

SIX MONTH SAT STUDY GUIDE



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Hi! My name's Clayton, and I've been a homeschooled student in Fayetteville, Arkansas since the third grade. Various hobbies of mine including programming, biking, and wearing fake mustaches (because life is too short not to wear fake mustaches). I hope Khan Academy is as much help to you as it has been to me!

6 months until the test

- Take a practice SAT test. There are tests available on the official SAT site, if you need one. *(Khan Academy note: our diagnostic quizzes are a great way to get a snapshot of your starting knowledge without having to take a full test!)*
- Take note of which subjects you did poorly on (sentence correction, trigonometry, inferencing, etc.) and focus studying on those first.
- Attempt to study for the SAT at least once a week.
- Make sure to study from different sources! Sometimes, studying from only source might cause you to focus too much on some skills and too little on others, which can hurt you on test day.

3 months until the test

- Take another practice SAT test, but try to answer the questions faster than you did before.
- Once again, take note of which subjects you performed poorly on and focus studying on those first.
- Also take note on any subjects you did worse on in your second test than in your first test and study those as well.
- Make sure to double the amount of studying you have been doing. If you were studying once a week before, study twice a week now.
- Don't just study by answering questions. Make sure you understand every aspect of the subject.
- Study the test itself, also! The SAT is- structurally- a very predictable test. You'll never be questioned on how to make an apple pie from scratch, so there's no point in studying how to bake.

1 month until the test

- At this point, you should start studying almost every day. A month might seem like a lot of time when you think about it, but reality is a much different matter.

- If you can, attempt to take a practice test every week. Take note of your scores on every test and look for any way you can improve, no matter how small. Every correct question matters!
- Make sure to study how to manage your time as well. The quicker you finish a section, the more time you have to double-check your work. If you're having trouble answering a question, skip it and return to it later.

1 week until the test

- Take a final practice test. If you've been taking practice tests weekly, you should now be familiar not only with the content on the SAT, but the SAT itself. Familiarity will help you answer questions faster and better, leading to a higher total score.

3 Days until the test

- Despite how counter-intuitive it seems, stop studying! At this point, studying rarely helps improve your score, and might even hurt it by stressing you out. Relax, and instead of studying, prepare yourself to take the test.

Day of the test

- Relax. Make sure you get a good night's sleep, eat a hearty breakfast, and most importantly of all: don't panic. Good luck!