

OVERSEAS EDUCATION

Three Tips for Improving Your SAT Score

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The SAT is approaching, and your stress levels build by the day. “What score will I get? What if it’s not good enough? What if I have to take it more than three times?” As the test gets nearer and nearer, you may start to lose sleep, panicking yourself awake about that impossible geometry question or obscure vocabulary word. Then, tired and almost unconscious, you show up to the testing center for what is certain to be four consecutive hours of misery. And —

Wait. Let’s back up for a second. Do things need to turn out this way? Of course not! As long as you make sure to prepare yourself well in advance of the test, there’s no reason your life needs to look anything like the above situation. With the right training, guidance, and mindset, you can be that confident, well-rested student everyone envies!

With limited time left, your first order of business is to attack the section in which you’re weakest. If you’ve never formally learned the rules of English grammar in school, it’s time to dust off that scary textbook and brush up! Or, if you’re the sort of student who finishes an entire article and mutters “I have no idea what that was about,” then you better get started on Reading section tactics!

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Once you’ve decided where you need the most help, it’s time to practice... and practice... and practice some more! The SAT is unlike other tests you’ll take in that the best way to get better at it is to see as many of its questions as possible. The more exposure you have, the more you’ll be prepared for the various types of questions you’re bound to see!

If time is running out and you’re still not reaching the lofty goals you’ve set for yourself, give these last-minute SAT tips a try:

1. Instead of reading the entire passage and answering the questions, start off by read the topic sentences of paragraphs to get a basic idea of the passage’s subject and argument.

2. Avoid eliminating too quickly. Try to use text from the passage to justify every single word in an answer choice before you decide whether or not it’s correct.

3. Memorize the 16 most important grammar rules in the English language. Then practice!

With these three tips in mind, a higher SAT score is within sign. Best of luck in your preparation!

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Jennifer Yu

Jennifer Yu is the Co-founder of ARCH Education. As a graduate from both an elite boarding school and Ivy League university, Jennifer has gained de

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