

The SAT<sup>®</sup> is the nation's most widely used college admissions test. The SAT is a standard used by the majority of colleges and universities in this country, a distinction that it has held for more than eight decades.

## WHAT IT MEASURES

The SAT tests what students know and how well they can apply that knowledge. SAT questions are based on the same subjects that are taught every day in high school classrooms, such as geometry, grammar, algebra, and critical reading.

## VALIDITY

The SAT, which measures what students learn in high school, is one of the best predictors of college success. Combined with high school grades, the SAT is actually the best predictor of college success, with a high correlation between SAT scores and first-year college GPA. The SAT is a better predictor than high school grades for all students of color, and writing is the most predictive section of the SAT for every subgroup.

## FAIRNESS

The SAT is committed to being the fairest test possible. To accomplish this, the SAT meets rigorous fairness standards.

- Every question is reviewed by external experts (math or English teachers) to make sure it reflects what students learn in school;
- Every question goes through a special sensitivity review process to avoid any stereotyping or disconcerting references;
- Every question is pretested and any question that performs substantially differently for any gender or ethnic group is eliminated.

There are numerous research studies demonstrating the fairness of the SAT, including studies by researchers at the University of California–Santa Barbara and the University of Minnesota.

## HOW THE TEST IS USED

The SAT, one of the best-known and most thoroughly researched tests, is used in many different ways. Traditionally, the SAT has been used for college admissions as well as for placement into college courses. It has also been used as the basis for a state's educational assessment.

## KEY FEATURES OF THE SAT

- SAT In Focus, a series of new tools that includes My SAT Online Score Report and SAT Skills Insight™—both of which help students and educators better understand the test
- Free practice tools including sample SAT questions and The Official SAT Question of the Day™

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