

NEW DIGITAL SAT FORMAT - BOON OR BANE

The College Board will administer the SAT online, a dramatic shift in its format brought on by the epidemic. The SAT was traditionally regarded as an essential step in getting into college. The paper-and-pencil exam will be replaced by a digital version.

The above-mentioned adjustment will be implemented globally in 2023 and in the United States in 2024. The exam will be cut in half from its current three-hour length, with one hour removed from the reading, writing, and math sections, making it two hours instead of three!

Changes have been taken to address concerns about access raised by COVID and the SAT's lack of equity, according to the College Board. As a result, a huge number of universities have stopped utilizing SAT scores in their admissions decisions. These adjustments are being made in the hopes of making the test easier and quicker in order to close performance gaps and restore the SAT's utility as a college readiness assessment.

Let's take a look at the updated SAT before we get into the critiques.

Many of the fundamental components of the new SAT suite will remain the same, despite the fact that it has been developed to provide favorable improvements for students and educators. For example, it will continue to assess the information and skills that kids are learning in school, which is the most frequently requested criteria by universities.

Educators and students can use the same 1600-point scoring scale to track growth across the suite.

- The SAT exam will continue to be proctored in a school or a testing center.
- Students can practice using Khan Academy's free tools.
- Students will continue to contact scholarship opportunities directly.
- Accommodations will continue to be provided by the College Board for individuals who need them.

Let's take a look at the changes coming into action!

- Students will test on their own devices or devices provided by the school.
- With fewer reading passages and one question related to each, the revised SAT will be administered for two hours instead of three.
- Scores will be released more quickly so that students and educators may make college decisions more quickly.
- The exam app will have a graphing calculator, or students can bring their own for the complete arithmetic component.
- Students will be able to link to multiple courses, job opportunities, and training programs through digital score reports.
- Because each student would receive a unique version of the test, the digital SAT will be more adaptable and secure. This will avoid embarrassing situations such as papers being leaked or cheating!

Seeing the changes brought by the College Board, the student might receive tests through any of the following methods -

- They can get it by drawing a set of multiple-choice questions on the testing software.
- To avoid absorption, the options or questions can be shuffled.
- It can be adaptable in the same way that other standardized tests, such as the GMAT, can, but that isn't the case here. The College Board may open the way for adaptive exams in the future, but we can be assured that it will not be implemented for the next SAT testing.

With these changes in the picture, the preparation will take a slightly different turn -

- Reading: Students will now be expected to focus on becoming better readers in general. They will have to build opinions rather than simply being passive receivers of data, as high reading skills imply.

- Writing and Language: A thorough understanding of all grammatical issues will be required.
- To complete the section on time, students need to pay extra attention to formulas and facts.

Now coming to some sweet and sour critics on the big news issued by the College Board!

- The goal of the digital SAT is to make it easier to take, easier to provide, and more relevant..
- The shorter reading passages are expected to cover a broader range of themes and represent the texts that college students read.
- For overseas students, there are now seven rather than five options to take the SATs throughout the year, matching it with the US market.
- Students will find the digital version of the exam less stressful, and the shorter time span will eliminate performance lag at the end of the sections.
- This adjustment is primarily being made to improve the test's relevancy, but academics remain skeptical.
- This may lead to an incorrect conclusion since the adjustments will lower the bar for everyone because they do not address the issues of equity.
- With such a modification in the SAT exam structure, issues about the exam's trustworthiness for judging a student's academic performance are being raised, and the ACT becomes a more dependable parameter.

It is what it is till further notice! We hope that your reservations concerning the new SAT testing have been dispelled. Please keep an eye on this section for impending changes. If you require assistance, please fill out our student aid form.