

SAT Reading and Writing Sample Paper 02

- **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.

Module 1

1. The historian argued that the documents were not intended to be a definitive record but rather a _____ account, meant to provide a quick summary for busy officials rather than a detailed analysis for future generations.

A) exhaustive
B) cursory
C) meticulous
D) profound
2. Scholars often praise the _____ of the poet's work; her ability to transition seamlessly between tragic themes and lighthearted satire is a testament to her mastery of multiple literary modes.

A) rigidity
B) versatility
C) obscurity
D) redundancy
3. Although the discovery of the ancient ruins was initially dismissed as _____, subsequent excavations revealed that the site was actually a major religious center of the early Bronze Age.

A) absolute
B) insignificant
C) definitive
D) deceptive
4. The artist's latest exhibit was not _____ to the local community; her sculptures received critical acclaim in several international galleries, proving her work had global appeal.

- A) derived
 - B) confined
 - C) recognized
 - D) repressed
5. In her 1920 essay, the author describes the bustling streets of London with such _____ that modern readers can almost hear the roar of the early motorcars and the chatter of the crowds through her prose.
- A) ambiguity
 - B) fidelity
 - C) austerity
 - D) brevity
6. In the 1855 novel *Israel Potter*, the protagonist is noted for having evinced a singular patience and mildness throughout his varied career. This internal calm is sharply tested when he is forced to clear out a farm for himself in the wilderness after being cheated by a false employer. Which choice best describes the function of the underlined sentence?
- A) It introduces a character trait that is then shown to be challenged by external circumstances.
 - B) It provides an example of a successful outcome achieved by the protagonist's labor.
 - C) It summarizes the resolution of the primary conflict described later in the passage.
 - D) It identifies a specific historical law that governed labor contracts in the wilderness.

7. **Text 1**

Traditional economic models often assume that companies in the same industry will engage in fierce price competition following a merger. These models predict that efficiency gains will allow the new, larger company to lower prices and attract more customers.

Text 2

Economist Ying Fan investigated the effects of newspaper mergers and found that they often lead to higher subscription prices. Fan argues that the reduction in competition allows companies to prioritize profit margins over consumer affordability, regardless of efficiency. Based on the texts, how would the author of Text 2 most likely respond to the prediction in Text 1?

- A) By claiming that mergers always lead to a decrease in the quality of the products offered.
- B) By suggesting that the assumption of price competition fails to account for how companies use their market power.
- C) By arguing that efficiency gains are impossible to achieve in the newspaper industry.
- D) By asserting that consumers prefer higher prices if they lead to more diverse news coverage.

8. 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 the specific internal sensations she feels as she walks through the grove.
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 experiencing an internal conflict.
 - C) It makes a claim that the next sentence then expands on.
 - D) It illustrates an idea introduced in the previous chapter.
9. 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 local deer. They suggest that building strong fences could prevent animals from eating young trees.
According to the text, why are ecologists concerned about Pando?
- A) The root system is no longer able to support tree growth.
 - B) Animals are consuming new growth before it can establish itself.
 - C) The colony is being blocked from expansion by human structures.
 - D) A lack of genetic diversity is making the colony susceptible to disease.
10. In a study of bottlenose dolphins, biologist Laela Sayigh analyzed recordings of females interacting with their calves. The study found that mothers use unique "signature whistles" to call to their offspring. This suggests that vocal communication is _____ to the social bonding of marine mammals.
- A) incidental
 - B) fundamental
 - C) secondary
 - D) redundant
11. Some scholars have asserted that the figure in certain Pompeian artworks is the goddess Venus because she is traditionally associated with cupids in Roman culture. However, archaeologist Carla Brain suggests that cupids were also associated with fishing and domestic scenes generally, meaning the presence of a cupid does not provide conclusive evidence.
Which choice best describes the function of the underlined sentence?
- A) It presents a common interpretation that the rest of the text seeks to complicate.
 - B) It provides empirical data to disprove the claim made in the second sentence.
 - C) It identifies a specific historical period that the passage aims to analyze.
 - D) It outlines a solution to the problem of identifying anonymous Roman figures.
12. In 2018, scientists discovered an immense colony of pearl octopuses near a hydrothermal vent 3,200 meters beneath the ocean surface. Water temperatures at this site are significantly warmer than the surrounding deep-sea water. Researchers concluded that the octopuses use

the warmth to accelerate the development of their eggs.

Which statement about the octopuses is best supported by the text?

- A) They are the only marine species capable of surviving near hydrothermal vents.
- B) Their choice of location provides a reproductive benefit related to hatching speed.
- C) They migrate to shallower waters once the eggs have successfully hatched.
- D) They feed primarily on smaller organisms attracted to the warmth of the vents.

13. Many plants lose leaf color when exposed to kanamycin, an antibiotic. Researchers hypothesized that this response involves the plant altering its uptake of metals. In an experiment, *A. thaliana* seedlings exposed to the antibiotic showed lower levels of iron and zinc than the control group.

Which finding would best support the researchers' hypothesis?

- A) Plants exposed to the antibiotic showed significant reductions in metal content.
- B) The control group plants showed identical metal levels to the exposed group.
- C) Iron and zinc levels were higher in the exposed group than in the control group.
- D) The antibiotic had no impact on the plant's ability to undergo photosynthesis.

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 will grow **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 the ID FB43 recorded with her calf?

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

D) 2018

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

- A) provided
- B) providing
- C) to provide
- D) provide

17. The classic board game Chutes and Ladders is a version of an ancient Nepalese game. In both games, landing on a "good" space _____ a player to skip ahead toward the end goal.

- A) allows
- B) allow
- C) are allowing
- D) have allowed

18. In 1930, artist Chiura Obata depicted the beauty of Yosemite 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 have dubbed Gil Scott-Heron the "godfather of rap." Scott-Heron himself resisted the _____ feeling it did not capture his devotion to the broader blues tradition.

- A) nickname, however,
- B) nickname, however;
- C) nickname; however,
- D) nickname however,

20. Stomata are tiny pore structures in a leaf that absorb gases. In a 2007 article, plant cell showed that specific lipid molecules are responsible for signaling the pores to open.

- A) biologist Yuree Lee,
- B) biologist, Yuree Lee
- C) biologist Yuree Lee
- D) biologist, Yuree Lee,

21. As cheesemaking spread throughout Europe and Asia during the Neolithic, divergent strategies for preserving milk _____ whereas some groups used rennet, others 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 find that the shape of each statue's ears _____ unique to that specific figure.
- A) are
B) is
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 there.
- A) Meanwhile,
B) Nevertheless,
C) Therefore,
D) Secondly,
24. Some members of the US Supreme Court resist televising oral arguments. They worry participants will "perform" for the cameras. _____ they fear viewers will watch only short, misleading clips.
- A) However,
B) Additionally,
C) For example,
D) Conversely,
25. An animal's brain size often scales with its behavioral complexity. _____ from an evolutionary perspective, simple actions require fewer brain resources.
- A) Subsequently,
B) Thus,
C) Nevertheless,
D) Besides,
26. While researching a topic, a student has taken the following notes:
- NASA uses rovers to explore the surface of Mars.

- Rovers are heavy and cannot climb steep terrain.
- Microprobes weigh 50 milligrams and can be deployed anywhere.
- The student wants to explain an advantage of microprobes over rovers.

Which choice most effectively uses the notes to accomplish this goal?

- A) NASA explores Mars with heavy rovers and lightweight microprobes.
- B) Unlike heavy rovers, microprobes weigh only 50 milligrams and can access terrain that wheeled vehicles cannot.
- C) Microprobes have been proposed as a lighter alternative to the rovers NASA uses on Mars.
- D) Rovers are useful, but they cannot explore steep regions of the planet.

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

- Cecilia Vicuña is a Chilean artist.
- Her poetry collection *Precario* was published in 1983.
- She is also a multidisciplinary performance artist.
- The student wants to introduce the 1983 poetry collection.

Which choice most effectively uses the notes?

- A) Cecilia Vicuña is a Chilean artist who works in many media.
- B) Published in 1983, *Precario* is a collection of poetry by the artist Cecilia Vicuña.
- C) Before 1983, Vicuña was already a famous multidisciplinary artist.
- D) *Precario* was published by the same artist who is Chilean.

Module 2

28. Predatory animals differ widely in how they _____ food for their young; some bring live prey back, while others feed their offspring directly.
- A) avoid
 - B) provide
 - C) describe
 - D) consume
29. Teju Cole's _____ culminated in his 2017 book, which evocatively combines original photos with poetic prose.
- A) indifference to photography
 - B) enthusiasm for photography
 - C) concern about the future
 - D) surprise at his success
30. Artist Marilyn Dingle's baskets are _____ sweetgrass and palmetto palm; she skillfully winds thin palm fronds around a bunch of grass.
- A) indicated by
 - B) handmade from
 - C) represented by
 - D) collected with
31. Annie Wauneka worked to promote public health; this _____ effort involved traveling throughout the Navajo homeland and writing 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' lives. Which choice best describes the function of the underlined sentence?
- A) It provides a geographical fact about the study.
 - B) It argues that the author is the leading expert.
 - C) It identifies a research method and states its benefit.
 - D) It presents a historical event of the twentieth century.

33. In the poem "Benediction," Georgia Douglas Johnson encourages her son to embrace life's journey. She writes, "Go forth... Great reaches, yet unknown, await for your possession." Which choice best describes the function of the underlined sentence?
- A) It summarizes the primary theme of the poem.
 - B) It explains the biological process of aging.
 - C) It identifies a conflict between mother and son.
 - D) It outlines the historical context of the 1920s.
34. Individual elephants and caribou tend to have fixed geographic ranges throughout their lifetimes. Researchers theorized that the extinct woolly mammoth _____; however, analysis suggests their ranges expanded as they matured.
- A) would behave similarly
 - B) was much more active
 - C) ignored these patterns
 - D) preferred colder climates
35. In the 1960s, Gloria Richardson led a movement to promote racial equality in Maryland. She became the leader of the Cambridge movement after her daughter inspired her to join the protests. _____ Richardson became a prominent figure in history.
- A) Eventually,
 - B) Otherwise,
 - C) Previously,
 - D) For instance,
36. Elinor is described as possessing a "strength of understanding" that qualifies her to be her mother's counselor. 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) resolved to never learn from others.
37. Vertamae Smart-Grosvenor's 1970 book *Vibration Cooking* was unusual for its time. It combined recipes with memoir, and it _____ contemporary approaches to writing about cuisine.
- A) followed
 - B) challenged
 - C) ignored
 - D) simplified

38. Mrs. Ochiltree was a woman of "startling frankness," a trait that caused her to be avoided. Mrs. Ochiltree was aware of this and _____.

- A) felt deeply offended.
- B) rather exulted in it.
- C) tried to hide her personality.
- D) was preoccupied with her health.

39. **Text 1**

Sea otters damage eelgrass roots while digging for clams. However, eelgrass in areas with otters are often healthier and more genetically diverse than those in areas where otters are absent.

Text 2

Researcher Erin Foster hypothesized that the root damage caused by otters actually forces the eelgrass to increase its rate of sexual reproduction, which boosts genetic diversity.

Which finding, if true, would most directly **undermine** Foster's hypothesis?

- A) Eelgrass in otter-heavy areas reproduces primarily through cloning.
- B) Small otter populations have a larger impact on diversity than large ones.
- C) Other marine animals also damage eelgrass roots.
- D) Eelgrass meadows are found in areas where sea otters have never lived.

40. Social animals, like humans and monkeys, show an innate attraction to faces. Researchers found that tortoise hatchlings, which are solitary, _____.

- A) also showed a significant preference for face-like images.
- B) were afraid of any images that resembled other tortoises.
- C) only developed an attraction to faces after living with others.
- D) could not distinguish between face-like dots and random patterns.

41. Watson and Crick are famous for 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

42. In her historical novel, Margarita Engle uses poetry rather than prose _____ the true story of a Cuban folk hero.

- A) to tell
- B) telling
- C) told

D) tells

43. Interest in mechanotransduction is expanding because of work by scientists—many of _____ are studying how cells convert stimuli into signals.

- A) whom
- B) who
- C) which
- D) them

44. Helen Oyeyemi's novel *Boy, Snow, Bird* is a retelling of Snow White; her 2019 novel, _____ offers a delicious twist on Hansel and Gretel.

- A) *Gingerbread*,
- B) *Gingerbread*
- C) *Gingerbread*;
- D) *Gingerbread*:

45. Engineer Erkkka Frankberg used the chemical _____ to create a glassy solid that can withstand high strain.

- A) compound aluminum oxide
- B) compound, aluminum oxide
- C) compound aluminum oxide,
- D) compound, aluminum oxide,

46. During the "Brass Era," automobiles were referred to as "horseless carriages." Collectors today _____ these vehicles for their artistry.

- A) prize
- B) prizes
- C) prizing
- D) was prizing

47. New technologies use resources more efficiently. _____ economists observe that these gains can actually increase total consumption.

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

48. 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,

49. Auroras result from the Sun's activity. _____ the Sun releases charged particles that collide with atoms.

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

50. 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 rail tunnels. Which choice is best?

- 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.

51. Muluneh Abebe studied 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 is best?

- 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.

52. The "Women and the Vote" website featured a digital Victorian house. Users could click on rooms to find suffrage artifacts.

The student wants to explain an advantage of this format. Which choice is best?

- 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.

53. Ducklings save energy when swimming behind their mother. Study showed that the mother's wake "pushes" the ducklings forward.

The student wants to present the study's findings. Which choice is best?

- A) Ducklings swim in a line behind their mother to save a lot of energy.
- B) 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%.

54. The report stated that the new _____ which was passed last year, will lower taxes for small businesses.

- A) law,
- B) law
- C) law;
- D) law.



Answers and Solutions

1. **B** — "Cursory" (quick and not detailed) provides the contrast to a detailed record for future generations.
2. **B** — "Versatility" (ability to adapt) fits the description of a poet mastering multiple opposing literary modes.
3. **B** — "Insignificant" matches the idea that the ruins were first thought to be minor before being found to be a "major center."
4. **B** — "Confined to" means limited to; the acclaim in international galleries shows her influence spread far.
5. **B** — "Fidelity" (accuracy/realism) matches the description of sensory details that feel real to the reader.
6. **A** — The underlined sentence introduces a trait that is then shown to be challenged by the wilderness experience.
7. **B** — Fan's research (Text 2) shows that mergers can lead to higher prices, contradicting the predicted competition in Text 1.
8. **C** — The underlined sentence makes a claim about the landscape mirroring Lily's mood, which the next sentence then expands on.
9. **B** — The text explicitly states ecologists are worried because deer are eating the young trees (overgrazing).
10. **B** — "Fundamental" describes something central/essential; the study shows signature whistles are key to dolphin bonding.
11. **A** — The first sentence introduces a traditional view (Venus) that the rest of the text complicates with Brain's theory.
12. **B** — The text states warmer water "accelerates development," providing a hatching speed benefit for the octopuses.
13. **A** — The experimental data (lower metal levels in exposed plants) directly supports the metal uptake hypothesis.
14. **C** — Red Maple is the only tree listed as native to North America with a maximum height of 60 feet.
15. **C** — Looking at the third row of the table, the recording year for dolphin FB43 is 1992.

16. **A** — "Provided" is the simple past tense required to describe the historical handbook's content.
17. **A** — "Allows" is the singular present-tense verb that agrees with the gerund phrase subject "landing."
18. **B** — "They were" is the plural pronoun and verb required to refer back to the two woodcuts mentioned earlier.
19. **C** — A semicolon is used before "however" and a comma after it when it joins two independent clauses.
20. **C** — No punctuation should separate the job title "biologist" from the specific name "Yuree Lee."
21. **B** — A colon is used to introduce an explanation or list of the divergent strategies mentioned.
22. **B** — "Is" is the singular verb required to agree with the singular subject "shape of each statue's ears."
23. **A** — "Meanwhile" is used to describe two events happening at the same time in different locations.
24. **B** — "Additionally" adds a second, distinct reason (misleading clips) for resisting cameras to the first reason.
25. **B** — "Thus" indicates a logical conclusion: simple actions lead to lower brain resource requirements.
26. **B** — This choice highlights the "advantage" of microprobes over rovers (accessing terrain) as requested.
27. **B** — This choice accurately introduces the specific collection and its publication year as requested.
28. **B** — "Provide" is the correct verb for how animals supply or give food to their offspring.
29. **B** — "Enthusiasm for" describes a strong interest in two different passions as described in the text.
30. **B** — "Handmade from" correctly describes the materials used to construct the 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. A — The underlined sentence introduces the primary message/theme of the poem.
34. A — "Would behave similarly" fits the context of researchers predicting a shared trait between species.
35. A — "Eventually" shows the chronological progression of time leading to her becoming a leader.
36. A — "Remarkably mature" matches the description of her "strength of understanding" at age 19.
37. B — "Challenged" fits the idea that the book went against traditional culinary writing conventions.
38. B — The text says she was aware people avoided her and "rather exulted in it."
39. A — If the plants reproduce via cloning rather than seeds (sexual), it disproves the sexual reproduction theory.
40. A — Solitary animals share the "innate" facial attraction typically associated with social species.
41. A — "Their" is the plural possessive pronoun required to refer back to the two scientists.
42. A — "To tell" is the infinitive form required to express the purpose of using poetry.
43. A — "Whom" is the objective pronoun required after the preposition "of."
44. A — A comma is needed to set off the non-essential title of the 2019 novel.
45. B — No punctuation is needed within the simple noun phrase "compound aluminum oxide."
46. A — "Prize" is the plural verb that agrees with the plural subject "Collectors."
47. A — "However" signals the contrast between efficient technology and increased total consumption.
48. A — "Similarly" shows that both groups of activists were doing related things in different cities.
49. A — "Specifically" introduces the exact scientific process behind how auroras are formed.

50. **B** — This choice provides a direct numerical comparison between the two tunnel lengths.
51. **C** — This choice uses "whereas" to create a clear contrast between the two emissivity values.
52. **C** — It identifies the "interactive format" and explains why that format was a benefit to users.
53. **B** — This choice identifies the study's author and explains the forward "push" mechanism.
54. **A** — A comma is required to separate the non-essential relative clause from the main subject "law."

