

Form Codes FEOP, GWOP, HFOP

# **SAT Reasoning Test**<sup>TM</sup>

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Question-and-Answer Service  
January 2006 Administration  
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## **INSIDE:**

- The test questions that counted toward the critical reading, math, and writing scores on the SAT Reasoning Test
- Your essay prompt and all other essay prompts administered on test day
- The correct answers
- The difficulty level of each question
- The instructions for scoring your test

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## How to Make the Best Use of the Question-and-Answer Service (QAS)

This booklet contains the SAT Reasoning Test™ you took in January 2006. All the essay prompts from the day you took the test are included, in addition to scoring instructions and tables you can use to look up your scores. This booklet does not include the unscored, or equating, section that you took on test day.

The version of the test, or “Form Code,” is shown at the top of your personalized QAS report. You will need your Form Code to locate your particular score tables. To the right of your Form Code on your QAS report are your test scores for your critical reading, math, and writing sections, as well as the multiple-choice writing subscore and the essay subscore.

To make the best use of the QAS report, read what it tells you about each section of the test. Read each section, top to bottom, starting with the question number, down through the correct answer, your answer, type of question, and difficulty level of each question. Analyze your strengths and weaknesses by types of questions (listed below) and difficulty levels. Analyze each test question you answered incorrectly to see why the correct answer is better than yours. Check to see that you did not misread questions or misgrid the answer on the answer sheet.

### SECTION

Critical Reading  
Critical Reading  
Math  
Math  
Math  
Math  
Writing Multiple-Choice  
Writing Multiple-Choice  
Writing Multiple-Choice  
Writing

### TYPE OF QUESTION

sentence completion  
passage-based reading  
number and operations  
algebra and functions  
geometry and measurement  
data analysis, statistics, probability  
identifying sentence errors  
improving sentences  
improving paragraphs  
See the Essay Scoring Guide in this booklet

The College Board is providing all of the January 2006 essay prompts so that you can practice and improve your writing skills. In the writing tables, look up your Form Code to see the composite score for your essay topic and writing multiple-choice section. You can view a copy of your own essay online at [www.collegeboard.com/viewessay](http://www.collegeboard.com/viewessay). On the practice sheets in the back of this booklet, you can try writing your essay again from another viewpoint. Then try your hand at the other topics. The more you write, the better your writing will be.

If you would like to score your own test, you will find some tools in this booklet: the guidelines for the readers who scored your essay (page 51), a worksheet for calculating raw scores (page 52), the conversion table from raw scores to scaled scores (page 53), and more.



# ESSAY

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## ESSAY

Time — 25 minutes

The essay gives you an opportunity to show how effectively you can develop and express ideas. You should, therefore, take care to develop your point of view, present your ideas logically and clearly, and use language precisely.

Your essay must be written on the lines provided on your answer sheet—you will receive no other paper on which to write. You will have enough space if you write on every line, avoid wide margins, and keep your handwriting to a reasonable size. Remember that people who are not familiar with your handwriting will read what you write. Try to write or print so that what you are writing is legible to those readers.

### Important Reminders:

- **A pencil is required for the essay.** An essay written in ink will receive a score of zero.
- **Do not write your essay in your test book.** You will receive credit only for what you write on your answer sheet.
- **An off-topic essay will receive a score of zero.**

You have twenty-five minutes to write an essay on the topic assigned below.

Think carefully about the issue presented in the following excerpt and the assignment below.

Every important discovery results from patience, perseverance, and concentration—sometimes continuing for months or years—on one specific subject. A person who wants to discover a new truth must remain absorbed by that one subject, must pay no attention to any thought that is unrelated to the problem.

Adapted from Santiago Ramón y Cajal, *Advice for a Young Investigator*

**Assignment:** Are all important discoveries the result of focusing on one subject? Plan and write an essay in which you develop your point of view on this issue. Support your position with reasoning and examples taken from your reading, studies, experience, or observations.



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The supervisor will tell you how much time you have to write an essay on the topic assigned below.

Think carefully about the issue presented in the following excerpt and the assignment below.

A colleague of the great scientist James Watson remarked that Watson was always “lounging around, arguing about problems instead of doing experiments.” He concluded that “There is more than one way of doing good science.” It was Watson’s form of idleness, the scientist went on to say, that allowed him to solve “the greatest of all biological problems: the discovery of the structure of DNA.” It is a point worth remembering in a society overly concerned with efficiency.

Adapted from John C. Polanyi, “Understanding Discovery”

**Assignment:** Do people accomplish more when they are allowed to do things in their own way? Plan and write an essay in which you develop your point of view on this issue. Support your position with reasoning and examples taken from your reading, studies, experience, or observations.



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Think carefully about the issue presented in the following excerpt and the assignment below.

I do not feel terrible about my mistakes, though I grieve the pain they have sometimes caused others. Our lives are “experiments with truth,” and in an experiment negative results are at least as important as successes. I have no idea how I would have learned the truth about myself and my calling without the mistakes I have made.

Adapted from Parker Palmer, *Let Your Life Speak*

**Assignment:** Is it necessary to make mistakes, even when doing so has negative consequences for other people? Plan and write an essay in which you develop your point of view on this issue. Support your position with reasoning and examples taken from your reading, studies, experience, or observations.