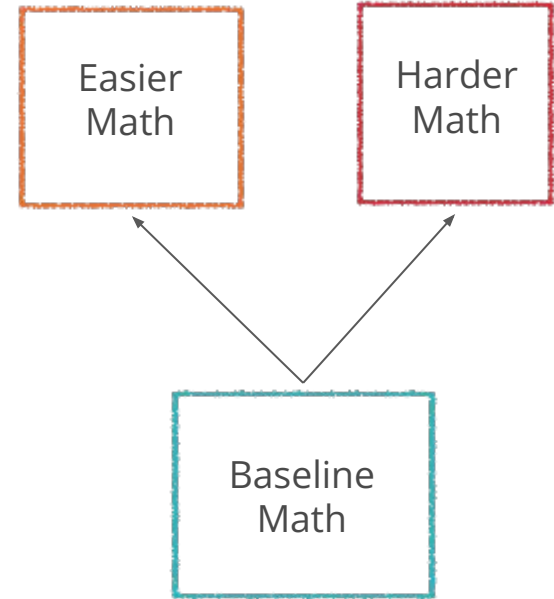
Item Response Scoring

- Individual items, in particular sections, have differential weights. College Board refers to the differential weighting as “item response scoring.”
- All items within a section do not count the same. Different items have a stronger predictive value of a student’s latent ability, and thus carry more weight.
- Lead psychometrician at College Board, Tom Proctor, announced that in 2023-2024 College Board will release a technical manual explaining the new SAT’s complex scoring system.

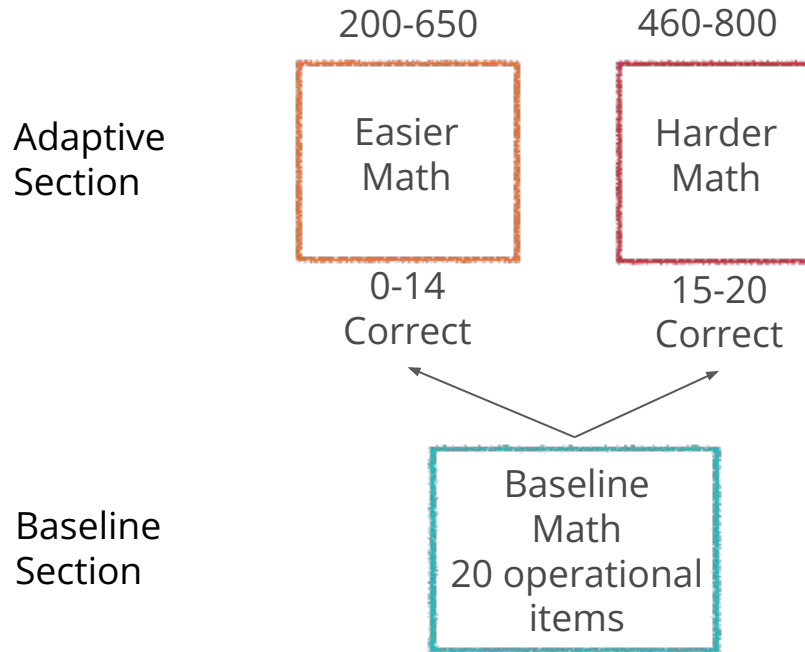
Adaptive Sections



Array of easy to hard items.
Raw score on baseline will determine the adaptive section



Example scoring



Your baseline section acts as the anchor. Points you earned, you cannot lose. Points you missed are factored in too. Your adaptive section is thus bracketed by your baseline performance. You'll be sent to a section with a fixed level of difficulty with a fixed score potential

Advancing to the harder module

- On the first practice test ATS found that getting 15/22 math problems correct on the first section was the threshold to advance to the harder math section.
- The cutoff for verbal was 18/27 items correct.
- **It seems a student will need to answer roughly 2/3 of the items correctly to advance to the more rigorous sections.**
- It is not yet clear whether differential item weighting affects the progression to the harder module, or simply effects the scaled score.

More on adaptive sections

- Once you anchor in points in the baseline, you cannot lose them. If you get 10 of 20 questions on the baseline, you've locked in those points. Even if you miss every question on the adaptive section, you've locked in a minimum score.
- Performance on the baseline determines what level of difficulty you will receive in the adaptive section. If you answer 5 of 20 on the baseline, you've already locked in 15 missed items. Thus, your score potential is already capped.

More on adaptive sections

- Within a section, individual items are weighted differently
- Level of difficulty randomized on verbal.
- Level of difficulty of questions increases on a math section.
- Statistical equating will be used to determine the raw score to scaled score calculation for each section- weights will not be the same for each adaptive section path.

Scoring no longer corresponds directly with how many you answered correctly

Reading and Writing
scoring Digital Test 1

	Correct Module 1	Correct Module 2	Total Correct	Scaled Score
Harder	25	7	32	580
	21	23	44	660
Easier	18	25	43	560

32 correct: 580
43 correct: 560

Scoring Edges

The Easy Upper Limit

- From early analysis it seems a student who is routed to the easier module on math (missing more than 7 items) is capped at roughly a 650.

The Hard Lower Limit

- it seems the scoring minimum for a student advancing to the hard math module is roughly a 460 (15 of 44 total items answered correctly).

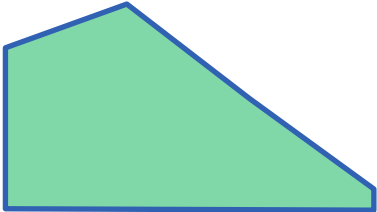
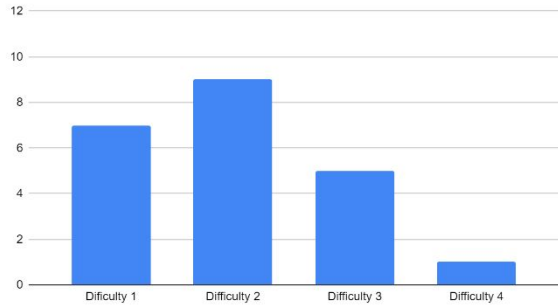
Scoring scales will vary slightly by test

Easier and Harder Adaptive Modules

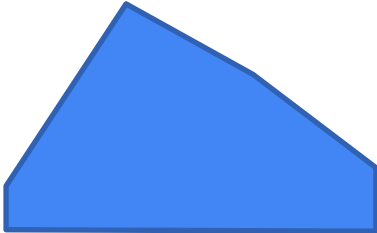
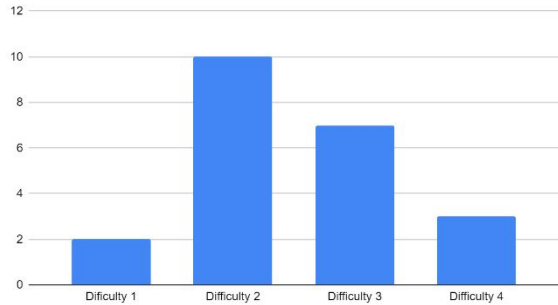
- There is a pronounced difference in average difficulty level between the easy and hard adaptive module. Students who find themselves on easy street for the adaptive section have most likely landed in the lower-level module.
- By our estimate, **16 out of 22 questions** on the easier module were Easy/Medium difficulty compared to only **5 out of 22 questions** on the harder module.

Digital Math Test 1 difficulty analysis

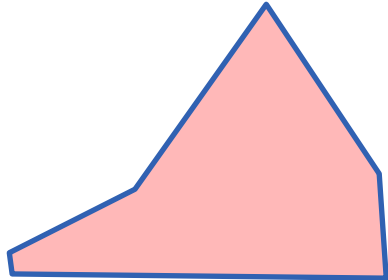
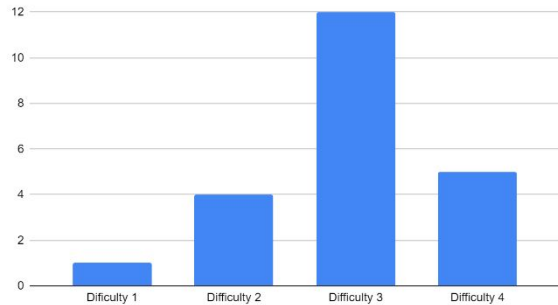
Module 2 Easy



Module 1



Module 2 Hard



Math: significantly fewer problems

- 44 total problems, down from 58 on the current SAT, 24% fewer problems.
- Feels more manageable

Math: less of a reading burden

- Math items now have **fewer words per problem**, which is great for non-native speakers.
- On the digital SAT only 30% of math items will be in the context of science or social studies or real-world applications. The remaining 70% of items will be “pure” math problems.
- This marks a decrease from the current SAT and the ACT.
- Going forward the digital SAT math section may be less reading-intensive than the ACT, which would be a very significant change.

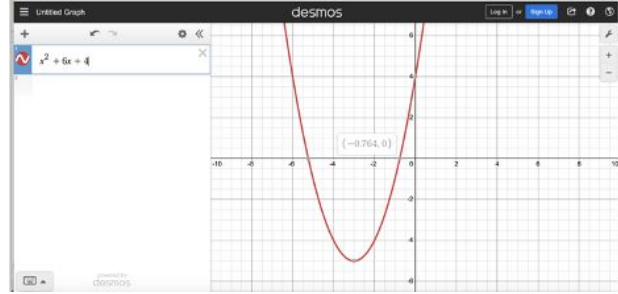
Math is really testing math, not reading

- Math phrasing has been updated by **Linguistic Modification**, which is an intentional edit pass of item phrasing specifically focused on removing colloquial artifacts (idioms, odd turns of phrase, unneeded compound/complex sentences) that are harder to understand for ESL students.
- Basically, the goal is to make sure CB is testing MATH skills, not READING skills (unless the point of the problem is specifically parsing a complex word problem)

More focus on Geometry and Trig

- The Current SAT averages roughly 8% of questions from the domains of Geometry and Trigonometry,
- The digital SAT will increase the percentage of geometry and trigonometry questions to 15% of all test items.

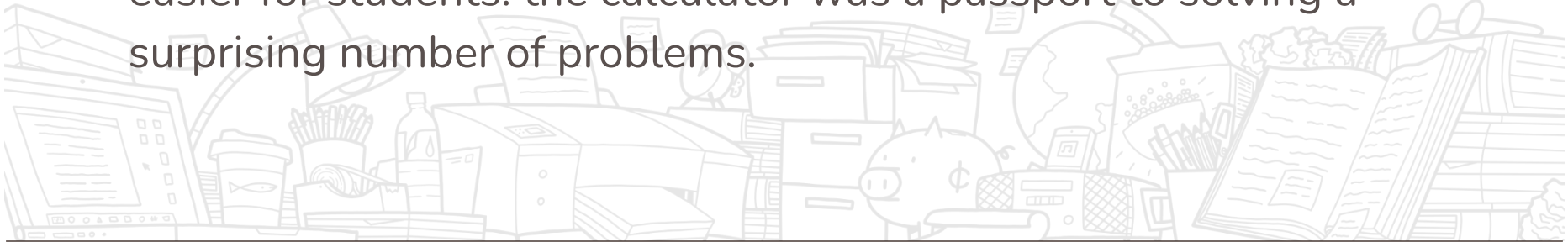
Desmos is a game-changer



- The powerful Desmos graphing calculator, baked into the app, plays a major role on this new test, and for many students **will fundamentally change the experience of taking the test.**
- The calculator opens and closes with a single click and can remain open during the entirety of the test.
- While some students feel more comfortable with their own familiar handheld calculator, and can choose to use it, the Desmos option is right there on the screen, immediately adjacent to the content, which is extremely convenient for problem solving.

Students who know how to use a graphing calculator could use it to answer the majority of math questions on the Digital SAT

- Often by plugging in equations and identifying where functions intersect on the graph.
- The Desmos calculator made the “easier” adaptive module that much easier for students: the calculator was a passport to solving a surprising number of problems.



Math Content Distribution

	Current SAT	Digital Adaptive SAT
Algebra	32%	35%
Advanced Math	29%	35%
Problem Solving and Data Analysis	28%	15%
Geometry and Trig	10%	15%

Problem Solving and Data Analysis (which covers things like percentages, probability, organizing data, and basic statistics) is cut the most. It looks like the full range of Problem Solving and Data Analysis topics that were tested previously will remain fair game on the new SAT.

Questions are grouped by type

- Within a given section, different question types appear in blocks, rather than at random, allowing students to get into a rhythm.
- On the Reading and Writing section, a student will see all of the “words in context” vocabulary questions at once, followed by a block of questions focusing on craft, structure, and purpose, later followed by a block of grouped grammar questions.
- On the math section, a student could see a grouping of six consecutive graphing questions.
- This format is akin to having subsections within a section, and it allows students to learn the question types and move through the test with a coherent, problem-solving mindset.

Blended verbal section

- The current SAT's EBRW score is split straight down the middle, with 400 of the points coming from the reading section and 400 from the writing section.
- The Digital SAT not only blends question types, with many reading questions now feeling like Writing “expression of ideas” questions, but has also eliminated any subscores that delineate the difference between reading and writing.

Reading is short but tough

- shorter passages and only one question per passage.
- **Short passages are not necessarily easier passages.** The reading level on the practice tests is as high, if not higher, than other SATs in recent years, including excerpts from Jane Austen's *Sense and Sensibility*, a Shakespearean sonnet, and numerous challenging scientific passages.

Reading Section

- Switching to a new topic, voice, and style every question requires a bit more mental agility.
- Counterbalancing this, the predictable grouping of questions by type (i.e., all vocab at once, followed by all craft and structure questions at once), does allow a student to get into a particular problem-solving mindset for a stretch of time.

Reading

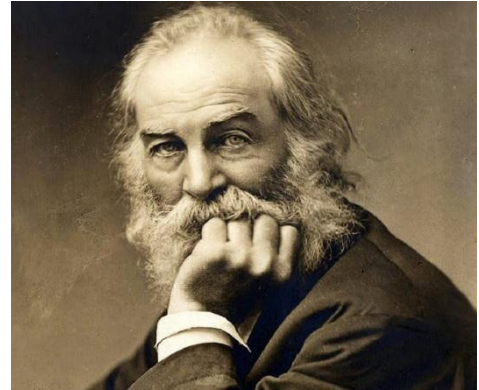
- Way less grammar emphasis proportionally
- More vocab emphasis which may be tough for some international students.
- Elimination of idiom questions, which is good for International students.
- More diversity of ideas and tones with more and smaller passages

Reading

- Question types are grouped and come in the same order every time
 - This means practice really pays off since you can get familiar with the test
- Big increase in Humanities passages
 - Surveys of artists/musicians, Dabble of poetry
- Bigger emphasis on
 - Logical Transitions

Poetry is new, but relatively rare

Multiple Shakespeares, a Walt Whitman, all early 1900s or earlier public domain poets



Rhetorical Synthesis questions

- Students are given a bulleted list of info (like an outline of a passage) and asked to use the info to accomplish a specific task
- “While researching a topic, a student has taken the following notes:” These questions test a student’s ability to summarize a key point, draw appropriate inferences, or effectively use the notes to accomplish a given task.

Reading/Writing Passage Types Across the 4 Digital Tests

Average number of passages per module

	1st Section	2nd Section Upper	2nd Section Lower
Literature	2.25	2.25	1.75
Poetry	1.5	0	1.25
Social Science	4	4.25	3.75
History	3.75	3.5	4.75
Natural Science	7.25	10.5	10.25
Humanities	8	6.25	4.75

Poetry is not a focus, while Natural Science takes the cake

Vocabulary: but not “SAT vocab”

- Vocabulary is noticeably back in focus, but does not reflect a return to the “SAT vocabulary” of old. Students will have no use for flash cards of low-frequency words, but they’ll have to attend carefully to how words are being used in the specific context of passages.
- In the Assessment Framework, the College Board addresses the [3 tiers of vocabulary](#). While not stated explicitly, the College Board seems the most interested in tier 2 (words common in writing, but less common in day-to-day speaking) rather than tier 3 (words used primarily in a specific context or discipline).

Many, many test forms

- Over time, College Board test writers will create many/infinite discrete forms of baseline and adaptive question sets which will be in circulation.
- Per the CB, the digital SAT has “been designed and developed such that each student is administered a *highly comparable but unique* version of the test.”

“highly comparable but unique”

- Test forms might have the same or similar questions but in a different order from one another.
- CB may generate many different test forms so that each student has an entirely different set of questions from other test-takers.
- Technology can be used to generate more test forms and can also be used to generate validated “template” items that can be replicated across multiple test forms with slight changes to the specifics so that two questions test the same thing but the correct answer for one is 4 while the correct answer for the other is 16.
- We will update you once we know more!

How The Digital SAT Will Work

- When students download the app, they will be able to click through a **quick demo** to get a feel for digital testing.
- The day of the test, at an official test center, the proctor will read a **start code**, which, when entered will activate the test. WIFI must work to activate the start code, and to submit answers after testing is complete.
- Students will be able to access **section-specific directions** from any testing screen.
- Between sections, students will have a **break**.
- A **timer** will let them know when the next section starts.

How The Digital SAT Will Work

- The Reading and Writing section and the Math section will both feature **multiple-choice questions**.
- The Math section will also have questions where students **enter their answers** directly into the exam app.
- Students can use **scratch paper** during the administration and can bring their own pencil or pen.
- Score reports will continue to have information on performance and areas to grow or improve. Score reports will likely link up with Kahn Academy as the current SAT does, for tailored instruction.

Technical challenges a la the ACT?

- **QUESTION:** International students experienced a lot of technical difficulties when the ACT first went computer-based in 2019. Should they be concerned about similar difficulties with the digital SAT?
- The College Board is taking proactive measures to avoid glitches in the early roll out. The SAT will only require a minute of connectivity at the start and end of the test, not uninterrupted wifi throughout the test.

The international rollout was a success

- Only 60 sites internationally were cancelled—fewer than the cancellations the same day in CA, NY, NJ, and FL.
- Most students were immediately rescheduled for test days within 3 weeks.
- Tech issues reported were minimal and proctors were able to handle them quickly.

What about access or outages?

- Students will be able to use their **own devices** or devices provided by their schools. College Board will provide **loaner machines** for students who need them.
- Students will **download the application ahead of test-day**- it will be preloaded and locked until the administration begins.
- The CB has developed a system to administer these tests that runs offline. If a student loses connection or power, **their work will be saved** and they will be able to pick up again without losing any time.
- Every keystroke is timestamped (think of Google Docs)

Digital Support for Test Centers

- Test Centers will not need to provide any equipment to administer the tests.
- CB will fund the role of a “technology coordinator” for each testing site responsible for making sure students and staff can access Wi-Fi, staff devices are working properly, and helping students and staff troubleshoot common issues.
- Each test center will have a dedicated help room where the tech. coordinator can assist students without disrupting others.

Digital Support for Test Centers

- CB will provide dedicated customer service resources ready to trouble shoot on test day.
- Students can request to borrow a device (in advance) from the CB on national weekend testing dates.
- Students getting extra time can expect to get support for the power needs of their devices (requiring more than a 3-hour charge). Students who need additional power can work with the tech coordinator/proctor.

New Digital Testing Tools

The digital testing app will have a series of tools built in and available to students while they test, including:

- **Testing timer**
 - A timer at the top of the screen will show how much time remains.
 - Students can show or hide the timer, and they'll get an alert when time is nearly up.

New Digital Testing Tools

Reference Sheet of commonly used formulas

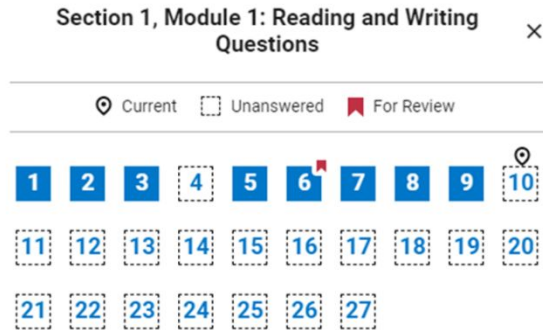
- Students can easily open and close this feature and move the reference section anywhere on the screen.
- this was much more convenient than flipping back and forth to the reference section on a paper test.

Very easy to keep track of progress and flagged items

Section 1, Module 1: Reading and Writing Questions ×

Current Unanswered For Review

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20
21 22 23 24 25 26 27



[Go to Review Page](#)

Question 10 of 27 ▾

The **Mark for Review** feature is particularly useful: the visual display of the entirety of a student's answer choices will help students navigate each section and quickly toggle between flagged or omitted items

Ability to annotate

- Students can highlight text and make their own notes that appear when you hover over annotated text
- Some students may choose to use the digital annotation tools, while others may prefer to use the provided scratch paper.
- For some students, this will be a transition away from traditional paper-based active writing skills (circling, underlining, starring, drawing arrows)

Digital Accommodations

- The move towards digital assessment will make delivery of testing accommodations more seamless and integrated.
- Built in extra breaks and timing for students with accommodations.
- Reading accommodations include changing contrast, color, font size, and using text-to-speech capability.
- Math: access to Desmos calculator, integrates with other accommodations, screen readers and such

Paper Based Accommodation for students with disabilities

- “If a student is unable to test with the digital test, they should contact customer service to request a paper test.”
- The paper accommodation will consist of a slightly longer nonadaptive (AKA linear) test form.
- While the digital SAT is 2 hours and 14 minutes long, the linear test is 2 hours and 44 minutes long. A longer test form is required absent the advantages and efficiency gains of adaptive testing.

Paper Accommodation vs Digital

Digital

Timing per section	Number of questions per section	
Reading and writing	32 minutes	27 questions: 25 operational and 2 experimental
Math	35 minutes	22 questions: 20 operational and 2 experimental

Paper

2:14 Test Time

Timing per section	Number of questions per section	
Reading and writing	39 minutes	33 questions: no experimental
Math	43 minutes	27 questions: no experimental

2:44 Test Time

Ample practice, No test return

- Tests will no longer be returned for the PSAT or the SAT
- Every year, CB will retire and release official questions
- CB will eventually release a full suite of practice tests- they have indicated they will match the current offering, which is 8 complete tests.

Students and administrators seem to prefer the new test

- The data from the pilot study suggests that administrators and students alike prefer the shorter, streamlined digital SAT.
- **Eighty percent of students** who had previously taken a paper-based SAT (sample size of 5,564 students) **reported a “better test-taking experience with the digital SAT.”**
- Administrators prefer the relative simplicity of administering the test without paper.

Why students like it

- Shorter Test (less cognitive endurance)
- Shorter Passages (less working memory focus, less skimming and scanning texts)
- More time per question (less processing speed focus)
- Always have a calculator (less hand calculation)
- Faster Results (less stress from waiting!)

Whether to dive in or wait?

- Students should practice on the Bluebook app and see how well they do on the official practice tests before determining whether they are ready.
- We do not anticipate major technical difficulties, as the CB has already administered digital tests to millions of students on their own devices.
- This rollout appears likely to be smoother, fewer technical kinks, and less stressful for students.

What we know we don't know

- Will this push students to **take the ACT in higher numbers** for a few years, while there's uncertainty? We saw this trend in 2016.
- Will we see a huge push for students to try and **get testing done early**, to beat the changes? We saw this in 2015/6, too.
- Will home-schooled kids have more challenges gaining access to spots if the migration to school-day continues?

Will Colleges superscore the paper and digital tests?

- This remains to be seen.
- Every admissions office will make a call.

College Board's Digital Suite website:

“We’ve consulted with groups of higher ed enrollment leaders throughout 2021 to get their insights and feedback on the development of the digital SAT, and they’ve indicated they’ll continue to use SAT scores from the digital test as they do now, as one part of their holistic admissions process. We’ll continue to listen and engage with our members as we move toward launch in 2023.”

Response from the ACT?

- No news yet.
- ACT will continue to administer its computer -based version of the current paper test, as it has since September 2019



How students can best prepare

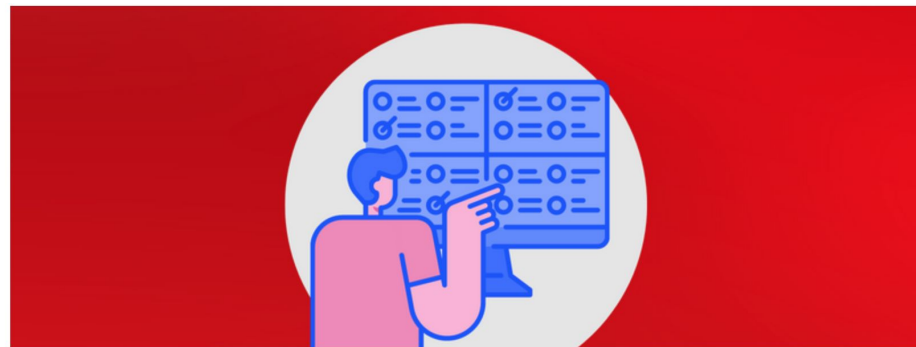
- Download the **bluebook app** to work through the sample items and take practice tests
- Get comfortable with **Desmos**
 - We are creating a Desmos guide and question-specific info this year for our students
- Work with an Applerouth **tutor**

Applerouth is ready

- For over 20 years, Applerouth has been on the cutting edge of standardized admissions testing.
- We currently offer fixed form digital SATs and ACTs.
- As we learn more about the form and format, we will release updated prep materials and digital adaptive testing practice for our students to help them prepare for the new test.

What do these changes mean for students who learn differently?

- Mostly, the changes coming with the dSAT are **good news** because some features of the online testing platform will benefit all students, not just those who qualify for accommodations.
- Some accommodations will be administered differently on a digital test
 - ◆ Ex: Screen reader rather than human reader
- Students who require pencil and paper testing can request that accommodation, but they will take a longer, linear test rather than the shorter, adaptive one



Tools for All!

- ❑ Zoom in and out
 - ❑ Replaces large font type
 - ❑ Students can also expand a passage or item
- ❑ Color Contrast
 - ❑ Helpful for colorblind and dyslexic students
- ❑ Desmos Calculator & Math Reference Sheet
 - ❑ Available on all math sections
- ❑ Annotator on reading sections
 - ❑ Highlighter and notepad
- ❑ Mark for Review & Question Navigator
- ❑ Answer Eliminator
- ❑ Three pieces of scratch paper



What the Tech... (Can Do for You)

- Many frequently requested accommodations can be easily administered during National or School Day Testing, including:
 - Extended time (time and a half and double time will be accommodated in one day testing)
 - Extended/Extra Breaks and Breaks as Needed (students can stop their own clock)
 - Small-group/distraction limited testing
 - Food/drink/medication administration
 - Permission to test blood sugar
- Students who have been approved for [assistive technologies](#) can bring/use them, including:
 - Screen overlays
 - Text to speech/screen reader software (bring headphones!)
 - Approved assistive technology that students use when online should still work during the exam, except web-based or browser extension programs
 - Students should practice using your assistive technology with the digital exam
- College Board has a [helpful chart](#) showing how digital accommodations will work on their site.
- NB: Accommodations cannot be changed or waived on test day.

Applying for College Board Accommodations

- Start here: <https://accommodations.collegeboard.org/>
- Start early: It can take as long as seven weeks
 - The clock doesn't start until all of your materials have been received
 - Each test type has its own deadline - e.g., accommodation requests for AP exams must be submitted in January
- Paper works: parent consent form, disability documentation
 - You must work with your school counselor to submit the request and documentation
- Make sure the accommodation you are requesting maps to the need
- Once you have accommodations from the College Board, you usually have them for all CB administered tests (PSAT, SAT, AP)
- Temporary conditions (injury, illness) may require short-term accommodations

Applying for ACT Accommodations

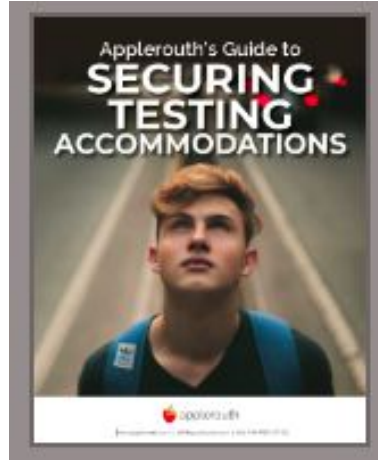
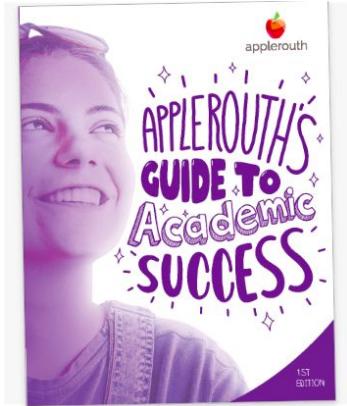
- For College Board tests like the SAT, students apply for accommodations before registering. [For the ACT](#), students register for the test and request accommodations at the same time.
- Requests must be submitted by the late registration deadline for the desired test date, but it is a good idea to start the process earlier even though ACT promises a decision in 5-10 business days.
- Again, you need to work through your school counselor and submit a parental consent form to get the process started.
- Learn more about ACT's policy [here](#). [ELL](#) are also eligible for accommodations.
- ACT distinguishes between Extended Time (which is administered as part of a National or School Day Test) and [Special Testing](#) (which cannot be accommodated on a National or School Day Test).

Appealing

- ❑ If an initial application for accommodations is denied by either agency, appeal the decision
- ❑ Keep in mind that an appeal can take as long as the initial request
- ❑ The decision letter explains exactly why the request was denied - and what is needed to appeal the decision so read the fine print!
- ❑ Most often, the request is denied because:
 - ❑ The documentation does not specifically recommend accommodations on standardized tests
 - ❑ The requested accommodation does not match with the diagnosis
- ❑ In the appeal, do not simply re-submit the same documentation as before
 - ❑ New cover letter from counselor or psychologist
 - ❑ Teacher recommendation documenting the need
 - ❑ Testing results with and without accommodations

Resources for You

[Request Complimentary Materials from Applerouth!](#)



Every student is different.

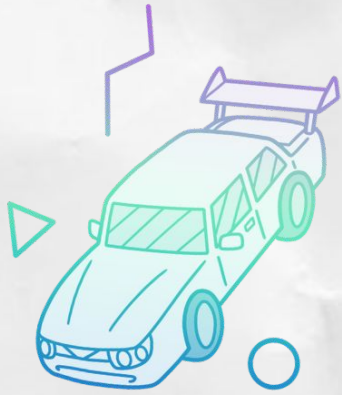
Let us make a custom recommendation for your student!

Talk to an Applerouth Advisor at 866-789-PREP (7737).

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**Test
Prep**

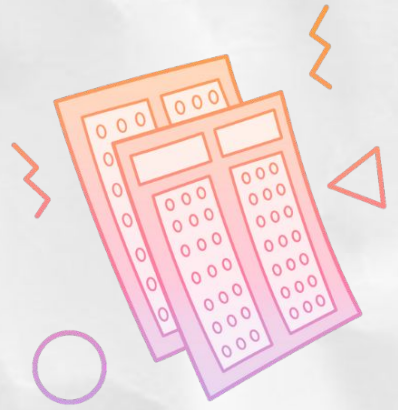
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