

Apricus Prep

General SAT Information

- 1) Breakdown of SAT Test:
 - a. 2 English sections (Reading and Grammar)
 - i. First section is reading comprehension (usually the hardest for most students)
 - ii. Second section is grammar
 - b. 2 Math Sections (No Calculator/Calculator)
 - i. Topic wise, heavily focus on algebra/word problems for both.
 - c. Optional Essay
 - i. Depends on the school you want to go to and their requirements, but I recommend always taking it (it's only 50 extra minutes)
- 2) When to take the SAT:
 - a. After Algebra II, I prefer to take it early in 11th grade to get it over with, but you have until September/October of senior year to take your last SAT.
 - b. I do not recommend taking it more than 3 times, because at that point you are wasting money and time.
 - c. If you prep properly, you can even take it once and be done with it!
- 3) My background:
 - a. I have tried all the different test prep companies (Princeton, Test Takers) and while they have some positives, what I have done is conglomerate all the strategies I have found most helpful.
 - b. I studied for my main SAT by myself, taking a practice test per day (4 hours a day) for 30 days. With that I was able to achieve a score of 1580/1600 (which was 2 questions wrong out of 154). This didn't happen because I was "smart" or knew all the topics, but rather because I had practiced the strategies that I developed by myself and following a disciplined prep plan that I developed. It was a lot of work, and that is what I am offering to my students with tutoring.
- 4) My method:
 - a. The first sections we will tackle include the Grammar and the Math. Why?
 - i. Rule-based, once you learn the rules properly and how to approach the questions, there are easy strategies you can apply.
 - ii. Math rules never change, it's just a matter of learning the types of questions on the SAT and how they ask them. I will teach you an approach that allows you to overlook the "tricks" that catch other students and make the SAT feel much easier than it seems at first.
 - iii. Grammar rules are just never taught in school, so that's why people struggle with this section. I will teach you the proper grammar rules that are essential for the SAT, and the different strategies I have developed to tackle this section.
 - b. The reading is more ambiguous and requires more practice, so I save this for last after the other sections have been strengthened.
- 5) About the program:
 - a. The program doesn't have a standard curriculum because it revolves around the particular student's weaknesses. It wouldn't make sense for me to review parabolas or circles if you never get it wrong.
 - b. Brings me to the Sample Report. Each week, the student will spend 3-4 hours completing a practice test and submit their answers to me via the Google Form.
 - c. I then grade, analyze, and report the biggest problem areas each week and go over them during the session. Each week, we look for improvement in the areas that I am teaching, as well as test-taking related things like timing and stamina. Throughout all of this, I offer 24/7

communication so if any questions arise (content/general), you can always text/email me and you don't have to wait for the session to ask.

- d. Each week, I will also provide custom resources that I have developed to supplement my sessions, including the session notes and the sample grammar document I sent you.
- e. Consistency is key, and even though we only talk once a week, you will be doing SAT prep almost everyday for 15-20 minutes plus the weekly practice test.