

Name: _____

Date: _____

SAT Strategies – Sheet 1

Reading: The reading section is going to give you five passages and you have to answer 10-11 questions for each, getting as many points as you can!

- This is going to be very different than tests you are used to. There is only one right answer, so you need to read the passages carefully to find the right answers to the questions that the SAT asks.
- This is open book! The answers are right in front of you in the passage, it is your job to read carefully and answer the questions.
- Don't waste your time reading every sentence, read what you need! Look over the passages and a good chunk of the sentences trying to find key words related to the question. This can help you find the answers faster.
- Go to the questions first! They go in the order of the passage so finding the answers means reading the question, then going back to the text to search where it is.

WHAT are they asking you? WHAT do I have to read in the passage to find the answer?

- What can help me find the answer the fastest? **Line references and lead words.**

Line references and lead words help you so you don't need to read the whole passage to find the answer, other names, quotes, or phrases that may pop out in questions show you WHERE the question is in the passage.

- Try reading 5 lines above, and 5 lines below these line references, and lead words, usually a good rule, within those lines lies the answer to the question.

Math: the math section of the test is made up of multiple choice and open answer response.

You will be able to set up the problems on your scrap-paper so you don't get lost or confused., which is a smart idea!

A calculator is allowed during the math section.

Don't rush, it's okay if you don't answer all the questions. It's better to take your time and get as many right as possible instead of rushing.

You don't need to get all the answers right to get an above average score.

Writing:

Optional, some schools require it while others do not.

If you don't take it and a school you want to apply to needs it, you'll have to take the entire SAT all over again.

You have already done a majority of the test, completing the essay shows on your applications and lets colleges know you took the time to write it, which is good.

In 50 minutes write an essay that analyses the author's main argument. NOT asking for your opinions.

DO

- Read carefully,
- understand how the author is trying to make the audience feel,
- explain how the way the author writes changes their expression.

DO NOT

- give your opinion
- memorize examples from history or English
- have experience with the given text.