# The SAT is changing
HERE’S WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Changes</th>
<th>The Current SAT</th>
<th>The Redesigned SAT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Testing Dates</strong></td>
<td>Through January 23, 2016 administration</td>
<td>Begins with March 5, 2016 administration</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Scoring</strong></td>
<td>2400 possible points: 3 sections (Math, Reading, Essay)</td>
<td>1600 possible points: 2 sections (Reading &amp; Writing, Math)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Incorrect Answer Penalty</strong></td>
<td>Incorrect answers on multiple-choice questions count against you (1/4 point off for each)</td>
<td>Rights-ONLY scoring: a point for a correct answer, but no deduction for an incorrect answer</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Length of Test</strong></td>
<td>3 hours, 45 minutes</td>
<td>3 hours without essay</td>
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<td>3 hours, 50 minutes with essay</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sections</strong></td>
<td>3 sections: Math, Critical Reading, Writing Skills</td>
<td>2 sections: Evidence-based Reading and Writing, Math</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Reading and Writing</strong></td>
<td>2 sections: Critical reading, Writing Skills</td>
<td>1 section: Evidence-based Reading and Writing</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>➢ Passage-based questions, with passages drawn from random topics</td>
<td>➢ No more sentence completion</td>
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<td>➢ Vocabulary tested by sentence completion questions; famous for “SAT Words,”</td>
<td>➢ Vocabulary less esoteric, more likely to be found in real life</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>often considered obscure</td>
<td>➢ Focus on providing support for answers from evidence found in passages</td>
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<td>➢ Passages are drawn from significant historical or scientific documents</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Math</strong></td>
<td>Covers topics including Arithmetic, Algebra 1, Geometry, and some Algebra 2</td>
<td>Greater focus on application-based questions; covers topics including problem-solving and Data Analysis, the core of Algebra and the transition into Advanced Math</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Calculators</strong></td>
<td>Calculators permitted throughout</td>
<td>Calculators allowed during specific times</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>The Essay</strong></td>
<td>Required first section of the test: 25 minutes, timed</td>
<td>Essay is optional: 50 minutes, timed</td>
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