# The Best SAT Prep Course Ever

Study & Pacing Guide: 5-12 month plan (~25-50 weeks)

If you're looking to get the most out of our course, this is a guide to help you do that! You're welcome to figure out your own study path, but if you'd like some guidance, or a template you can tailor to your own needs, here it is.

We've designed a few different study plans depending on how much time you have. This study guide is for those who have around 5-12 months to prep. We've defaulted the plan here to 5-6 months. You can also split this guide into a ~1-year plan by spreading each "week" over two weeks.

## For the 5-6 month plan:

We've budgeted 4 weeks per month, and about 4-6 hours per week of work. We know some months are a bit longer, but we also know that you might need time to catch up.

TIP: If instead you want to do 2-4 hours of work per week, we suggest taking the 3-month guide and spreading it over a 6 month timeline (2 weeks per "week" on the guide).

Another tool you'll likely find handy is our **spreadsheet list of videos and worksheets** here:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1fqEWK8rainz8V9X78kR-DfkKsV0pvndDr2-kmsjY4tE/edit?usp=sharing

Make a copy and you can keep track of what you've completed; please note you have view only permissions! You do not need to "ask" for permission to see this file, though if you are on a school domain Google account that limits file sharing beyond its domain, you may need to logout of your school Google account to see the file. Check back on the link every month or so as we will likely modify or add content over time.

TIP: ALWAYS SAVE YOUR BUBBLE SHEETS FROM YOUR PRACTICE TESTS or at least take a picture with your phone. These are awesome tools to do a big review with the week before your test. Take a picture right after you take any practice test so you don't lose your work!!

# FINAL NOTE:

There are now TWO EDITIONS of the Official SAT Study Guide. Please note, tests 2 and 4 are NOT in the new edition (2020), as they have been retired and replaced by tests 9 & 10.

# Month 1:

# Week 1:

Watch Intro video: How to use this course (~17 min)

# Watch Reading Video:

Approaching the Passage - FAQ: Do I Need to Read the Passage First? (27 min) (You can watch the first 5 min and get the majority of the message if short on time)

<u>Take a diagnostic exam</u> I.e. Test #1 in The Official SAT Study Guide (~3.5-4 hours) If you don't have a physical book you can download the tests here: <a href="http://supertutortv.com/satcourseresources">http://supertutortv.com/satcourseresources</a>

- Time it and use the bubble sheet provided at the end of the document.
- Star anything you're not 100% sure about and are guessing on. You should still put an answer, though; bubble everything since there is no score penalty for guessing!
- Score your test. You can use the answer keys on our resources page <a href="http://supertutortv.com/satcourseresources">http://supertutortv.com/satcourseresources</a>)
- If possible, do the entire test in one sitting
- Enter your test results into our course to store your answers and create test review playlists.

## Week 2:

# Review (2-6 hours)

Go over all the questions you missed in the practice test, as well as any questions you've starred.

- Go through each video explanation using our course.
- For Writing/Language and Math, make a list for each section of what areas you need to review in terms of content. I usually will indicate the problem "type" as I explain the answer. Make a list or use our <u>spreadsheet</u> to mark what you need to work on. This is your study list for next week.
- For Evidence Based Reading, you can also flag question types (Vocab in Context, Function, Detail, Evidence Pairs, Main Purpose, Pattern, Tone/Attitude) to review with videos.
- Reading: Try to figure out why you didn't perform as well as you could.

- Was it timing?
- Was it strategy?

<u>Tip videos</u>: (~2 hours total)

Writing & Language Tip Videos: General Strategies (37 min)

Math Tip Videos: Overview (12 min)

(Optional: Math Hacks/Timing Tips (also on YouTube), 20 min)

Reading Tip Videos: Top 5 Tips: Tips 1-3 (~50 min)

## Week 3:

Focus on skill improvement and reworking your habits. Spend at least 4 hours.

**Content Work: Videos and Practice Exercises** 

**Math**: Review at least 2 math content/skills videos related to your study list you made in week 2 for each subject.

**Writing and Language**: Review at least 2 content/skills videos related to your study list you made in week 2 for each subject.

- Anything you missed, you should review the video for and then complete the worksheet/drill if available.
- Then review the answers you missed using the explanatory answers (on pdf).
- If anything is confusing, or an explanation seems off, you can always reach out to us at info@supertutortv.com.
- Please also note we have a list of math errata you can access online here:
   <a href="https://docs.google.com/document/d/14wl64OZfDxVChUMp3b-MOxtJDTR42-hW17RkJ8">https://docs.google.com/document/d/14wl64OZfDxVChUMp3b-MOxtJDTR42-hW17RkJ8</a>
   <a href="https://docs.google.com/document/d/14wl64OZfDxVChUMp3b-MOxtJDTR42-hW17RkJ8">https://docs.google.com/document/d/14wl64OZfDxVChUMp3b-MOxtJDTR42-hW17RkJ8</a>
   <a href="https://docs.google.com/document/d/14wl64OZfDxVChUMp3b-MOxtJDTR42-hW17RkJ8">https://docs.google.com/document/d/14wl64OZfDxVChUMp3b-MOxtJDTR42-hW17RkJ8</a>

Reading Tip Videos: Finish Top 5 Tips: Tips 4-5 (~20 minutes)

## Week 4:

# Math Tip Videos (1 hour)

- If you have a TI-83 or 84, watch "SAT Calculator Overview" and "How to Program Calculator" (Youtube, also avail in course). (15 min)
- Program your calculator this week with a few programs (30-45 min)

Writing/Language Tip Videos: Careless Errors (18 min)

# **Reading Tips**

**Approaching the Passage: All videos** (~1 hour 10 minutes)

## **Practice Test 2: Slow it down!**

Take Practice Test #3 Sections 1. Reading and 3. Math No Calculator UNTIMED in your Official SAT Study Guide (or from links on our course resources page) (~2 hours).

Your goal this week is to "get everything right."

- Map the passage
- Fight for the answer.
- Look back for answers and focus on finding the evidence.
- Don't be intimidated by hard sounding math. Push forward and figure out what you can.
- Learn how the test works and get to the "aha" moment.

We're not working on speed this week, but rather "getting" the test.

## Test Review: Test #3 Sections 1/3 (~1-2 hours)

Go over any questions you missed using the video explanations in our course.

# Month 2:

## Week 5:

Reading Tip Videos: Approaching the answer choices (all videos) (~1 hour 40 minutes).

# <u>Practice Test</u>: Practice Test #5 in your Official SAT Study Guide (2.5-3 hours)

- Take the Writing/Language and Reading sections.
- Time the Writing/Language section but do the Reading with extra time. Keep track, however, of how long the Reading section takes you. Be aware of your pace so you can start to speed up after this week.
- Grade the exam.

# Content Work: Math (if time permits) (1 hour)

- Continue to work through your study list from Week 2, completing at least 2 strategy videos and/or related packets.
- Go over all your answers from these.

## Week 6:

Review (2-3 hours)

# Watch video explanations for **Practice test #5 in the Official SAT Study Guide** (Writing/Language & Reading)

• Update your list of areas to work on in Writing/Language (content) after taking the test, using the "Generate Study List" feature.

# **Content Work: Math & Writing/Language** (2-3 hours)

- Spend 1 hour watching content videos in **Math** and **Writing/Language**
- 1-2 hours doing more drills in Writing/Language according to your study list
- More drills in math according to your study list.

## Week 7:

## **Content Work: Math (~1.5-2 hours)**

- Watch more **math content videos**, working through areas (2+) on your list.
- Spend at least 1 hour doing Math content drills that correspond with the videos you've watched.
- If you're confident in a particular area, skip the math video and head straight to the drill. Find downloadable drills in the tab below the video.
- Review all your work and correct errors.

# Reading Tip Videos: Timing Tips (all) (~1 hour)

# <u>Practice Test</u>: Practice Test #6 in the Official SAT Study Guide (2.5-3 hours)

Take the **Writing/Language** and **Reading** sections only.

• Time the **Writing/Language** section, but do the **Reading** with extra time, but less extra time than last time. If timing is a real issue, consider breaking these into segments and running timing drills as per our timing tip videos.

# **Content Work: Math & Writing/Language** (1.5-3 hours)

- Spend ½-1 hour watching content videos in **Writing/Language**.
- Then take 1-2 hours doing more drills in **Writing/Language** according to your content list.

## Week 8:

Review: (2-3 hours)

- Watch Explanation Videos for Practice Test #6 in the Official SAT Study Guide (Writing/Language and Reading sections only)
- Generate custom study list from Test 6

**Content Work: Math & Writing/Language** (2-3 hours)

- Spend 1 hour watching content videos in **Math and Writing/Language**.
- Take 1-2 hours doing more drills in Writing/Language according to your content list.
- More drills in Math according to your list.
- Focus on what you need the most work on.

# Month 3:

# Week 9:

**Practice Test**: (3.5 hours)

- Practice Test #7 in the Official SAT Study Guide (Reading section ONLY)
- Practice Test #7 in the Official SAT Study Guide (Writing/Language ONLY)
- Grade all tests.

# **Content Work: Math (2 hours)**

- Work on **Math** packets and watch **videos** if you need them.
- If you've worked through all your problem areas, choose chapters that you know you are rusty on or that you find most challenging.

# **Week 10:**

## Review (2-4 hours)

Enter your test results in the Tests section of the course.

Watch video explanations for **Practice test #7 in the Official SAT Study Guide** (**Writing/Language** & **Reading**)

Generate a Custom Study list from your test results page.

• For **Reading**, make a log of the mistakes you made and figure out what techniques would help you correct those errors. Understand that many videos in the reading section don't exactly "pair" with specific questions so you may want to manually browse these and add additional videos to your list.

# **Content Work: Math & Writing/Language** (2 hours)

- Print and complete at least 1 hours' worth of more **Math** content
- Print and complete 1 hour of Writing/Language content.
- For both, watch videos if the areas are trouble spots.
- If you have no new content trouble spots, continue to work through videos and worksheets that you find most challenging and have not yet completed.

## Week 11:

Take a week off to focus on what you need the most work on.

- ★ Is it Writing/Language?
  - If so, take the **PSAT #2 section of Writing and Language** timed.
  - (Find this at supertutortv.com/resources)

• Then go over all answers on your own (not covered in our videos yet) and watch any relevant content videos you haven't seen yet.

#### ★ Is it Math?

- o You've got lots of packets left you probably haven't done.
- Explore some of the Math content videos.
- Catch up on your math packets.
- You can also take a complete timed math section from another practice test (not in your books—links below).

## **★** Is it **Reading**?

- o If so, more practice is in order.
- We don't have explanations for lots of additional tests, but by now, you should be versed in this test enough that you can figure out the answers if you go over them on your own. Try a complete, timed reading from a free older test (see below).
- If you can't identify a single weakness, try taking a complete practice test and reviewing
   it
- This is a great week to take another test if you've got an older brother or sister who ordered their test booklet (called a QAS), and that's sitting around the house somewhere. You might also find a friend with an old one. These older tests can sometimes be found online, but we can't vouch for the legality of such tests being posted (on Reddit, etc.) and we don't advocate piracy. If you don't have access to any other tests (newer tests are ideal), you can take the Maine April 2017, 2018 SAT exams that are floating around on the internet.

Some of these are available at:

http://Supertutortv.com/resources

Note: we don't have explanations for QAS and the Maine tests. Always review your work, though. This is how you learn!

Math Tip Videos: Math/Calculator Hacks and Timing Tips (33 min)

## Week 12:

This is about the halfway point.

## <u>Practice Test</u>: Practice Test #8 in your Official SAT Study Guide (4 hours)

- Take this week to do a full test in close to testing conditions.
- Print a bubble sheet, and take test in your book.
- Time yourself.
- Star everything you're iffy on, even if you get it right.
- Grade it.

# Month 4:

# **Week 13:**

**Review** (~2-4 hours depending on score)

- Go over everything you've starred or missed on the Practice Exam #8 in your Official SAT Study Guide using the video explanations.
- Revise and update your list of areas to target in Math and Writing/Language.
- Figure out what is still tough for you in **Reading**.

<u>Reading Tip Videos</u>: Flags in the Questions & Answers: Overview (all videos) (2+ hours)

From here forward, continue to hone what you want to work on by what you need to work on most.

- If you missed any strategy videos, make that work up this week.
- Work on any outstanding areas in Math and Writing/Language using the videos and associated worksheets as you can.

## Week 14:

Reading Tip Videos: Specific Questions Types: Overview (all videos) (~3 hours 20 minutes)

# Content Work: Writing/Language & Math

- Continue to work through content videos and worksheets.
- If you've covered everything you struggle with:
  - o Repeat chapters you keep missing / re-watch videos for areas you struggle with
  - Move on to areas you're better at and focus on the toughest problems, as well as ways to speed up your process.

# **Content Work: Reading**

- Repeat passages you've already done or see Week 11/21 for links to other practice tests you can use.
- Continue to work through these question types.
- If you really need more work on these sections, consider getting another book that drills these problem types.

## Week 15:

# <u>Practice Test:</u> Practice Test #9 in your Official SAT Study Guide (~4 hours)

• If you need to ease up on timing training this week to improve your accuracy, that's okay, but after this test you should be doing the test within real testing time conditions.

Decide, in advance, what strategy you will take.

## **Week 16:**

## Review (2-4 hours)

- Go over **Practice Test #9 in your Official SAT Study Guide** with our online video explanations.
- Update your "to work on" list.

# Month 5:

# Week 17 - Week 18:

- Finish any outstanding videos or worksheets you haven't completed in the course.
- Review any problems in areas you need the most work in.
- Also see advice in Week 14.
- Rinse & Repeat.
- Also, review all your practice tests you've taken and take stock of what you've missed.
   This is your chance to double down on any types of problems you see you keep missing over time.

# Week 19:

# <u>Practice Test:</u> PSAT Practice Test 1 in your Official SAT Study Guide (2 hours 45 minutes)

• Try to simulate real testing conditions if you can.

## Week 20:

## Review (1-4 hours)

We do not have videos for **PSAT Practice Test 1** answers yet, but by now you should be able to identify why you made the mistakes that you did. Review videos that target areas you're still missing.

- Do worksheets that deal with these areas if you haven't already (Writing/Language and Math).
- If you need more Reading drill practice, try the free practice questions here:

https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sample-questions/reading

# Month 6:

## Week 21:

Again, let's take a week to focus on your weaknesses.

- See instructions on Week 11.
- If you can't identify a single one, try taking a complete practice test and reviewing it.

• This is a great week to take an old test if you've got an older brother or sister who ordered their test booklet, and that's sitting around the house somewhere. You might also find a friend with an old one. These older tests can sometimes be found online, but we can't vouch for the legality of such tests being posted (on Reddit, etc.) and we don't advocate piracy. If you don't have access to any other tests (newer tests are ideal), you can take TEST 9 or TEST 10 or the Maine April exams that are floating around on the internet.

Some of these are available at:

http://Supertutortv.com/resources

We don't have explanations for these unless you have the newer guide (we'll eventually be posting test 9 and 10 only), so you'll need to review on your own, fight for the answers as you review, and try to figure things out the best you can without explanation videos. Always review your work, though. This is how you learn!

## **Week 22:**

<u>Practice Test</u>: Practice Test 10: in your Official SAT Study Guide (~4 hours)

## Week 23:

Review (2-4 hours)

Watch video explanations for Practice Test 10 in your Official SAT Study Guide.

 Any last-minute areas you need to review, check out content or strategy videos as appropriate.

#### Week 24:

Take another practice test if you can find one online (again we link to the Maine 2018 exam below).

- You won't have explanations for this one, but at this point you should be able to review anything you don't understand on your own.
- See end of this document for ideas/links in obtaining another practice test.

# Pack and prepare for the test day:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qe0hRpSKIDE

## Week 25:

## Review

- Go over the **Practice Test** you took last week.
- Brush up using any videos or worksheets that target your last few liabilities.

- Review my SAT Cheat Sheet to remember tricks and strategies.
- Redo test sections if you feel you need more practice or take another practice test if you can find one you haven't done yet.
- Take another practice test if you like.

# How to get more practice tests: (NOTE: we do NOT offer explanations for these tests)

If you've got an older brother or sister who ordered a QAS test booklet from their SAT or has an old copy of a PSAT and that's sitting around the house somewhere, use that. It's probably recent, and recent tests are best. You might also find a friend with an old one. However, many of these might be duplicates with tests 1-10, all available at supertutortv.com/resources. The only legally released QAS exams are:

January 2016, January 2017

April (School day test available only in select schools)

May (all tests / two form codes per year, one is a repeat of the April school day test) October (US test only) (October 2017 and 2018 are now released as Tests 9 & 10) March (US test only, beginning in 2018; formerly January)

No other month tests are released and should you find a copy of another seemingly official "test," it could be illegally obtained or contain erroneous answer key(s) or questions and we suggest NOT using it.

These older tests can sometimes be found online, but we can't vouch for the legality of such tests being posted (on Reddit, etc.) and we don't advocate piracy. If you don't have access to any other tests, take one of the tests below.

April 2018 QAS (State of Maine Released Test)
April 2018 QAS Answer Key & Scoring Guide

The 2017 April QAS is currently unavailable on the State of Maine's website, but you can try searching for them on Google using their file names:

800889-sat-school-day-qas-table-guide-5msa09-april-2017-unlocked-final-120285.pdf 800888-sat-school-day-qas-test-book-5msa09-april-2017-unlocked-final-120283.pdf

You can also get more questions for practice by registering for a free account at **Khan Academy** here. We like Khan Academy's math exercises best. AVOID topic specific Writing and Language questions as they are too easy. The Narrative, Informative and

Argumentative Passages are ok, though. Beware some reading passages/questions are poorly executed.

https://www.khanacademy.org/sat?utm\_source=cb-text&utm\_medium=cb418-cb&utm\_campaign=practice

# **GOOD LUCK!**