

SAT Reading and Writing Sample Paper 01

- **Total Questions:** 54 Questions
- **Modules:** 2 Modules (27 Questions each)
- **Time:** 64 Minutes Total (32 Minutes per Module)
- **Content Areas:** Craft and Structure, Information and Ideas, Standard English Conventions, and Expression of Ideas.
- **Question Formats:** Multiple Choice with four options.

Module 1

1. The following text is adapted from a 1915 essay regarding urban development.
The layout of the new city square was so _____ that even a first-time visitor could navigate the complex grid of vendors and fountains without the aid of a map, a feat rarely achieved in the older, more haphazard districts.

A) intuitive
B) sporadic
C) cluttered
D) deliberate
2. While wave power offers a renewable energy source, its output is often _____.: it varies in unpredictable ways based on tide cycles and weather, posing significant challenges for consistent power grid integration.

A) constant
B) erratic
C) expensive
D) accidental
3. Due to its dense technical jargon and highly experimental syntax, the physicist's latest paper can be quite difficult to _____, often leading to intense debate among colleagues regarding its core conclusions.

A) delegate
B) compose
C) interpret
D) renounce

4. Diego Velázquez's influence was hardly _____ Spain; though he was the leading artist in the court of King Philip IV, his techniques were echoed by realist and impressionist painters across the globe for centuries.
- A) derived from
 - B) recognized in
 - C) confined to
 - D) repressed by
5. Although the genre was initially dominated by established scientists, Octavia Butler did not view the field as _____: she broke into science fiction with several short stories before becoming the first in her field to win a prestigious MacArthur Fellowship.
- A) legitimate
 - B) impenetrable
 - C) compelling
 - D) indecipherable
6. In the 2004 novel Kira-Kira, the character Uncle Katsuhisa is described as being as loud as the narrator's father was quiet. Even when he wasn't speaking, he made a lot of noise by clearing his throat, sniffing, and tapping his fingers constantly.
Which choice best describes the function of the underlined sentence?
- A) It lists the specific topics that the characters enjoy discussing.
 - B) It suggests that the character dislikes meeting new people.
 - C) It establishes a character contrast between the uncle and the father.
 - D) It describes a conversation between the narrator and her father.
7. Wakako Yamauchi is best known for her 1977 play *And the Soul Shall Dance*. The play is based on a short story she published three years earlier. To transform the prose into a play, Yamauchi created situations where characters reveal their silent thoughts by speaking them aloud during conversations. This change was necessary because theater relies on dialogue rather than internal monologue.
Which choice best describes the function of the underlined sentence?
- A) It explains a specific adaptation technique used by the author.
 - B) It argues that the play was more successful than the original story.
 - C) It describes the historical setting of the play's narrative.
 - D) It provides a summary of the play's primary plot conflict.
8. In response to the 2008 financial crisis, many countries instituted risk-disclosure requirements on banks. Researchers investigated these messages and found they had only small effects on consumer behavior. However, the study asserted that such effects are worth pursuing given the negligible cost of the messaging.
Which choice best describes the function of the underlined portion?

- A) It notes a factor that led the authors to not dismiss the strategy entirely.
- B) It acknowledges a type of messaging that the study failed to account for.
- C) It describes a situation that makes the messaging more effective than suggested.
- D) It explains why the strategy is small relative to its high implementation costs.

9. Text 1

Economist Ying Fan modeled a hypothetical merger of newspapers and found that subscription prices would likely rise. Fan argues that such mergers often reduce competition, allowing companies to increase costs for consumers without improving service.

Text 2

Dario Focarelli argues that research on mergers often focuses too much on short-term price hikes. Over the long term, the efficiency gains realized by merged companies often result in significant economic benefits and lower prices for the general public.

Based on the texts, how would Focarelli (Text 2) most likely respond to Fan's findings (Text 1)?

- A) By claiming that price increases in the newspaper industry are unique.
- B) By suggesting that Fan's model only accounts for near-term effects.
- C) By arguing that newspapers are becoming obsolete due to digital media.
- D) By asserting that newspaper mergers never lead to efficiency gains.

- 10.** Pando is a colony of 47,000 aspen trees in Utah that share a single root system. Ecologists are worried because Pando's growth is declining due to overgrazing by deer. They suggest that building strong fences could help the colony start thriving again. According to the text, why are ecologists concerned about Pando?

- A) It is not producing new trees at its previous rate.
- B) Its root system has become too large to support itself.
- C) Fences are currently blocking its access to water.
- D) It has been classified as the largest organism on Earth.

- 11.** In a study of bottlenose dolphins, biologist Laela Sayigh analyzed recordings of mothers interacting with their calves. The data showed that mothers use "signature whistles" to help their calves identify them in murky water. This suggests that vocal communication is to dolphin social bonding.

- A) incidental
- B) fundamental
- C) secondary
- D) redundant

- 12.** Many plants lose leaf color when exposed to kanamycin, an antibiotic. Researchers hypothesized that this response involves the plant altering its uptake of metals like iron and zinc. To test this, they measured the metal content of *Arabidopsis thaliana* five days after exposure. Which choice best describes a finding that would support the researchers' hypothesis?

- A) Exposed plants showed lower levels of iron and zinc than the control group.
- B) Both groups of plants contained identical levels of all measured metals.
- C) The control group plants lost more color than the exposed plants.
- D) Zinc levels were higher in the control group than the iron levels.

13. Alaska marmots hibernate in groups to save energy, while Arctic ground squirrels hibernate alone. A researcher hypothesized that because squirrels are solitary, they would exhibit longer bouts of torpor (dormancy) to compensate for the lack of shared body heat. Which finding would best support the researcher's hypothesis?

- A) Squirrels had shorter torpor bouts than the marmots.
- B) Squirrels had longer bouts of torpor than the marmots.
- C) Marmots and squirrels had identical hibernation schedules.
- D) Marmots spent more time in arousal episodes than squirrels.

14.

Tree Type	Max Height (ft)	Native to NA
Sugar Maple	75	Yes
Silver Maple	70	Yes
Red Maple	60	Yes
Japanese Maple	25	No
Norway Maple	50	No

A student needs to recommend a maple tree that is **native** to North America and grows **no more than 60 feet**. Which tree should she select?

- A) Sugar Maple
- B) Silver Maple
- C) Red Maple
- D) Norway Maple

15.

Dolphin ID	Recording Year
FB07	2012
FB25	1989
FB43	1992
FB79	2018

According to the table, in which year was the dolphin with ID FB43 recorded?

- A) 2012
- B) 1989
- C) 1992
- D) 2018

16. Mary Golda Ross, a member of the Cherokee Nation, is famous for her work on the *Planetary Flight Handbook*, which detailed mathematical guidance for interplanetary missions.

- A) provided

- B) providing
C) to provide
D) provide
17. The classic board game Chutes and Ladders is based on an ancient Nepalese game. In both versions, landing on a specific space a player to skip ahead toward the goal.
- A) allows
B) allow
C) are allowing
D) have allowed
18. In 1930, artist Chiura Obata depicted Yosemite National Park in two woodcuts: *Evening at Carl Inn* and *Lake Basin*. In 2019, exhibited at the Smithsonian American Art Museum.
- A) it was
B) they were
C) this was
D) some were
19. Journalists often call Gil Scott-Heron the "godfather of rap." Scott-Heron resisted the feeling that it did not capture his devotion to the blues tradition.
- A) nickname; however,
B) nickname, however,
C) nickname, however
D) nickname however;
20. Stomata are tiny pores in a leaf that absorb gases. In a 2007 article, plant cell showed that specific lipid molecules signal these pores to open.
- A) biologist Yuree Lee,
B) biologist, Yuree Lee
C) biologist Yuree Lee
D) biologist, Yuree Lee,
21. As cheesemaking spread during the Neolithic, divergent strategies for preserving milk whereas Europe used rennet, nomadic groups in Asia used acid-heat coagulation.
- A) emerged:
B) emerged,
C) emerged
D) emerged; and

22. Researchers studying the "terra-cotta army" in China were shocked to realize that the shape of each statue's ears unique to that specific figure.
- A) is
B) are
C) were
D) have been
23. The novel *Americanah* follows Ifemelu and Obinze, a young couple. Ifemelu moves to the US to attend university. Obinze travels to London to start a career.
- A) Meanwhile,
B) Nevertheless,
C) Therefore,
D) In fact,
24. Some members of the US Supreme Court resist televising oral arguments. They worry participants will "perform" for the camera. they fear viewers will only watch short, misleading clips.
- A) However,
B) Additionally,
C) Conversely,
D) For example,
25. An animal's brain size usually scales with the complexity of its behavior. from an evolutionary standpoint, animals with basic behaviors should allocate fewer resources to brain tissue.
- A) Thus,
B) Besides,
C) Nevertheless,
D) Subsequently,
26. While researching a topic, a student has taken the following notes:
- NASA uses rovers to explore the surface of Mars.
 - NASA rovers are heavy and cannot access steep regions.
 - Microprobes weigh only 50 milligrams and can be deployed anywhere.
 - The student wants to explain an advantage of microprobes.
- Which choice most effectively uses the notes?
- A) NASA uses both rovers and microprobes to explore the Martian surface.
B) Unlike heavy rovers, lightweight microprobes can explore regions that are otherwise inaccessible.
C) Microprobes have been proposed as an alternative to the rovers NASA currently uses.

D) Mars has many steep regions that are difficult for wheeled vehicles to navigate.

27. While researching a topic, a student has taken the following notes:

- Cecilia Vicuña is a multidisciplinary artist born in Chile.
- Her first solo exhibition was in 1971.
- Her poetry collection *Precario* was published in 1983.
- The student wants to introduce the 1983 poetry collection.

Which choice most effectively uses the notes?

- A) Cecilia Vicuña, a Chilean artist, published *Precario* in 1983.
- B) In 1971, Vicuña held her first solo exhibition before publishing poetry.
- C) Vicuña is a multidisciplinary artist who lives in New York and Chile.
- D) *Precario* is one of many works published by the artist Cecilia Vicuña.

Module 2

28. Predatory animals differ widely in how they food for their young; some bring dead prey back, while others feed their young directly from their own mouths.
- A) avoid
 - B) provide
 - C) describe
 - D) consume
29. Teju Cole's both photography and the written word culminated in his 2017 book, which combines original photos with poetic prose.
- A) indifference to
 - B) enthusiasm for
 - C) concern about
 - D) surprise at
30. Marilyn Dingle's baskets are sweetgrass and palmetto palm; she skillfully winds thin fronds around a bunch of grass to create a signature look.
- A) handmade from
 - B) indicated by
 - C) represented by
 - D) collected with
31. Annie wauneka worked continuously to promote public health; this effort involved traveling across the Navajo homeland to write a medical dictionary.
- A) impartial
 - B) offhand
 - C) persistent
 - D) mandatory
32. Oral histories can offer researchers a rich view of everyday experiences. For her book about coal miners, Karida Brown relied on interviews to gain insights into her subjects' day-to-day lives.
- Which choice best describes the function of the underlined sentence?
- A) It provides a little-known geographical fact about Kentucky.
 - B) It presents a major historical event of the twentieth century.
 - C) It identifies a research method and its general benefit.
 - D) It argues that the author is an expert on United States politics.

33. In the poem "Benediction," Georgia Douglas Johnson encourages her son to "Go forth... winged by my heart's desire." The speaker notes she cannot follow him on his journey, but that .
- A) he will eventually return to his childhood home.
 - B) life is calling him to explore unknown reaches.
 - C) raising a child involves many difficult struggles.
 - D) he should avoid the challenges his parents faced.
34. In the 1905 novel *The House of Mirth*, the landscape Lily Bart sees seems like an enlargement of her own sensations. The calmness and breadth of the park mirror her current internal mood as she walks.
- Which choice best describes the function of the underlined sentence?
- A) It creates a detailed image of the physical setting.
 - B) It establishes that a character is in conflict with nature.
 - C) It makes an assertion that the next sentence expands upon.
 - D) It illustrates an idea introduced in the previous paragraph.
35. Individual elephants and caribou tend to have fixed geographic ranges. Researchers speculation that the extinct Arctic woolly mammoth shared this trait by recent chemical analysis of tusk strata.
- A) was confirmed
 - B) was challenged
 - C) was ignored
 - D) was predicted
36. In the 1960s, Gloria Richardson became a prominent leader. Her daughter Donna inspired her after joining protests in Maryland. Gloria became the leader of what was known as the Cambridge movement.
- A) Eventually,
 - B) Otherwise,
 - C) Previously,
 - D) For instance,
37. In Jane Austen's *Sense and Sensibility*, Elinor is described as possessing a "strength of understanding" that allows her to counsel her mother. Despite being only nineteen, she is .
- A) remarkably mature for her age.
 - B) often prone to sensitive outbursts.
 - C) unable to change her mother's mind.
 - D) resolving to never be taught by others.

38. Vertamae Smart-Grosvenor's 1970 book *Vibration Cooking* was unusual because it combined recipes with memoir and social commentary. It contemporary approaches to writing about cuisine.
- A) challenged
 - B) ignored
 - C) followed
 - D) simplified
39. Mrs. Ochiltree was a woman of "startling frankness," a trait that caused her acquaintances to avoid her. Mrs. Ochiltree was aware of this and .
- A) felt deeply offended by their behavior.
 - B) rather exulted in her individuality.
 - C) tried to refrain from upsetting others.
 - D) was preoccupied with her own health.
40. **Text 1**
Sea otters damage eelgrass roots while digging for clams. However, eelgrass meadows in areas with otters are often healthier and more genetically diverse than those without them.
- Text 2**
Researcher Erin Foster hypothesized that the damage caused by otters actually forces the eelgrass to increase its rate of sexual reproduction, which boosts the gene pool. Which finding would most directly **undermine** Foster's hypothesis?
- A) Areas with small otter populations have the highest genetic diversity.
 - B) Eelgrass meadows' health correlates negatively with the length of otter residence.
 - C) Otters prefer digging in areas where eelgrass is already dying.
 - D) The health of other plants in the area is unaffected by sea otters.
41. Newborn social animals, like humans and monkeys, show an innate attraction to faces. Researchers found that tortoise hatchlings, which are solitary and receive no parental care, .
- A) also showed a significant preference for face-like images.
 - B) were afraid of images that looked like other tortoises.
 - C) only developed an attraction to faces after several weeks.
 - D) could not distinguish between dots and actual faces.
42. British scientists Watson and Crick are often credited with discovering the DNA double helix. However, findings were actually based on an X-ray image developed by Rosalind Franklin.
- A) their
 - B) they're
 - C) its

- D) his
43. In her historical novel, Margarita Engle uses poetry rather than prose to tell the true story of a Cuban folk hero.
- A) to tell
B) telling
C) told
D) tells
44. Interest in mechanotransduction is expanding because of innovative work by scientists—many of whom are studying how cells convert mechanical stimuli into signals.
- A) whom
B) who
C) which
D) them
45. Helen Oyeyemi's novel *Boy, Snow, Bird* is a retelling of Snow White; her 2019 novel, *Gingerbread*, offers a twist on the tale of Hansel and Gretel.
- A) *Gingerbread*,
B) *Gingerbread*
C) *Gingerbread*;
D) *Gingerbread*:
46. Engineer Erkkka Frankberg used the chemical compound aluminum oxide to create a glassy solid that can withstand higher strain than silicate glass.
- A) compound aluminum oxide
B) compound, aluminum oxide
C) compound aluminum oxide,
D) compound, aluminum oxide,
47. During the "Brass Era," automobiles were referred to as "horseless carriages." Collectors today prize these vehicles for their artistry and brass fittings.
- A) prize
B) prizes
C) prizing
D) was prizing
48. New technologies use resources more efficiently. Economists observe that these gains can actually increase demand and total consumption.
- A) However,

- B) Furthermore,
- C) Similarly,
- D) Specifically,

49. Before the 1911 election, activists sold tea to promote suffrage. In San Francisco, they sold "Equality Tea." In Los Angeles, they distributed "Votes for Women Tea."

- A) Similarly,
- B) Conversely,
- C) Therefore,
- D) Instead,

50. Auroras result from the Sun's activity. the Sun releases charged particles that are captured by Earth's magnetic field and collide with atoms.

- A) Specifically,
- B) Nevertheless,
- C) However,
- D) Subsequently,

51. While researching a topic, a student has taken the following notes:

- The Seikan Tunnel is in Japan and is 33 miles long.
- The Channel Tunnel is in Europe and is 31 miles long.
- The student wants to compare the lengths of the two tunnels.

Which choice most effectively uses the notes?

- A) Japan and Europe both have rail tunnels that are very famous.
- B) At 33 miles long, the Seikan Tunnel is slightly longer than the 31-mile Channel Tunnel.
- C) The Seikan Tunnel connects the islands of Honshu and Hokkaido.
- D) Rail tunnels like the Channel Tunnel are often over 30 miles long.

52. While researching a topic, a student has taken the following notes:

- Muluneh Abebe studied reflective metal fibers.
- Metal fibers have an emissivity of 0.02.
- Silicon carbide fibers have an emissivity of 0.74.
- The student wants to contrast the emissivity of the two materials.

Which choice most effectively uses the notes?

- A) Abebe analyzed emissivity, which is the ability of a material to emit heat.
- B) Both metal and silicon carbide fibers were used in Abebe's garment study.
- C) Metal fibers have a very low emissivity of 0.02, whereas silicon carbide fibers have a much higher emissivity of 0.74.
- D) Emissivity is a key factor when designing clothes for extreme temperatures.

53. While researching a topic, a student has taken the following notes:

- The "Women and the Vote" website featured a digital Victorian house.
- Users could click on rooms to find suffrage artifacts.
- This interactive format allowed audiences to control their own experience.
- The student wants to explain an advantage of this format.

Which choice most effectively uses the notes?

- A) The Victorian house on the website contained many different artifacts.
- B) Theater students used a digital format to present a play about activists.
- C) The website's interactive format was advantageous because it allowed users to control their experience.
- D) One click allowed users to access video clips and songs about the movement.

54. While researching a topic, a student has taken the following notes:

- Ducklings save 62% more energy when swimming behind their mother.
- Zhiming Yuan used computer simulations to study this.
- The study showed that the mother's wake "pushes" the ducklings forward.
- The student wants to present the study's findings.

Which choice most effectively uses the notes?

- A) Ducklings swim in a line behind their mother to save a lot of energy.
- B) Yuan's computer simulations revealed that the mother duck's wake provides a forward push that saves the ducklings' energy.
- C) Physics is used to understand how animals move through the water.
- D) Energy savings in ducklings were determined to be exactly 62.8%.

Answers and Solutions

1. **A** — "Intuitive" matches the idea that a grid is easy to navigate without a map.
2. **B** — "Erratic" means inconsistent or unpredictable, which fits the description of variable wave power.
3. **C** — "Interpret" means to understand or explain the meaning of something difficult like technical syntax.
4. **C** — "Confined to" means limited to; the text says his influence went far beyond Spain.
5. **B** — "Impenetrable" means impossible to pass through or enter, fitting the context of "breaking into" a field.
6. **C** — The sentence sets up the difference in volume/personality between the uncle and the father.
7. **A** — It details how the author solved the problem of adapting a story with no dialogue into a play.
8. **A** — The underlined part gives the specific reasoning for continuing the strategy despite small results.
9. **B** — Focarelli argues that studies (like Fan's) often focus only on short-term adverse effects.
10. **A** — The text explicitly mentions that Pando's "growth is declining" due to animals eating young trees.
11. **B** — "Fundamental" means a central or primary rule/part, fitting the whistle's role in dolphin identification.
12. **A** — Support for the hypothesis requires showing that exposure to the antibiotic changed metal levels.
13. **B** — The hypothesis predicts squirrels (solitary) will hibernate longer than marmots (social) to stay warm.
14. **C** — Red Maple is the only tree listed as native to North America with a height ≤ 60 feet.
15. **C** — Looking at the third row of the dolphin table, the recording year for FB43 is 1992.
16. **A** — "Provided" is the simple past tense required to describe a historical handbook.
17. **A** — "Allows" is the singular present-tense verb that agrees with the singular subject "landing."
18. **B** — "They were" is the plural pronoun/verb needed to refer to the two woodcuts mentioned earlier.
19. **B** — A comma-sandwich is used for "however" when it functions as an interrupter between a noun and a phrase.

20. C — No punctuation should separate the job title "biologist" from the name "Yuree Lee."
21. A — A colon is used to introduce an explanation or a specific list of divergent strategies.
22. B — "Are" is the plural verb that agrees with the plural subject "shape of... ears."
23. A — "Meanwhile" is used to show two events happening at the same time in different locations.
24. B — "Additionally" adds a second, distinct worry (misleading clips) to the first worry (performing).
25. A — "Thus" indicates a logical conclusion: simple behavior leads to smaller brain resource allocation.
26. B — This choice highlights the "advantage" of microprobes over rovers as requested by the prompt.
27. A — This choice successfully introduces the specific book and the year it was published.
28. B — "Provide" is the correct verb for how animals give or supply food to their young.
29. B — "Enthusiasm for" describes a strong interest in two different passions.
30. A — "Handmade from" correctly describes the materials used to construct the intricate baskets.
31. C — "Persistent" (constant/continuous) matches the description of working without stopping.
32. C — It defines the general utility of oral history before providing a specific example.
33. B — The poem encourages the child to embrace the "unknown reaches" of life.
34. C — The underlined sentence states a claim about the landscape mirroring her sensations.
35. B — "Was challenged" fits the context of new data contradicting previous speculations.
36. A — "Eventually" shows the progression of time leading to her becoming a movement leader.
37. A — "Remarkably mature" matches the description of her "strength of understanding" at age 19.
38. A — "Challenged" fits the idea that the book went against traditional notions of cooking.
39. B — The text says she was aware people avoided her and "rather exulted in it."
40. B — If health correlates "negatively" with residence, it means otters make the grass less healthy over time.
41. A — The study showed that even solitary animals like tortoises share this "innate" facial attraction.

42. **A** — "Their" is the plural possessive pronoun required to refer to Watson and Crick.
43. **A** — "To tell" is the infinitive form required to express the purpose of using poetry.
44. **A** — "Whom" is the objective pronoun required after the preposition "of."
45. **A** — A comma is needed to set off the non-essential title of the novel.
46. **B** — A comma is required to separate the introductory phrase from the rest of the sentence.
47. **A** — "Prize" is the plural verb that agrees with the plural subject "Collectors."
48. **A** — "However" signals the contrast between efficient technology and increased total consumption.
49. **A** — "Similarly" shows that both groups of activists were doing related things in different cities.
50. **A** — "Specifically" introduces the exact scientific process behind how auroras are formed.
51. **B** — This choice provides a direct numerical comparison between the two tunnel lengths.
52. **C** — This choice uses "whereas" to create a clear contrast between the two emissivity values.
53. **C** — It identifies the "interactive format" and explains why that format was a benefit.
54. **B** — This choice identifies the study's author and explains the "push" mechanism he discovered.