



美国名校入学考试指导系列

# SAT

# 作文

钟莉  
|编著|

SAT Essay:  
You Can  
Score 6, Too

清华大学出版社

本书是美国名校入学考试指导系列之一。该书详细阐述了SAT作文写作技巧，提供了充实的各类论证素材，并通过作文点评解读获取高分的技巧，是不可多得的英语备考教材与读物。

SAT的作文考试通过测试学生的语言掌握及运用能力，考查学生的逻辑推理与思维能力。本书不仅针对考试，详解SAT作文的写作技巧，还在行文中提示学生培养良好的阅读习惯和思维习惯，让学生在提升成绩的同时，养成良好的写作习惯。

# SAT

## 美国名校入学考试指导系列

● SAT词汇宝典



● SAT语法攻略



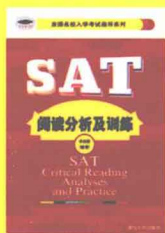
● SAT数学宝典



● SAT作文：  
你也可以拿满分



● SAT  
阅读分析及训练



● 美国大学入学申请  
文章写作及例文欣赏



上架建议：英语考试

ISBN 978-7-302-25678-6



9 787302 256786 >

定价：39.00元



美国名校入学考试指导系列

# SAT

# 作文

钟莉  
|编著|

清华大学出版社  
北京

本书封面贴有清华大学出版社防伪标签，无标签者不得销售。

版权所有，侵权必究。侵权举报电话：010-62782989 13701121933

**图书在版编目(CIP)数据**

SAT 作文：你也可以拿满分/钟莉 编著. —北京：清华大学出版社，2011.7  
(美国名校入学考试指导系列)

ISBN 978-7-302-25678-6

I. S… II. 钟… III. 英语—写作—高等学校—入学考试—美国 IV. H315

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2011)第 095105 号

责任编辑：陈莉 高岫

封面设计：周周设计局

版式设计：孔祥丰

责任校对：成凤进

责任印制：何芊

出版发行：清华大学出版社

<http://www.tup.com.cn>

社总机：010-62770175

投稿与读者服务：010-62776969, c-service@tup.tsinghua.edu.cn

质量反馈：010-62772015, zhiliang@tup.tsinghua.edu.cn

地址：北京清华大学学研大厦 A 座

邮编：100084

邮购：010-62786544

印刷者：三河市君旺印装厂

装订者：三河市新茂装订有限公司

经销：全国新华书店

开本：185×260 印张：15.25 字数：334 千字

版次：2011 年 7 月第 1 版 印次：2011 年 7 月第 1 次印刷

印数：1~4000

定价：39.00 元

---

产品编号：039399-01

# 丛 书 序

SAT, 又称学术能力评估测试, 是 1901 年以来美国普遍使用的大学入学考试, 也是国际学生申请美国本科必须参加的考试之一。经过多年不断地修改和完善, 目前的 SAT 版本不仅测试考生的知识水平, 而且注重考查他们运用知识和独立思考的能力。

考生要在 SAT 考试中取得高分并不容易, 对母语不是英语的中国学生来说尤其如此, 所以平时持之以恒的努力和考前全力以赴的冲刺都是必要的。为了提高考生平时练习的效率, 有目标地进行考前突击复习, 我们特意编写了美国名校入学考试指导系列。

在编写过程中, 常春藤 100 教育的资深顾问团队将其多年丰富的入学申请成就和咨询经验进行了总结, 同时, SAT 教学专家仔细研究了历年的 SAT 考题, 并收集了大量美国历史、文化、新闻及教育方面的素材, 以求我们的这套丛书更贴近真题, 更有指导性、针对性和时代性。

这套丛书包括:

- SAT 数学宝典
- 美国大学入学申请文章写作及例文欣赏
- SAT 词汇宝典
- SAT 作文: 你也可以拿满分
- SAT 阅读分析及训练
- SAT 语法攻略

其内容包揽了常春藤 100 教育 10 年来对美国著名大学录取标准的分析, 东西方教育体制的比较, 以及指导考生成功进入美国名校的经验和个案。在英语和数学方面, 这套书从词汇、语法、阅读、写作, 到几何、代数、统计、概率以及基础数论的计算和分析都做了详尽的解释和深刻的剖析, 并给予学习方法上的指导和考试技巧上的提示。此外, 该丛书还收入了大量由常春藤 100 教育 SAT 专家撰写的相关练习和仿真限时考题。

在使用这套丛书的过程中, 考生对 SAT 会从知之甚少到驾轻就熟, 从茫然不知所措到坦然从容应对。这个过程帮助他们丰富科学知识, 接触美国文化, 提高英语技能, 熟悉考试模式, 充分认识自我, 增强应试能力。

从准备参加 SAT 考试, 到如愿以偿进入理想的美国大学, 是一个短至数月长至数年的过程。这个过程犹如在崎岖不平的小道上攀登, 是对毅力的磨练和恒心的考验。对正

处于个性形成期的中学生而言，这个过程对他们将来的人生轨迹和成功有着重要的作用。SAT 是一项有相当难度的考试，考生在准备考试的过程中，需有坚强的毅力克服重重困难，需有持久的恒心面对种种挑战。从这个意义上来说，准备 SAT 考试就是为将来锲而不舍勇往直前的人生铺路，以达到自信自强的目的。

参加 SAT 考试，进入理想的美国大学，需要考生的勤奋和努力，也需要家长的支持和培育。家长希望孩子受到良好的教育，更希望孩子敢于面对挫折，经得住生活的考验，有百折不挠的精神。当孩子复习考试遇到困难时，理解与帮助会给孩子温暖；鼓励和鞭策会给孩子动力。敢于参加 SAT 考试并为之付出努力本身就是积极向上的态度和行动。不管结果如何，通过这一过程，孩子会逐渐积累知识，培养毅力。这是不可多得的经验，是现代教育的理念，也是考生家长的期盼。

**SAT 不仅寄托着家长的希望，更孕育着考生的成功！**

# 前言

对于很多 SAT 考生来说，作文部分是他们心中的一个“痛”。如何在 25 分钟时间里，有效地组织一篇观点明确、逻辑清晰、论据有说服力的文章是一次挑战。当然，与此同时，语法要过关，语言的驾驭能力要尽可能充分体现，更重要的是，不能跑题。面对这个看似不可完成的任务，多少考生在困惑，在迷茫。满分 6 分，或许是个遥不可及的梦。

然而，告诉大家一个秘密：写好作文是有章可循的。你不能预知考题题目，但是你可以获知的是：如何为写作文打基础，做准备；如何搜集素材，建立自己的“论据库”；如何选择自己的立场并使论据与此紧密相连；如何支配时间；如何使文章出彩。总而言之，如果你为 6 分做好了准备，6 分就会在不远处等着你。所以，不要在心里与它说再见，告诉自己：你可以。毕竟，作文占据写作部分 1/3 的成绩，你的付出是值得的。同时你应该知道，为作文做准备，目的不仅仅是作文成绩本身，准备与练习作文的过程更是一个磨练自己逻辑思维能力与辩理能力的过程，它使人终生受益，这也是 SAT 美国大学考试委员会添加作文的原因之一。

为此，仔细阅读本书，领会 SAT 作文技巧，掌握高分秘诀。你也可以拿 6 分。

One of the most frequently asked SAT essay questions from my students is that “How can I improve my essay writing?” or in other words, “I know it’s hard, but how can I get full score or at least five?” To many students, writing an essay is a frustrating and even exasperating process. They feel baffled by the task and consider what they would have to do is to swallow the animosity towards writing. The reason the students have such doubts about writing or they are reluctant to write is that they are not ready and they don’t know HOW to get ready.

If you understand how to prepare for an SAT essay, writing can be easy and getting a perfect score is a “mission possible”.

In this book you will learn how to prepare for an SAT essay and how to improve your writing skills through the following techniques:

- 7 Tips for maximizing your score
- 8 Steps for completing your essay
- 9 Essay topics with sample essay explanations
- Essay example sources and aphorisms you need to know

# 目 录

<b>Chapter I</b>	<b>SAT Essay Overview</b>	1
	What you need to know before you write	1
	Who are the readers?	3
	How are the essays graded?	4
	What are the scoring criteria?	4
<b>Chapter II</b>	<b>7 Tips to Know for Maximizing Your Score</b>	9
	Tip one: Attitude decides everything	
	—be positive over negative	9
	Tip two: Cultivate good reading habits	
	—take notes while reading	11
	Tip three: Examples, examples and examples	
	—make a summary of example resource	14
	Tip four: Write long	
	—one and a half pages at least	16
	Tip five: Use big words	
	—don't go overwhelmed	17
	Tip six: be direct	
	—avoid wordiness	19
	Tip seven: Entertain your reader	
	—add fun to your essay	22



---

<b>Chapter III</b>	<b>8 Steps for Writing a Good Essay</b>	23
Step one: Decide your position		
—read the prompt carefully		24
Step two: Find examples		
—two examples are fine, too		49
Step three: Write introductory paragraph		
—state your position		50
Step four: Begin the body		
—use examples to support your position		51
Step five: Write the conclusion		
—you must close		52
Step six: Show variety in sentence structure		52
Step seven: Diversity in word choice		54
Step eight: Check and polish		
—revise for grammatical and writing faults		55
<b>Chapter IV</b>	<b>Writing Essays Practice</b>	57
How to use the practice essays		57
Practice Essay 1		58
Practice Essay 2		65
Practice Essay 3		69
Practice Essay 4		79
Practice Essay 5		86
Practice Essay 6		93
Practice Essay 7		100

---

<b>Chapter V</b>	9 SAT Essay Topics and Essay Sample Explanation	109
Section I:	Modern Society Issues	109
Section II:	Technology “Advancement”	125
Section III:	Media and information	134
Section IV:	Individuality and group	138
Section V:	Honesty	145
Section VI:	Education and knowledge	154
Section VII:	Success and adversity	159
Section VIII:	Making decisions	171
Section IX:	Others	176
<b>Chapter VI</b>	Example Sources for SAT	181
Section I:	Law of life	182
Section II:	Historical documents and speeches	184
Section III:	Philosophers and thinkers	195
Section IV:	Artists	202
Section V:	Authors	208
Section VI:	Humanitarians	213
Section VII:	Scientists and inventors	214
Section VIII:	Leaders	219
Section IX:	Businessmen	223
<b>Chapter VII</b>	Quotes and Proverbs	225
Education		225
Life		226

Virtue .....	227
Adversity and failure .....	228
Aim and success.....	229
Knowledge .....	231
Teamwork .....	232

# Chapter I

## SAT Essay Overview

所谓“知己知彼，百战不殆”，SAT 作文亦是如此。考作文前你需要做何准备？是谁为你的作文评分？4 分与 5 分的差别在哪里，5 分与 6 分的评分标准区别在何处？是否一定要使用印刷体写作文？透彻理解 SAT 作文要求，是你迈向成功的第一步。

The SAT Reasoning Test is a standardized test, which is required for college admission by many colleges and universities in the United States. Since it was first introduced in 1901, its name and scoring have changed several times. The current SAT, administered in March of 2005, includes three major sections: writing, mathematics and critical reading. And each major section consists of three sub-sections. Together with an additional experimental section, which may be in any of the three question types and will not count toward your final score, there are 10 sections. Essay topic, as one of the three writing sections, will be the first part you face when you sit down to take the SAT.

### What you need to know before you write

#### SAT essay is 25 minutes in length

A student is given 25 minutes to complete an essay, which seems to be a maddening task to many. When essay part was first added to writing section as one of the big changes to the new version of SAT in 2005, most students claimed that they did not think an essay set in 25 minutes on a topic which they could not prepare for collecting materials would be commensurate with their skills.

Ed Hardin, a College Board test specialist responded, "We know students don't write

well when they're anxious. We don't want them not to go forward with that little detail. Our attitude is to go right ahead with the missing date and readers should be instructed not to count off for that."

"Writing is a requirement for doing well in college and doing well in life," Gaston Caperton, the eighth president of the College Board said, "And we are proud that we put writing on this."

In fact, the SAT essay is not designed to test "how well you write". It is designed to test how well—and rapidly—you orient yourself to a new topic, organize your thoughts, develop your ideas, think logically and write the first draft of a persuasive essay.

Right, it's still difficult with only 25 minutes to construct a piece of article in rush and it has to be well organized, creatively written with good command of language skills. But don't worry; fortunately, there are ways to make it easier. As long as you read the book and follow the instructions, you should be well on your way in acing your SAT essay in 25 minutes.

## Use pencil

Do not use a pen. An essay written in pen will be marked zero.

College Board has made it very clear that test takers must use a No. 2 pencil only and they may not use a pen or mechanical pencil.

There are some students in my class who used to write essays in mechanical pencils. They complained that they use mechanical pencils almost every day and mechanical pencil makes the writing a lot clearer for precision and why it would matter much to write in mechanical pencil.

In fact, No. 2 pencil is also called HB ("H" stands for hardness of the lead, and "B" for blackness of the pencil's mark). Since the essay will be scanned and No. 2 lead, which is hard and black enough, is what the scantron best detects, there is no need to make a risk. So don't score a zero for failing to follow guidelines.

## Write legibly

Handwriting seems to become a lost art in the age of computer. However, having good handwriting can help you in school and beyond.

If you don't think you can turn to be the one who has good handwriting in a short period of time, at least write legibly.

Legible writing is a valuable thing, which involves the readability of letters, as well as spacing within and between words.

When given 25 minutes for an essay, it is easy to let your handwriting look sloppy and messy. But keep in mind that essay graders read hundreds of essays each day. If you don't write legibly, they will not bother to spend more time than required to think of deciphering what you write. The truth is if your script is hard to decipher, your score would probably be lowered. Do yourself a favor and write legibly.

### No "right" or "wrong" answer to topic assignment

In the SAT essay portion, the test taker is presented with a prompt in the form of a question or statement, and asked to write an essay about it.

There is no right or wrong answer to the question; the test taker is expected to analyze the issue, address the important sides of the issue and offer examples to support his or her position. Because there is no one "correct" answer, the individual will be scored on his or her ability to organize the arguments and defend the position he or she stands for. Scores will increase for those who demonstrate complex arguments with logic and clarity and those who exhibit skillful use of language.

### Who are the readers?

Each essay will be scored independently by two readers from the College Board. The readers, or graders, are usually college or high school teachers who have been teaching writing or English for a minimum of three years. Before they are given the essays, they would have extensive training provided by the College Board.

Meanwhile, the College Board has collaborated with Pearson Educational Measurement to recruit experienced teachers or people who meet their qualifications to read and score the essay almost every year. Readers will work from their homes or offices with online scoring system.

## How are the essays graded?

Each reader will assign the essay a score ranging from 1 to 6. Their scores are added together to give a final score of up to 12 points. Essays not written will receive a score of zero. If the two readers' scores differ by more than one point, a third reader will score the essay.

The essay score counts for  $\frac{1}{3}$  of your score on the Writing section and  $\frac{1}{9}$  of your total SAT score.

## What are the scoring criteria?

According to College Board, your essay will be graded "holistically", which means the graders would take everything in the paper into account:

They will rate your ability to develop and express a point of view in response to the topic, your ability to use examples, logic, critical thinking and reasoning to support your position, and your skill in language competency.

Graders read quickly. A grader may be asked to grade more than 250 essays every day in an eight hour shift. This means a grader spends only two or two and a half minutes on each essay on average.

So holistically, in other words, also means that graders read very quickly for an impression of the whole paper and then score immediately. As a result, your essay's score will be based in some way on the first impressions formed by two graders.

Following is the scoring criteria (source: [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)). Use the criteria to analyze the sample essays and analyze why some deserve a high score while others not. This also helps you to judge what is missing in your essay so that you can improve your essay writing.

**An essay in this category demonstrates clear and consistent mastery, although it may have a few minor errors. A typical essay:**

Effectively and insightfully develops a point of view on the issue and demonstrates outstanding critical thinking, using clearly appropriate examples, reasons and other evidence to support its position

Is well organized and clearly focused, demonstrating clear coherence and smooth progression of ideas

Exhibits skillful use of language, using a varied, accurate and apt vocabulary

Demonstrates meaningful variety in sentence structure

Is free of most errors in grammar, usage and mechanics

**An essay in this category demonstrates reasonably consistent mastery, although it has occasional errors or lapses in quality. A typical essay:**

Effectively develops a point of view on the issue and demonstrates strong critical thinking, generally using appropriate examples, reasons and other evidence to support its position

Is well organized and focused, demonstrating coherence and progression of ideas

Exhibits facility in the use of language, using appropriate vocabulary

Demonstrates variety in sentence structure

Is generally free of most errors in grammar, usage and mechanics



**An essay in this category demonstrates adequate mastery, although it has lapses in quality. A typical essay:**

Develops a point of view on the issue and demonstrates competent critical thinking, using adequate examples, reasons and other evidence to support its position

Is generally organized and focused, demonstrating some coherence and progression of ideas

Exhibits adequate but inconsistent facility in the use of language, using generally appropriate vocabulary

Demonstrates some variety in sentence structure

Has some errors in grammar, usage and mechanics

**An essay in this category demonstrates developing mastery, and is marked by ONE OR MORE of the following weaknesses:**

Develops a point of view on the issue, demonstrating some critical thinking, but may do so inconsistently or use inadequate examples, reasons or other evidence to support its position

Is limited in its organization or focus, or may demonstrate some lapses in coherence or progression of ideas

Displays developing facility in the use of language, but sometimes uses weak vocabulary or inappropriate word choice

Lacks variety or demonstrates problems in sentence structure

Contains an accumulation of errors in grammar, usage and mechanics