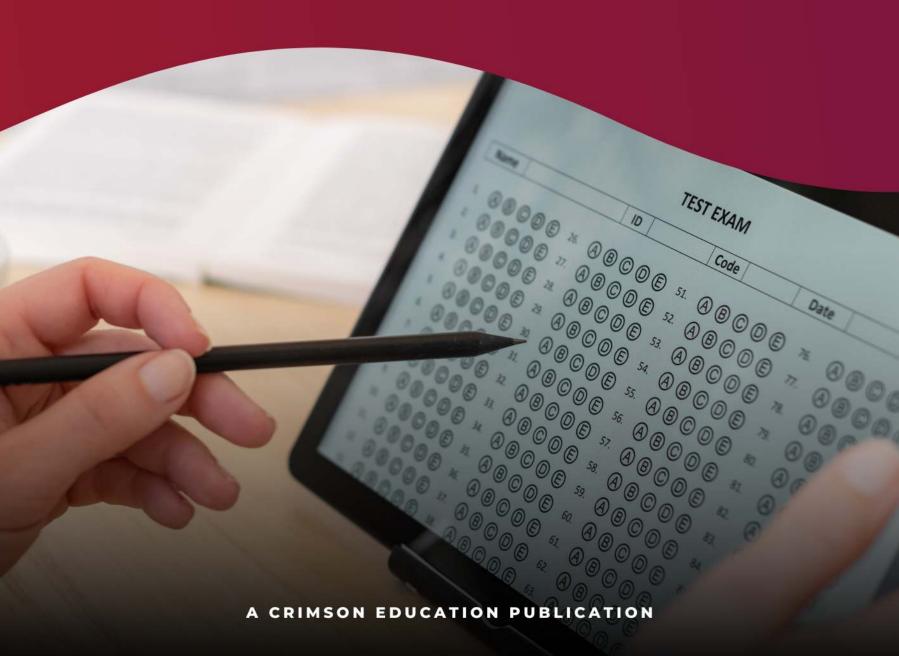


# How to Ace the Digital SAT

Tips, Tricks, and a

Mini Practice Test



# The SAT is now digital for all students outside of the USA.



#### Do you know about all the major changes? This is everything you need to know to prepare for, and CRUSH the digital SAT!



Sleeves up! It's time to take the SAT! In the past you might have heard advice like making sure you had enough pencils, erasers, sharpener, calculator, water, and snacks — then showing up early at the testing center for the 3-hour test.

Times have changed. In an effort to keep up with our technology-driven society, the SAT has gone fully digital for students outside the US. According to Priscilla Rodriguez, Vice-President of College Readiness Assessments at the College Board:

"The digital SAT will be easier to take, easier to give, and more relevant. We're not simply putting the current SAT on a digital platform — we're taking full advantage of what delivering an assessment digitally makes possible. With input from educators and students, we are adapting to ensure we continue to meet their evolving needs."

This eBook will be broken down into the following sections:

- Why you should take the digital SAT
- Key differences between the paper/pencil SAT and digital SAT
- 7 Digital SAT Preparation Strategies
- 5 Digital SAT Test-Taking Strategies
- Mini Practice SAT (Math and Reading/Writing Sections)
- What if my scores aren't as high as expected
- How Crimson can help YOU!
- Mini Practice SAT Answer Key with explanations

# First things first: most colleges don't need SAT scores. So, why should I take it?

01.

Here's what Kelly Heo, Crimson Education's Director of US Strategy, has to say on the topic! Kelly attended Duke University with a full scholarship and graduated with a double major in Public Policy and International Comparative Studies. Most notably, she has helped students receive acceptances to Harvard College, Stanford University, University of Pennsylvania, University of Chicago, Duke University, Dartmouth College, Vanderbilt University, and Cornell University.

66

"Taking the SAT is still essential for candidates to stand out among their peers, especially in today's hyper competitive admissions field where top universities are producing very low admissions rates year on year.

One Former Admissions Officer told us that they looked at a student's academic ability (one of the most important considerations of a student's application) by looking at their school grades, standardized testing scores (like the SAT), and national/global academic awards.

If a student doesn't submit a test score and has no national/global honors, this makes it difficult for an admissions officer to assess their academic ability solely based on their school's standard and grading system, which can differ quite considerably from school to school. It's even more difficult for a student to stand out amongst other applicants who do present a strong standardized testing score.

While universities are doing their best to consider each applicant fairly within their context, we generally advise that students take advantage of opportunities that will help them stand out and give them an edge in their admissions journey; a competitive score, while not required, can make a big impact."



# Digital SAT vs. Paper/Pencil SAT



#### **Digital SAT**

#### Length

2 hours and 14 minutes. Prepare to spend 2.75 - 3 hours at the testing centre.

#### 2 sections

- 1.Reading + Evidence-Based Writing
- 2. Calculator math\*

\*An online Desmos calculator with graphing functions is provided through the testing platform

#### **Reading/Writing Section**

Could be as short as 1 sentence, to 2-3 sentences, or a short list made of complete and/or incomplete sentences.

#### **Adaptive testing**

If the student performs well in the first section, the following section is more complicated.

#### **Paper/Pencil SAT**

#### Length

3 hours.

#### 4 sections

- 1. Reading
- 2. Evidence-Based Writing
- 3. Non-calculator math
- 4. Calculator math

#### **Writing/Language Section**

Writing & Language passages each have exactly 11 questions. The Reading passages each have 10-11 questions per passage. Long passages are usually about 500-800 words.

#### **Linear testing**

The test is static, with the same material being presented to all pupils.





# 7 Digital SAT Preparation Strategies

These are some strategies our tutors use to prepare their students for the SAT, so that they can submit the strongest scores possible!





# a. Start planning early!

A big part of studying successfully is time management! Break down the time between now and your deadlines, and structure your tasks so that you can cover everything you will be assessed on with time to spare. Do you procrastinate? Factor 'procrastination time' into your study plan!



Many of us have been guilty of spending more time studying for our favorite subjects than those we don't like. Try starting study sessions by focussing on these trickier subjects - and reward yourself with something more fun to finish things off.

SAT Study Advice: "I suggest students work up to 2 hour study sessions, starting with 30-35 minute sessions, then stretching them out over the course of a few weeks to build stamina without burning out. Then, the most important aspect is to make sure students are doing consistent evaluation of the types of questions they're missing, understanding why they've missed those questions in the past, and how to tackle them in the future."



# c. Noticing patterns among questions

You want to identify patterns in questions as quickly as possible in both the Reading and Math sections. Time is the main thing working against you, and what you want to get ahead of.



# d. Scheduling is key when it comes to studying for the SAT

Set a schedule for taking the available practice tests. Then, in the last two weeks, take two tests. CollegeBoard now features new practice tests using Bluebook<sup>TM</sup>, and Khan Academy® is one of best SAT prep resources out there.



Carve out time to go back and really evaluate why you got certain questions wrong and certain questions right.

Make sure that you genuinely understand how and why you got a question right or wrong so that you're not reliant on luck at any point.



# f. Become familiar with a variety of texts

Instead of memorizing as much as possible, familiarize yourself with a variety of texts from a range of academic disciplines. If English is not your first language, this process will help you with learning new words. This will also help you with the math section.



Ask questions of the experts around you! If you have any doubts about what is expected of you, or if there are any areas you know you want to improve without knowing how, let your teachers know. Don't leave it until after the exams to speak up. The sooner you ask, the sooner you can begin to smash your goals!

Not sure when to start preparing for your university admissions tests? Check out this <u>US College timeline infographic!</u> Want support? Talk to our team today!



# **5 Digital SAT Test-Taking Strategies**

Here are some tips for the day of your test.

#### + Don't be afraid to skip questions.

Start working through the test questions in order, but if you come across a question that seems very difficult or time-consuming, don't be afraid to mark it and skip it for the time being. You can always come back if there's time later.

# + Look for patterns you saw during your practice tests.

Once you see them, evaluate what the most effective strategy is for tackling questions that fall in that pattern.

#### + Never leave anything blank.

There's no penalty for guessing. This means you won't lose points for incorrect answers! You have at least 25% chance of guessing correctly on multiple choice questions — so take your best guess!

# + Eliminate answers you know won't work.

If you need to guess, see if you can increase your chances of guessing correctly by elimination. You probably know which ones are incorrect! Doing this can increase your chances by 25%, 33%, or even 50%.

#### + A confident mindset is everything.

Get a good night's sleep, eat a protein-packed breakfast, and tell yourself that you will ace the exam. Preparation + a positive attitude can be the biggest key to getting the best results possible.



### **Digital SAT Practice Test 2023**

#### **MATH SECTION (15 Questions)**

#### + Directions:

- 1. The questions in this section address a number of important math skills.
- Use of a calculator is permitted for all questions. Any calculator in this list is allowed. Additionally, a graphing calculator (Desmos) will be provided in the testing app.
- 3. Unless otherwise indicated:
  - All variables and expressions represent real numbers.
  - Figures provided are drawn to scale.
  - All figures lie in a plane.
  - The domain of a given function f is the set of all real numbers x for which f(x) is a real number.
- 4. For multiple-choice questions, solve each problem and choose the correct answer from the choices provided.
- 5. Each multiple-choice question has a single correct answer.
- 6. The answers and explanations for each answer will be provided at the very end of this eBook.

For student-produced response questions, solve each problem and enter your answer as described below.

05.

- If you find more than one correct answer, enter only one answer.
- You can enter up to 5 characters for a positive answer and up to 6 characters (including the negative sign) for a negative answer.
- If your answer is a fraction that doesn't fit in the provided space, enter the decimal equivalent.
- If your answer is a decimal that doesn't fit in the provided space, enter it by truncating or rounding at the fourth digit.
- If your answer is a mixed number (such as 3 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>), enter it as an improper fraction (7/2) or its decimal equivalent (3.5).
- Don't enter symbols such as a percent sign, comma, or dollar sign.



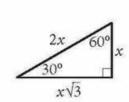
#### REFERENCE

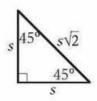






$$b$$
  $a$ 





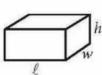
$$A = \pi r^2$$
$$C = 2\pi r$$

$$A = \ell w$$

$$A = \frac{1}{2}bh$$

 $c^2 = a^2 + b^2$ 

Special Right Triangles







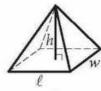
$$V = \pi r^2 h$$



$$V = \frac{4}{3}\pi r^3$$



$$V = \frac{1}{3}\pi r^2 h$$



 $V = \frac{1}{3} \ell w l$ 

The number of degrees of arc in a circle is 360.

The number of radians of arc in a circle is  $2\pi$ .

The sum of the measures in degrees of the angles of a triangle is 180.

#### **Math Questions:**

- A. 3
- B. 5
- C. 10
- D. 15

The graph of 
$$y = x^2 + 2x - 8$$
 is plotted on the  $xy$  plane. Which of the following features of the graph can be seen as a constant or coefficient of the equation?

- A. The x-intercept of the graph.
- B. The y-intercept of the graph.
- C. The x-coordinate of the graph's vertex.
- D. The y-coordinate of the graph's vertex.
- 3. Maria purchased a laptop at an electronics store. The store offered a 25% discount off the original price of the laptop. If Maria paid \$1,500 for the laptop after the discount, what was the original price of the laptop? Assume that no sales tax is charged.
  - A. \$1, 125
  - B. \$1,200
  - C. \$1,875
  - D. \$2,000

4.	a(3x + 2) = 6x + 4 The equation above has infinitely many solutions. What is the value of $a$ ?
	Answer:
5.	$\sqrt{4}=x-5$ Which of the following is/are solution(s) to the above equation? I. $x=3$ II. $x=7$ A. I only B. II only C. Both I and II D. Neither I nor II.
6.	To raise funds, Sierra Animal Welfare organized a clothing sale. T-shirts were sold for \$10 each and hats were sold for \$2 each. A total of 35 clothing items were sold and \$150 was raised through this clothing sale. How many T-shirts were sold during the clothing sale?  A. 5  B. 10  C. 15  D. 25
7.	A student at Merlin High School wants to find out if drinking tea helps to improve a student's test scores. He randomly selected 100 11th-grade students from Merlin High School and asked all 100 students to drink a cup of tea before a test. Then, he compared their test scores before and after drinking tea. He found that there was a 15% improvement in test scores. Which of the following is a valid conclusion that can be drawn from this experiment?  A. Drinking tea causes an improvement in test scores, and this result can be generalized to all Merlin High School students.  B. Drinking tea causes an improvement in test scores, and this result
	can be generalized to all 11 <sup>th</sup> -grade students.  C. Drinking tea is associated with an improvement in test scores, and this result can be generalized to all 11 <sup>th</sup> -grade students at Merlin High School.  D. Drinking tea is associated with an improvement in test scores, and this result can be generalized to all high school students.
8.	
	20 cm
	(Figure is not drawn to scale.
	A paint can is in the shape of a right circular cylinder that has a height of 20 cm, as shown above. The <b>circumference</b> of the paint can is $10\pi$ cm <sup>2</sup> . If the volume of the paint can is $a\pi$ cm <sup>3</sup> , what is the value of $a$ ?
	Answer:
	I

9.	The equation $y = x^3 - 5x^2 + 6x$ is plotted on the $xy$ -plane. Which of the following is <b>not</b> an $x$ -intercept of the graph?
	A 3 B. 0 C. 2 D. 3
10.	James works as a barista at a coffee shop and a cashier at a supermarket. He earns \$12 per hour as a barista and \$15 per hour as a cashier. James wants to earn at least \$150 in a week, but he cannot work more than 16 hours per week. If x represents the number of hours he works as a barista and y represents the number of hours he works as a cashier, which of the following systems of inequalities represents this scenario?
	$x + y \ge 16$ $15x + 12y \le 150$ $x + y \ge 16$ $12x + 15y \le 150$ $x + y \le 16$ $15x + 12y \le 150$ $x + y \le 16$ $12x + 15y \ge 150$
11.	The table below shows the timings for a 1-mile run amongst 6 friends.
	Name Time  Alice 4 minutes 10 seconds
	Bob 8 minutes 12 seconds
	Carl 8 minutes 30 seconds
	David 8 minutes 30 seconds
	Emma 8 minutes 30 seconds
	Fred 8 minutes 32 seconds
	If the outlier time from Alice is removed, which of the following would decrease?  A. Mean B. Median C. Mode D. Standard deviation
12.	$x^2 + bx + 9 = 0$
	If the equation above has one solution and $b > 0$ , what is the value of $b$ ?
	Answer:
13.	Line $l$ has the equation $5x + 2y = 10$ . Line $m$ is perpendicular to line $l$ and passes through the point $(5, 7)$ . If lines $l$ and $m$ intersect at the point $(p, q)$ , what is the value of $p$ ?

- 14. If  $\theta = \frac{\pi}{6}$  radians, what is the value of  $\cos \cos \theta$ ?
  - A.  $\frac{1}{2}$
  - B.  $\frac{2\sqrt{3}}{3}$
  - C.  $\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$
  - D.  $\sqrt{3}$
- 15. The population of a town was 34,000 in the year 2010. The function  $P(n) = 34,000(1.09)^n$  can be used to estimate the population of the town n decades after 2010. What does the expression P(n) = 34,000 represent?
  - A. The population of the town n decades after 2010
  - B. The decrease in the population of the town over the n decades after 2010
  - C. The increase in the population of the town over the n decades after 2010
  - D. The percent increase in the population of the town over the n decades after 2010

#### **READING AND WRITING SECTION (18 Questions)**

#### + Directions:

- The questions in this section address a number of important reading and writing skills. Each question includes one or more passages, which may include a table or graph.
- 2. Read each passage and question carefully, and then choose the best answer to the question based on the passage(s).
- 3. All questions in this section are multiplechoice with four answer choices. Each question has a single best answer.
- 4. Just like the math section, the answers and explanations for each answer will be provided at the very end of this eBook.



#### **Reading and Writing Questions:**

1. In discussing the novel *The Overstory*, a literature professor notes that author Richard Powers does not shy away from the \_\_\_\_\_\_ of trees, portraying them as complex organisms that communicate, remember, and even mourn.

Which choice completes the text with the most logical and precise word or phrase?

- A. insignificance
- B. ugliness
- C. intricacy
- D. mundaneness
- 2. The following text is an excerpt from a 2014 novel by Naomi Jackson, *The Star Side of Bird Hill.* Phaedra and Christopher are childhood friends.

Phaedra liked to look at Christopher, who had the same sloe-eyed gaze as his mother's, an ever-ready smile, and pink lips that made him seem more tender than other boys his age. Now she watched as he stuffed the stocky fingers of his eternally ashy hands into his pockets and <u>surveyed</u> the land below the hill, mimicking the firm stance he'd seen his father take in the pulpit. From where they stood, Phaedra and Chris could see the fishermen's boats at Martin's Bay, the buoys bobbing up and down in the blue-green water. Further east, a riot of rock formations, vestiges of an island long since gone, jutted out at Bathsheba.

As used in the text, what does the word "surveyed" mean?

- A. Researched.
- B. Questioned.
- C. Estimated.
- D. Considered.

3. The following text describes the childhood of the narrator, a writer from early twentieth-century Barcelona.

When I was a child, books were my only friends. I loved reading and writing, but my father didn't like books in the house and used to threaten to send me off to work if I didn't give up my "scatterbrained ideas." To avoid my father's wrath, I used to hide my books under the mattress and read them secretly. My favorite place was the Sempere and Sons bookshop, where I could read any book I wanted for free. One Christmas, the bookseller gave me a copy of *Great Expectations* by Charles Dickens, which became my best friend. I read it over and over again. The book was my escape from the troubled world around me and opened up a new world of possibilities, and it inspired me to become a writer like Dickens.

Which of the following describes the structure of the passage?

- A. A general discussion of the narrator's love of reading to a portrayal of an influential incident.
- B. A depiction of the narrator's father to an examination of an author with whom the narrator becomes enchanted.
- C. A symbolic representation of a skill the narrator possesses to an example of its application.
- D. A tale about the hardships of the narrator's childhood to an analysis of the effects of those hardships.
- 4. A new study by Stanford political economist Neil Malhotra found that null results—when researchers fail to see an effect that should be detectable—are less likely to be published than statistically significant findings. Malhotra's team examined social science studies funded by a grants program, and tracked down working papers from most of the experiments that weren't published. The team found that many grantees obtained null results in their study, and believed that journals would not be interested in publishing these results. Malhotra notes that the bias against null studies can waste time and money when researchers devise new studies replicating strategies already found to be ineffective. He suggests that a shift in expectations towards null results is needed. For instance, a registry for data generated by all experiments would address these problems and would help deter researchers from tweaking their analyses after the data are collected in search of more publishable results.

Which choice best states the main purpose of the text?

- A. To discuss recent findings concerning scientific studies and dispute a widely held belief about the publication of social science research.
- B. To explain a common practice in the reporting of research studies and summarize a study that provides support for a change to that practice.
- C. To describe the shortcomings in current approaches to medical trials and recommend the implementation of a government database.
- D. To provide context as part of a call for stricter controls on social science research and challenge publishers to alter their mindsets.

#### Text 1

Kim Lewis, a biochemist from Northeastern University, and colleagues have discovered a new antibiotic called teixobactin, which has proven effective at killing off a wide variety of disease-causing bacteria, including those that have developed immunity to other drugs, in animal tests. The team isolated 10,000 strains of uncultured soil bacteria and prepared extracts from them that could be tested against pathogenic bacteria. Teixobactin emerged as the most promising drug. The drug is likely effective because it breaks down bacterial cell walls by attacking the lipid molecules that the cell creates organically, which is different from many other antibiotics that target the bacteria's proteins.

#### Text 2

Lewis's team has made a groundbreaking discovery of a new antibiotic, teixobactin, that holds great potential in our fight against resistant bacteria. However, despite this great promise, I have some reservations about this new discovery. Firstly, it is not a panacea and does not kill Gram-negative bacteria, as it is too large to cross the complex cell wall of Gram-negative bacteria. Secondly, scaling up production will be difficult as the bacteria making the antibiotic are hard to grow. Thirdly, clinical trials will take time and money, and this needs to be reduced while ensuring safety if we are to keep ahead of bacteria that can evolve quickly and cheaply.

Based on the texts, both authors would agree with which of the following statements?

- A. Teixobactin is useful in standardizing the future development of antibiotics produced in laboratory environments.
- B. Teixobactin is useful in combating infections that are no longer responding to treatment with other antibiotics.
- C. Teixobactin is useful in controlling the spread of pathogenic soil fundi.
- D. Teixobactin is useful in shaping a new method of studying the effectiveness of antibiotics.
- 6. Gregory Erickson, a paleobiologist at Florida State University, has-for the first time-charted the colossal growth spurt of the dinosaur *Tyrannosaurus rex*. Erickson used growth rings on hundreds of *T. rex* bone fragments to estimate the age of 25 *T. rex* specimens. He then plotted the age of the specimens against their masses, estimated using the circumference of their femur, to extrapolate the growth trend of *T. rex*. He found that *T. rex* grew significantly larger and quicker than related tyrannosaurid species.

Which finding, if accurate, would most clearly undermine Erickson's conclusion about the growth rate of *T. rex*?

- A. As tyrannosaurids evolved into more advanced species, their growth rates increased.
- B. Growth rates for individual *T. rex* varied according to differences in medical history.
- C. *T. rex* had a significantly longer life span than other tyrannosaurids
- D. Bone growth ring formation in *T. rex* is a random event.

Ordinary Wolves is a 2004 novel by Seth Kantner. In the book, the narrator, a teenage boy living in remote northern Alaska, describes her sister Iris, who, after having spent time in Fairbanks (the capital city of Alaska), has grown more radiant and optimistic in her general outlook of life:

Which quotation from Ordinary Wolves most effectively illustrates the claim?

- A. "Iris's last correspondence-school course lay behind her. She waited only for paperwork to be officially free."
- B. "The Rural Student Vocational Program had sent a plane ticket for her to travel to Fairbanks, to apprentice for two weeks, as a teacher."
- C. "Her cheeks were flushed, her eyes a happier blue than ever, with three-hundred-and-sixty-seven-dollar contact lenses focusing them."
- D. "Iris wore an agua nylon jacket she'd bought in Fairbanks, and she looked as pretty as Dawna Wolfglove."

#### 8. **Effect of Route Capacity Reduction in Selected Regions**

Dagian	Vehicles per day on altered road		Vehicles per day on surrounding roads		Change
Region	Before alteration	After alteration	Before alteration	After alteration	in traffic*
Rathausplatz, Nürnberg	24,584	0	67,284	55,824	-146.6%
Southampton city center	5,316	3,081	26,522	24,101	-87.5%
Tower Bridge, London	44,242	0	103,262	111,999	-80.3%
New York highway	110,000	50,000	540,000	560,000	-36.4%
Kinnaird Bridge, Edmonton	1,300	0	2,130	2,885	-41.9%

<sup>\*</sup>Change in regional traffic in proportion to traffic previously using the altered road

Simply building new transit systems is not enough to reduce energy consumption and combat environmental problems if the new trains and buses merely clear space on highway lanes for those who would prefer to drive. However, reducing road capacity can paradoxically reduce road traffic if it is paired with investments in public transit systems. A study measured the effect of reducing the capacity of a main thoroughfare through major cities around the world. Measuring the number of vehicles on both the altered road and surrounding roads, the authors of the study found that reducing the capacity of the main thoroughfare overall leads to a reduction in the city's traffic.

Which choice best describes data from the table that supports the study's conclusion?

- A. In Nürnberg, 55,824 vehicles used surrounding roads after the alteration, while 0 vehicles used the altered road.
- B. For all five cities studied, there was an overall net reduction in traffic after the main road was altered, ranging from -36.4% in New York to -146.6% in Nürnberg.
- C. In Edmonton, 2,885 vehicles used surrounding roads after the alteration, as compared to 2,130 vehicles before the alteration.
- D. In Southampton and New York, there were still vehicles using the altered road, while in Nürnberg, London, and Edmonton, no vehicles used the altered roads.

9. The following verse is the first stanza of the folk song "Freight Train" by Elizabeth Cotten, an African-American folk singer.

Freight train, freight train, run so fast Freight train, freight train, run so fast Please don't tell what train I'm on They won't know what route I'm going

Which choice best describes the main idea captured by Cotten in this verse?

- A. The sound and speed of the train's passing as well as the possibility of escape.
- B. The merriment of springtime as well as the industrial beauty of trains.
- C. The joys of childhood and the dangers of trains.
- D. The solemnity of a train's passengers and the noise of the tracks.
- 10. In the 1960s, the drug cardiokind, after the usual five-year period of carefully monitored clinical trials, was declared by its manufacturers to be unusually safe and very effective in lowering blood cholesterol levels. In 1980, the World Health Organization carried out exactly the same clinical trial on the drug, but for a much longer period than the usual five years. The results in 1980 showed that the mortality rate from all causes for those on cardiokind was 25 per cent higher than for those who, though similar in other respects, had not taken the drug. The results of the 1980 World Health Organization study suggest that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Which choice most logically completes the text?

- A. the standard five-year clinical trial period may not be sufficient for all drugs.
- B. taking cardiokind reduces life expectancy by 25 per cent.
- C. cardiokind is less effective at reducing cholesterol levels than was at first thought.
- D. the monitoring programme instigated by the World Health Organisation was carried out efficiently.
- 11. The group of friends always \_\_\_\_\_ movies together on Friday nights, a tradition they have upheld for years. They take turns picking out the film and creating a comfortable environment with snacks and blankets. Whether in person or virtually, they continue to bond over their shared love for movies every week.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A. watch
- B. watches
- C. are watching
- D. have watched

12.	Many experts agree with retired basketball star Kareem Abdul-Jabbar's assessment that athletes should attend college instead of joining professional leagues after high school. College-educated athletes are better prepared for life, whether they're managing the whether they're managing the generous paychecks they might receive during their time in the or pursuing a career path outside of professional sports.  Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?  A. pros, navigating life after retirement, B. pros; navigating life after retirement, C. pros, navigating life after retirement; D. pros: navigating life after retirement
13.	Walker Evans is a photographer that is famous for his iconic portraits of ordinary people. In many of his photographs, are aware of being photographed; they stare directly, sometimes defiantly, into the camera's lens.
	Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?
	A. its obvious that the subjects
	B. its obvious that the subject's
	C. it's obvious that the subjects'
	D. it's obvious that the subjects
14.	Flavorists are professional chemists who specialize in the art of mixing chemicals to create food flavoring. How they replicate flavors found in nature, often using a miniscule amount of many is not readily apparent.
14.	chemicals to create food flavoring. How they replicate flavors found in nature, often using a miniscule amount of many is not readily
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14.	chemicals to create food flavoring. How they replicate flavors found in nature, often using a miniscule amount of many is not readily apparent.  Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?  A. ingredients: B. ingredients; C. ingredients;
	chemicals to create food flavoring. How they replicate flavors found in nature, often using a miniscule amount of many is not readily apparent.  Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?  A. ingredients: B. ingredients C. ingredients; D. ingredients,  Edmonia Lewis was an American sculptor who was the first
	chemicals to create food flavoring. How they replicate flavors found in nature, often using a miniscule amount of many is not readily apparent.  Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?  A. ingredients: B. ingredients C. ingredients; D. ingredients,  Edmonia Lewis was an American sculptor who was the first African-American and Native American sculptor to achieve national prominence. Born in New York in the mid-1800s, crafted clay
	chemicals to create food flavoring. How they replicate flavors found in nature, often using a miniscule amount of many is not readily apparent.  Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?  A. ingredients: B. ingredients C. ingredients; D. ingredients,  Edmonia Lewis was an American sculptor who was the first African-American and Native American sculptor to achieve national prominence. Born in New York in the mid-1800s, crafted clay and plaster medallions of abolitionist leaders.  Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of
	chemicals to create food flavoring. How they replicate flavors found in nature, often using a miniscule amount of many is not readily apparent.  Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?  A. ingredients: B. ingredients: C. ingredients; D. ingredients,  Edmonia Lewis was an American sculptor who was the first African-American and Native American sculptor to achieve national prominence. Born in New York in the mid-1800s, crafted clay and plaster medallions of abolitionist leaders.  Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?  A. Lewis's training took place in Boston. She B. Lewis trained in Boston, where she
	chemicals to create food flavoring. How they replicate flavors found in nature, often using a miniscule amount of many is not readily apparent.  Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?  A. ingredients: B. ingredients C. ingredients; D. ingredients,  Edmonia Lewis was an American sculptor who was the first African-American and Native American sculptor to achieve national prominence. Born in New York in the mid-1800s, crafted clay and plaster medallions of abolitionist leaders.  Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?  A. Lewis's training took place in Boston. She

16.	Orchids have developed several methods of ensuring that their flowers are pollinated, including mimicking female insects to attract males and producing floral scents that resemble pheromones some orchids have coevolved with specific pollinators, such as bees or moths, and rely on those insects for successful pollination.
	Which choice completes the text with the most logical transition?
	A. However, B. As a result, C. Furthermore, D. For instance,
17.	Modern music streaming services offer users a vast selection of songs from a variety of genres and time periods, making it easier than ever to discover new music they also allow for personalized playlists and recommendations based on individual listening habits.
	Which choice completes the text with the most logical transition?
	A. Thus, B. However, C. Furthermore, D. Specifically,
18.	While researching a topic, a student has taken the following notes:
	<ul> <li>The Amazon rainforest is home to an incredibly diverse array of plant and animal species.</li> <li>Scientists have estimated that 10% of the world's known species are found in the Amazon rainforest.</li> <li>Deforestation, primarily for agriculture and cattle ranching, is a major threat to the Amazon rainforest and its inhabitants.</li> <li>One of the consequences of deforestation in the Amazon is the displacement of Indigenous communities who rely on the forest for their livelihoods.</li> </ul>
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	<ul> <li>and animal species.</li> <li>Scientists have estimated that 10% of the world's known species are found in the Amazon rainforest.</li> <li>Deforestation, primarily for agriculture and cattle ranching, is a major threat to the Amazon rainforest and its inhabitants.</li> <li>One of the consequences of deforestation in the Amazon is the displacement of Indigenous communities who rely on the forest for their livelihoods.</li> <li>The student wants to highlight the impact of deforestation on Indigenous communities in the Amazon rainforest. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?</li> <li>A. Deforestation is a major threat to the Amazon rainforest and its inhabitants, including Indigenous communities who rely on the forest for their livelihoods.</li> <li>B. The Amazon rainforest is home to an incredibly diverse array of plant and animal species, including many that are found nowhere else on</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>and animal species.</li> <li>Scientists have estimated that 10% of the world's known species are found in the Amazon rainforest.</li> <li>Deforestation, primarily for agriculture and cattle ranching, is a major threat to the Amazon rainforest and its inhabitants.</li> <li>One of the consequences of deforestation in the Amazon is the displacement of Indigenous communities who rely on the forest for their livelihoods.</li> <li>The student wants to highlight the impact of deforestation on Indigenous communities in the Amazon rainforest. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?</li> <li>A. Deforestation is a major threat to the Amazon rainforest and its inhabitants, including Indigenous communities who rely on the forest for their livelihoods.</li> <li>B. The Amazon rainforest is home to an incredibly diverse array of plant</li> </ul>

# What if I don't score as high as expected?

06.

Kate Lee is a Senior Strategy Consultant at Crimson. She graduated from UC Berkeley with a Bachelor of Science in Molecular Cell Biology. Later, she graduated from USC with a Master's in Occupational Therapy. Most notably, her students have gained acceptances to Stanford, Caltech, Cornell, Duke, and Cambridge.

Many students assume that they should not submit their standardized test scores when they feel that they turned out to be lower than their expectations. However, this is not necessarily the most strategic decision. With many students submitting their standardized test scores to support their academic profile, it could be more beneficial to include test scores for top universities, especially if they're at or above the average test score of the accepted class from the previous year for that school.

If scores are below average but still reflect a higher academic ability than your school grades, you may still choose to submit them. On the other hand, if school grades are stellar while test scores are poor, students may choose not to submit them to the top US universities as this would only serve to cast doubt on the rest of your academic records. As the final decision is made on whether to submit or not submit test scores, it would be helpful to remember that test scores can be a tipping factor that helps admissions officers to compare you to another student with the same level of academic performance in school.

In other words, standardized tests help admissions officers have a clearer point of comparison among students from curriculums around the world. If you've got stellar scores, they'll help to demonstrate that your school's curriculum did a good enough job to prepare you for this test (and by relation, hopefully for uni study, too). Even if you have less than stellar scores, if you're still pretty well above average, admissions officers are aware that most curriculums aren't geared towards these types of tests, so hitting above average scores on something way outside of a student's comfort zone can also really resonate with admissions officers.



## **How Crimson Can Help You**

**Our Results** 

**CONGRATULATIONS** TO OUR CLASS OF 2027 on breaking admissions records!

Our talented, ambitious students impress us with incredible admissions results year after year. Here are our all-time stats at-a-glance!

697

Offers to the Ivy League

1,136

Offers to the US Top 10□

4,000+

Offers to the US Top 50

233

Offers to Oxford and Cambridge

Speak to an advisor!





#### **Our Services**



# SAT and ACT Tutoring Services

Our SAT and ACT tutoring services have raised students' scores by 150 (SAT), 5 (ACT), or more! Using a specialized tutoring approach built by former Ivy League professors and PhDs, we offer comprehensive programs, practice tests, and highly personalized guidance. Many of our SAT/ACT tutors themselves even scored a perfect 1600 (SAT) and/or 36 (ACT)!



#### + SAT/ACT Tutoring Testimonials

### Bluebelle (UK)

- · Admitted to Yale and Oxford
- Scored 31/36 on first ACT (unassisted)
- After working with Crimson, scored 34/36 on ACT

"I'd already taken the ACT prior to meeting Crimson and I'd done okay, but not great, because it was totally different to any test I had ever done before. My strategist Megan encouraged me to go again. So from then on I had individual tutors assigned to each one of the subjects. My math teacher was fantastic, my English tutor was amazing, really enthusiastic...just the best. I was just so lucky. The help they gave was invaluable."



## Dave (Australia)

- Received an early acceptance to Cornell University
- Scored 1500 out of 1600 on the SAT (unassisted)
- · After working with Crimson, he scored 1570.

"I had consistently good scores at school and study is something I do quite well at. But, my first attempt at the SAT wasn't amazing — I started out with a 1500 (out of a possible 1600). Of course I knew there were students applying to Cornell with a perfect SAT or ACT score, but I knew 1570 put me up in the top percentiles, and gave me a much better chance of admission, compared to that first 1500."





In addition to our SAT/ACT tutoring services, we also offer tutoring for the following:

- All IB subjects including English, Math, Science, Economics, and History
- A Levels and International GCSE
- Advanced Placement (AP)
- Country/State Specific Subject tutoring (Including NCEA, HSC, VCE, and more!)
- Extracurricular and Leadership (ECL) Mentorship

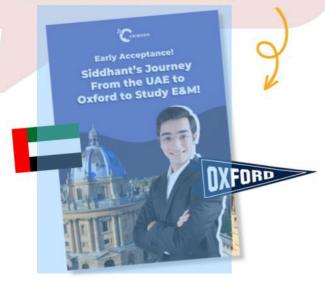


#### + Tutoring Testimonials

### Siddhant (UAE)

- Received tutoring for AP, IB, and Oxford's Entrance Test.
- Admitted to Oxford University for Economics and Management

"Crimson helped me with my AP tests - which I took in addition to my IB subject tests - and the TSA (Oxford's entrance test). The latter is particularly challenging, especially since it is one of the most standard barometers for entrance to Oxford. Ed, my TSA tutor, was super helpful and helped me get the score I needed to be selected for an interview."



# Katherine (US)

- Received ECL tutoring
- Received an Early Acceptance from New York University (Stern)

"My ECL Mentor was Lizz Jiang and she helped me expand Fotology, a business that helps companies build their online presence through photography, which I was already building. She was incredibly helpful and assisted in taking Fotology to the next level. Before I worked with Lizz, I had little to no customers, but with her guidance and help, I ended the project with 5 clients."





US University Admissions Support

In addition to our tutoring services, we offer a holistic solution to charting your pathway to your dream university. At every stage of your application journey, we offer admissions counselling and comprehensive support.

In fact, 98% of our students gain admission to at least one of their top 5 school choices. Furthermore, Crimson students are up to 4.5x more likely to gain admissions into an Ivy League school.



#### + US University Admissions Support Testimonials

### Hien (New Zealand)

- Admitted to Yale University for Science/Engineering
- Received a full-ride scholarship worth \$77,000USD

"The best thing about working with Crimson is that it really motivates me to plan my own life; it really makes me want to figure out what I want to do. Knowing how to craft my story...I don't think I would have been able to do that without Crimson."



### Saanvi (Canada)

- Received an Early Acceptance from Johns Hopkins
- Admitted to the exclusive Neuroscience program

"Nicole was my admissions application mentor, who spent many hours and nights discussing my essays with me, reading them line by line and helping me make my writing sound dynamic, concise, and powerful...While it took somewhere between 8-10 iterations to get the Common App essay to perfection, I was really happy with the end result"



# Digital SAT Practice Test 2023 Answers and Explanations



#### **Math Section Answers and Explanations**

1. Topic: Algebra, Solving linear equations

The correct answer is **D**. By adding 10 to both sides of the equation, we get 5x = 15.

**A** is incorrect. This is the value of x, not 5x.

**B** and **C** are incorrect and may result from calculation errors.

2. Topic: Advanced Math, Quadratic graphs.

The correct answer is **B**. The equation is given in the standard form  $y = ax^2 + bx + c$ , from which we can read off the y-intercept, c.

**A** is incorrect. The x-intercepts can be read off from the factored form,  $y = a(x - r_1)(x - r_2)$ .

**C** and **D** are incorrect. The x- and y-coordinates of the vertex can be read off from the vertex form,  $y = a(x - h)^2 + k$ .

3. Topic: Problem Solving and Data Analysis, Percentages

The correct answer is **D**. Since the price of the laptop was \$1,500 after the discount, the original sales price would be  $\frac{\$1,500}{0.75} = \$2,000$ .

**A** and **B** are incorrect and may result from the student assuming that \$1,500 was the original price of the laptop and calculating the sales price. **C** is incorrect and may result from the student incorrectly calculating the original price as  $\$1,500\times1.25$ .

4. Topic: Algebra, Solving linear equations

The correct answer is 2. For the equation to have infinitely many solutions, the slopes and y-intercepts of both sides of the equation must be the same. Expanding the equation, we get 3ax + 2a = 6x + 4. Comparing the slopes on both sides of the equation, we get 3a = 6, which means that a = 2. Alternatively, comparing the y-intercepts on both sides of the equation, we get 2a = 4, which also means that a = 2.

5. Topic: Advanced Math, Radical equations

The correct answer is **B**. Substituting in x=7 gives us  $\sqrt{4}=7-5$ , which correctly simplifies to 2=2. Substituting in x=3, however, gives us  $\sqrt{4}=-2$ , which is not correct.

**A** and **C** are incorrect and may result from the misconception that  $\sqrt{4} = \pm 2$ . The principal square root of a number is only the positive square root, not the negative square root.

**D** is incorrect because it fails to include the correct solution of x = 7.

6. Topic: Algebra, Systems of linear equations word problems

The correct answer is **B**. Let the number of T-shirts sold be x and the number of hats sold be y. We can construct a system of linear equations as follows:

$$x + y = 35$$
$$10x + 2y = 150$$

Solving for x, the number of T-shirts sold, we find that 10 T-shirts were sold.

A and C are incorrect and may result from calculation errors.

**D** is incorrect because it is the number of hats, not T-shirts, sold.

7. Topic: Problem Solving and Data Analysis, Evaluating statistical claims

The correct answer is **C**. Because there was no random assignment, only a correlational relationship, and not a cause-and-effect relationship, can be inferred from the experiment. In addition, because the students were randomly sampled from 11<sup>th</sup>-grade students at Merlin High School, the results can only be generalized to 11<sup>th</sup>-grade students at Merlin High School.

**A** and **B** are incorrect. Because there was no random assignment, no cause-and-effect relationship can be inferred.

**D** is incorrect because the students were randomly sampled from 11<sup>th</sup>-grade students at Merlin High School, and hence the results cannot be generalized to all high school students.

8. Topic: Geometry and Trigonometry, Area and volume

The correct answer is 500. It's given that the circumference of the cylinder is  $10\pi$  cm², which means that the radius of the cylinder is  $\frac{10\pi}{2\pi}=5$  cm. The volume of a right circular cylinder can be calculated using the formula  $\pi r^2 h$ . Substituting in the values given in the question, we get the volume of the paint can as  $\pi(5^2)(20)=500\pi$  cm³.

9. Topic: Advanced Math, Polynomial graphs

The correct answer is **A**. The equation  $y = x^3 - 5x^2 + 6x$  can be factorized to y = x(x-2)(x-3). From the factored form, the x-intercepts of the graph can be read off as 0, 2, and 3. Hence, -3 is the only option that is not an x-intercept of the graph.

**B, C,** and **D** are incorrect because they are x-intercepts of the graph.

10. Topic: Algebra, Linear inequality word problems

The correct answer is **D**. Since he cannot work more than 16 hours, the sum of hours that he works must be less than or equal to 16 hours; hence,  $x + y \le 16$ . Moreover, he wants to earn at least \$150. Hence, the sum of money he earns from his barista job (12x) and the money he earns from his cashier job (15y) must be at least \$150. Therefore,  $12x + 15y \ge 150$ . Option **D** represents this scenario.

**A** and **B** are incorrect because the first inequality represent that James needs to work at least 16 hours.

**C** is incorrect because it wrongly states that James needs to earn less than \$150; in addition, it incorrectly represents the amount of money earned by James in his barista and cashier jobs.

11. Topic: Problem Solving and Data Analysis; Centre, spread, and shape of distributions

The correct answer is **D**. When Alice's time is removed, the spread of the data decreases. Hence, measures of spread, such as standard deviation, will decrease.

**A** is incorrect. When an outlier that is smaller than the rest of the data is removed, the mean will increase, not decrease.

**B** and **C** are incorrect because the median and mode will remain the same (8 minutes 30 seconds).

12. Topic: Advanced Math, Solving quadratic equations

The correct answer is 6. For the equation to have only one solution, the discriminant  $b^2-4ac$  must be equal to 0. Calculating the discriminant gives us  $b^2-4(1)(9)=0$ , which simplifies to  $b^2=36$ . Hence,  $b=\pm 6$ . However, since the question specifies that b>0, only b=6 is acceptable as the correct answer.

13. Topic: Algebra, Graphs of linear equations and functions

The correct answer is 0. Rearranging the equation of line l into the slope-intercept form, we get  $y=-\frac{5}{2}x+5$ . Therefore, the slope of line l is  $-\frac{5}{2}$ . Since line m is perpendicular to line l, the slope of line m must be the negative reciprocal of line l. Hence, the slope of line m is  $\frac{2}{5}$ .

The equation of line m is  $y = \frac{2}{5}x + c$ . It's given in the question that line m passes through the point (5, 7). We can substitute the coordinates of this point into the equation of line m to find c.

$$7 = \frac{2}{5}(5) + c$$

Solving for c, we get c = 5. Hence, the equation of line m is  $y = \frac{2}{5}x + 5$ .

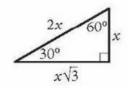
To find the coordinates of the intersection point, we need to solve the system of equations formed by lines l and m.

$$y = -\frac{5}{2}x + 5$$
$$y = \frac{2}{5}x + 5$$

Solving for x, we get x = 0. Hence, the value of p is 0.

14. Topic: Geometry and Trigonometry, Right triangle trigonometry

The correct answer is **C**. First, we convert  $\frac{\pi}{6}$  radians into degrees by multiplying by  $\frac{180}{\pi}$ , giving us  $\theta=30^{\circ}$ . Using the 30-60-90 special right triangle given in the reference sheet, we get  $\cos\cos30^{\circ}=\frac{\alpha dj}{hyp}=\frac{\sqrt{3}x}{2x}=\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$ .



- $\boldsymbol{\mathsf{A}}$  is incorrect and may result from calculating the sine, not the cosine, of  $\theta.$
- **B** is incorrect and may result from calculating  $\cos \cos \theta$  as  $\frac{hyp}{adj}$ .
- **D** is incorrect and may result from calculating the tangent, not the cosine, of  $\theta$ .

15. Topic: Advanced Math, Exponential word problems

The correct answer is  $\mathbf{C}$ . The function P(n) estimates the population of the town n decades after 2010. The initial population of the town is 34,000. Hence, subtracting the initial population of the town in 2010 from the population of the town n decades after 2010, P(n) = 34,000, gives us increase in the population of the town n decades after 2010.

- **A** is incorrect because P(n) represents the population of the town n decades after 2010.
- B is incorrect because the population is increasing, not decreasing.
- **D** is incorrect because the percent increase in the population of the town n decades after 2010 is 9%.

#### Reading and Writing Section Answers and Explanations

#### 1. Topic: Craft and Structure, Words in Context

The correct answer is **C**. The sentence indicates that the author of the novel portrays trees as complex organisms that possess various abilities such as communication and memory. The word "intricacy" means the quality of being complex or having many interconnected parts, which makes it the most suitable option to complete the sentence.

**A** is incorrect because it implies that the trees are lacking in importance, meaning, or worth, which is the opposite of what the literature professor is trying to convey.

**B** is incorrect because it is not relevant to the context of the sentence. The literature professor is discussing the portrayal of trees in the novel, not their appearance.

**D** is incorrect because it means lacking interest or excitement, which does not fit with the description of trees in the novel.

#### 2. Topic: Craft and Structure, Words in Context

The correct answer is **D**. In the given text, the word "surveyed" is used to describe Christopher's action of looking at the land below the hill. The word "survey" means to examine or consider something carefully, and in this context, it means that Christopher was looking at the land with a thoughtful or contemplative attitude.

**A** is incorrect because there is nothing in the text to suggest that Christopher is surveying the land in the context of a research study.

**B** is incorrect because it is illogical to infer that Christopher is asking questions to the land below the hill.

**C** is incorrect because there is nothing in the text to suggest that Christopher is estimating anything about the land below the hill.

#### 3. Topic: Craft and Structure, Text Structure and Purpose

The correct answer is **A**. The passage begins with a general statement about the narrator's childhood love of books, and then proceeds to describe an influential incident in which the bookseller gave him a copy of *Great Expectations*, which had a profound impact on him.

**B** is incorrect because although the narrator's father is mentioned, he is not the focus of the passage, and there is no examination of an author.

**C** is incorrect because there is no symbolic representation or example of an application of a skill.

**D** is incorrect because although the passage does describe some of the hardships the narrator faced in his childhood, this is not the main focus of the passage, and there is no analysis of their effects.

#### 4. Topic: Craft and Structure, Text Structure and Purpose

The correct answer is **B**. The text discusses the bias against null results in research studies and how this bias affects the publication of results. The text summarizes a study by Neil Malhotra that examines the publication of studies funded by a grants program, and notes that null results are less likely to be published than statistically significant findings. The article highlights the importance of publishing null results to avoid wasting time and resources on ineffective strategies, and suggests that a shift in expectations towards null results is needed.

**A** is incorrect because while the text discusses recent findings concerning scientific studies, it does not dispute a widely-held belief.

**C** is incorrect because the passage does not discuss shortcomings in medical trials; rather, it discusses a shortcoming in social science studies.

**D** is incorrect because the text does not provide context as part of a call for stricter controls on social science research, nor does it challenge publishers to alter their mindsets.

#### 5. Topic: Craft and Structure, Cross-Text Connections

The correct answer is **B**. Both texts agree that teixobactin is potentially useful in combating bacteria that are resistant to treatment from other antibiotics.

A is incorrect. While Text I discusses the discovery of teixobactin in the laboratory, it does not suggest that teixobactin is useful in standardizing the future development of antibiotics produced in laboratory environments.

**C** is incorrect. While Text 1 mentions that teixobactin was discovered in soil bacteria, it does not suggest that it is useful in controlling the spread of pathogenic soil fungi.

**D** is incorrect. Both texts discuss how the discovery of teixobactin could shape the discovery of new, promising, antibiotics, but they do not discuss how teixobactin can shape the way scientists study the effectiveness of antibiotics.

#### 6. Topic: Information and Ideas, Command of Evidence (Textual)

The correct answer is **D**. If bone growth ring formation was a random event, it would mean that bone growth ring formation in *T. rex* is not a reliable indicator of age and growth rate, which would undermine Erickson's findings about the growth rate of *T. rex*. If the growth rings are formed randomly and not consistently, then the growth rate estimated from the rings may not be accurate, and Erickson's extrapolation of the growth trend may be flawed.

**A** is incorrect because while other related tyrannosaurids may increase their growth rate as they evolve into more advanced species, it does not negate the fact that *T. rex* grew significantly quicker and larger than these species.

**B** is incorrect. Even though growth rates may vary according to medical history, this would not necessarily negate the overall trend of rapid growth observed in *T. rex*.

**C** is incorrect. The lifespan of *T. rex* has nothing to do with its growth rate, so this answer is irrelevant.

7. Topic: Information and Ideas, Command of Evidence (Textual)

The correct answer is **C**. This quotation most effectively illustrates the claim that after spending time in Fairbanks, Iris has become more radiant and optimistic in her outlook on life. The specific details of her flushed cheeks, happier blue eyes, and expensive contact lenses suggest a newfound confidence and sense of self-worth.

**A** is incorrect because it only suggests that Iris has completed a course and is waiting for paperwork, but it does not provide any specific details about her demeanor or attitude.

**B** is incorrect because it only provides information about Iris's trip to Fairbanks, but it does not provide any specific details about how the trip has affected her.

**D** is incorrect because it only describes Iris's appearance, but it does not provide any insight into her personality or outlook on life.

8. Topic: Information and Ideas, Command of Evidence (Quantitative)

The correct answer is **B** because it states that there was an overall net reduction in traffic after the main road was altered in all five cities studied. This data supports the study's conclusion that reducing the capacity of the main thoroughfare can lead to a reduction in the city's traffic.

A is incorrect because it only provides data on the number of vehicles that used surrounding roads after the alteration in Nürnberg. It does not provide information on the overall net reduction in traffic.

**C** is incorrect because it only provides data on the number of vehicles that used surrounding roads before and after the alteration in Edmonton. In fact, it somewhat contradicts the study's conclusion because there was an increase in the number of cars using the surrounding roads.

**D** is incorrect because it provides data on the use of the altered road only, without providing information on the overall net reduction in traffic.

9. Topic: Information and Ideas, Central Ideas and Details

The correct answer is **A**. The repetition of "Freight train, freight train, run so fast" emphasizes the speed and urgency of the train's movement. The plea "Please don't tell what train I'm on" suggests a need for anonymity or escape. The final line "They won't know what route I'm going" further reinforces the idea of escape.

**B** is incorrect because there is no reference to springtime in the verse.

C is incorrect because there is no reference to childhood in the verse.

**D** is incorrect because the verse does not mention anything about the passengers or the noise of the tracks.

10. Topic: Information and Ideas, Inference

The correct answer is **A**. The passage relates to two trials carried out on the drug cardiokind: the first by the manufacturers of the drug and the second by the World Health Organization. The first trial reported that the drug was safe and effective; the second lasted much longer than the usual five years and found that taking the drug was associated with a 25 per cent higher mortality rate. This suggests that taking cardiokind for a period longer than five years may put one at risk of earlier death. Thus, we can conclude that for some drugs, a five-year monitoring period may not be sufficient to reveal adverse effects of taking the drug.

- **B** is incorrect because the figure of 25 per cent refers to an increase in mortality rate, which is not the same as a decrease in life expectancy. We only know that more died amongst those who took the drug, not that those who died had their life expectancy curtailed by a quarter.
- **C** is incorrect because the given information only suggests that the drug may not be as safe as was initially thought, and there is no mention of its effectiveness in reducing cholesterol levels.
- **D** is incorrect because there is no information in the given scenario that suggests that the monitoring program was carried out either efficiently or inefficiently.
- 11. Topic: Standard English Conventions; Form, Structure, and Sense

The correct answer is **B**. The singular verb "watches" agrees with the singular subject "group".

**A**, **C**, and **D** are incorrect because they are all plural verbs that do not agree with the singular subject "group". This may arise from incorrectly identifying the subject as the noun "friends" in the prepositional phrase "of friends".

12. Topic: Standard English Conventions, Boundaries

The correct answer is **A**. It correctly uses commas to separate the list items, namely "managing the generous paychecks they might receive during their time in the pros", "navigating life after retirement", and "pursuing a career path outside of professional sports".

**B** and **C** are incorrect because semicolons should not be used to separate items in a list unless the list is a complex list with list items containing commas within.

**D** is wrong because it incorrectly interrupts the list with a colon. Colons should not be used in the middle of a list.

13. Topic: Standard English Conventions; Form, Structure, and Sense

The correct answer is **D**. The pronoun "it's" should have an apostrophe as it is a contraction of the phrase "it is". Additionally, the noun "subjects" is a plural noun that should not have an apostrophe in it.

A is incorrect because it incorrectly uses the possessive pronoun "its" when a possessive pronoun is not needed.

**B** is incorrect because it incorrectly uses the possessive pronoun "its" when a possessive pronoun is not needed. In addition, it incorrectly indicates that "subjects" is a singular possessive noun by adding an apostrophe.

**D** is incorrect because it incorrectly indicates that "subjects" is a plural possessive noun by adding an apostrophe.

#### 14. Topic: Standard English Conventions, Boundaries

The correct answer is **D**. It correctly adds a comma at the end of the non-essential element "often using a miniscule amount of many ingredients", to separate the non-essential element from the rest of the sentence.

**A** is incorrect because a colon should only come at the end of an independent clause.

**B** is incorrect because it removes a punctuation mark that is needed to indicate the non-essential element.

**C** is incorrect because a semicolon should only be used between two independent clauses.

15. Topic: Standard English Conventions; Form, Structure, and Sense

The correct answer is **B**. This option correctly places the subject, "Lewis", next to the modifier "Born in New York in the mid-1800s" that is describing Lewis.

**A** is incorrect. "Lewis's training" is the subject of this sentence, but this is not the subject described by the modifier.

**C** is incorrect. "Boston" is the subject of this sentence, but this is not the subject described by the modifier.

**D** is incorrect. "It" is the subject of this sentence, but this is not the subject described by the modifier. In addition, it is unclear what the pronoun "it" refers to.

#### 16. Topic: Expression of Ideas, Transitions

The correct answer is **D.** The second sentence provides an example that supports the initial statement about the various methods orchids use for pollination. "For example" is a transition word that indicates that the second sentence is a supporting example for the initial statement.

A is incorrect. "However" indicates that the sentence is contrasting with the initial statement.

**B** is incorrect. "As a result" suggests that the sentence following it is a consequence of the initial statement.

**C** is incorrect. "Furthermore" implies that the sentence following it is adding new information to the initial statement, which is not necessarily true.

#### 17. Topic: Expression of Ideas, Transitions

The correct answer is **C**. The paragraph discusses benefits of modern music streaming services. "Furthermore" is a transition word that builds on the idea in the first sentence and indicates that the second sentence discusses an additional advantage of music streaming services.

- **A** is incorrect. "Thus" implies a conclusion that follows logically from the preceding statement, but the information that follows is not a conclusion, but rather an additional point.
- **B** is incorrect. "However" indicates that the second sentence contrasts with the preceding statement, when it adds on to the idea in the previous sentence.
- **D** is incorrect. "Specifically" indicates that the second sentence will provide a more detailed elaboration of the idea in the first sentence, which is not the case in this paragraph.

#### 18. Topic: Expression of Ideas, Rhetorical synthesis

The correct answer is **A.** It clearly states an impact of deforestation on the livelihoods of Indigenous communities, fulfilling the rhetorical goal stated in the question.

- **B** and **C** are incorrect because they describe the biodiversity of the Amazon rainforest but do not discuss the impact of deforestation on the livelihoods of Indigenous communities.
- **D** is incorrect. While it talks about an impact of deforestation on plant and animal species, it does not specifically discuss the impact of deforestation on the livelihoods of Indigenous communities.

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