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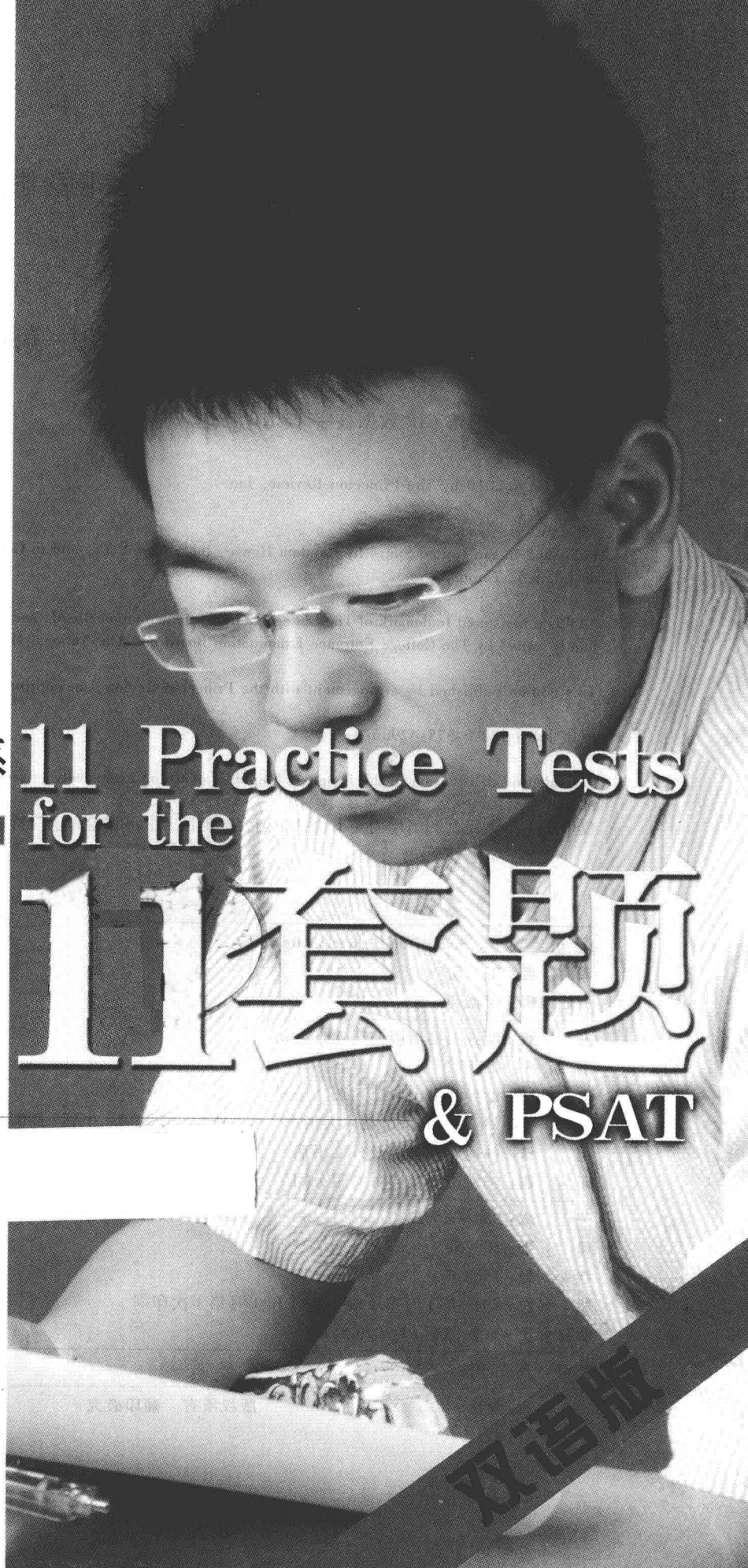
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前言

祝贺你！在你拿起本书的时候，你已经迈出了获得 SAT 高分的第一步。

Princeton Review 成立于 1981 年。起初，第一个班上只有 19 名纽约学生。到了 1990 年，我们变成了美国最知名的 SAT 培训机构，而且至今保持着这个荣誉。学生喜欢上我们的课，做我们的题，看我们的书，是因为我们能够非常有效地提高他们的分数。

在仔细分析了成千上万道 SAT 真题并认真揣摩命题者的意图后，我们编写了这些高仿真的模拟测试题。我们聚集了最具经验且分析缜密的教师仔细检查每一个题目来确保这些模拟测试题的长度、风格、内容和实际考试相吻合。这本书中的很多模拟试题都已经被数以千计的 Princeton Review 学生测试过。我们通过不断评估从每一道题目上收集到的数据，保证了模拟试题的正确性和难度与 SAT 考试题相符。

我们始终密切关注着 SAT 考试，从而确保这些模拟测试题正是你为取得 SAT 高分所需要的。如果你曾经用过这本书的早期版本，你会发现，和 2009 年版本相比，我们在本版中做出了巨大的改动，而且我们会继续在这个版本中完善试题材料，为你提供最逼真的测试体验。总而言之，这些模拟测试题和 SAT 考试那天将会出现的题目极其相似。

如果你认真做完这些模拟测试题并对照详尽的释疑评估成绩，相信你的应试技巧将会得到显著提升并在今后的 SAT 考试中获得佳绩。就像我们为你尽力提供最准确的考试体验一样，如果尽你所能模拟实战中的考试环境，你的努力将会得到回报。在整个模拟测试中，用规定的时间完成各个部分的试题。在进行下一个模拟测试之前，你可以利用自己在规定时间内跳过的任何题目来进行额外的训练，同时，仔细研读答案详解来快速提高基本的 SAT 解题技巧。

在准备的时候，要记住 SAT 考试只测试你在 SAT 中的表现如何，其他什么也代表不了。

1. SAT 不测试的内容。SAT 既不测试智力水平也不衡量学生高中学习的深度和广度。它不像你的高中成绩那样，可以预测你的大学成绩。很多大学也对是否使用 25 分钟写作成绩作为录取的一个因素犹疑不定。招生官员们知道，能够评判你个人表现的不仅仅是在某一个周六早晨一场四个小时的考试。

2. SAT 往往会低估女性、少数民族和弱势学生将来在大学里的表现。以前，女生的 SAT 成绩通常比男生要差，但她们在大学里的表现却更优秀。对于一个用来预测学生在未来大学里表现的考试，这真是一个可悲的事实。

当然，这并不意味着你不应该参加 SAT。虽然几乎每一个学校都接受 ACT 考试成绩（另一种入学考试），而且一些文理学院（Liberal Arts Schools）不硬性要求 SAT 成绩，但是那些竞争激烈的学校仍然是需要 SAT 成绩的。对于 SAT 的缺陷，你要采取的态度是：不要在意最后的分数如何，只管你是否在考试时发挥正常，这就足够了。

让我们抓紧时间开始学习本书吧。在此之前，你最好查一下梦想的学校所要求的分数，然后在此基础上制定目标计划并为之努力。预祝广大考生在 SAT 和大学申请中一切顺利。

真诚的，
Princeton Review 的全体员工

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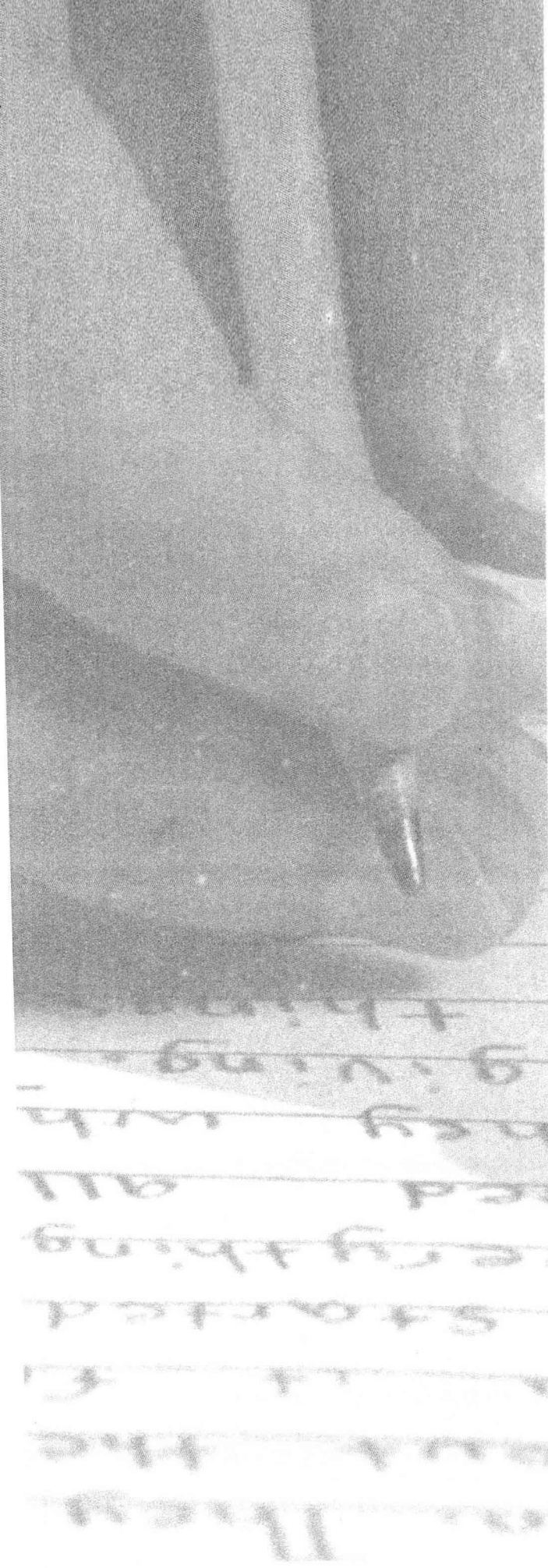
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Part I Orientation

- 1 SAT Basics
- 2 Scoring
- 3 What's on the SAT? An Insider's Guide



Chapter 1

SAT Basics

How Is the SAT Scored?

Your Math, Critical Reading, and Writing scores are available online at the College Board's website or by phone about two and a half weeks after you take the real SAT. Four weeks after you take the SAT, you'll receive in the mail a report containing your scores. Each score is reported on a scale from 200 to 800; the average student scores around 500 in each subject area. Scores go up or down in increments of ten points.

The total maximum score for the SAT is 2,400 points. You'll also hear about two other kinds of scores in connection with the SAT and other standardized tests: raw scores and percentile scores.

Your *raw score* is simply the number of questions you answered correctly minus a fraction of the number of questions you answered incorrectly; it's used to calculate your final scaled score (from 200 to 800). A *percentile score* is how you did in relation to everyone else who took the test. If your score is in the 60th percentile, it means you did better on the test than 60 percent of the people who took it. Percentile varies from year to year and from test to test. For example, a 550 might put you in the 65th percentile one year, but the 55th percentile the next year.

Where Does the SAT Come From?

The SAT is published by Educational Testing Service (ETS). ETS is a large company that sells not only the SAT, but also about 500 other tests, including ones for CIA agents, golf pros, travel agents, firefighters, and barbers. ETS is located outside of Princeton, New Jersey, on a beautiful 400-acre estate that used to be a hunting club. The buildings where the SAT is written are surrounded by woods and hills. There is a swimming pool, a goose pond, a baseball diamond, lighted tennis courts, jogging trails, an expensive house for the company's president, and a private hotel where rooms cost more than \$200 a night.

You may have been told that ETS is a government agency or that it's part of Princeton University. It is neither. ETS is just a private company that makes a lot of money writing and selling tests. The organization that hires ETS to write the SAT is called the College Entrance Examination Board or the College Board.

What Does the SAT Measure?

If you are like many high school students, you think of the SAT as a test of how smart you are. If you score 800 on the Critical Reading section, you probably think of yourself as a genius. If you score 200, you probably think of yourself as an idiot. You may even think of an SAT score as a permanent label, like your Social Security number. ETS encourages you to think this way by telling you that the test measures your ability to reason and by claiming that you cannot significantly improve your score through special preparation (a strange claim from a company that sells its own preparation materials!).

Nothing could be further from the truth. The SAT isn't a test of how smart you are; more than anything else, it's a test of how good you are at taking the SAT.

Can you learn to be better at taking the SAT? Of course you can. That's what this book is all about. You can improve your SAT score in exactly the same way you would improve your grade in chemistry: by learning the material you are going to be tested on and familiarizing yourself with the test format. Let's get to know the test.

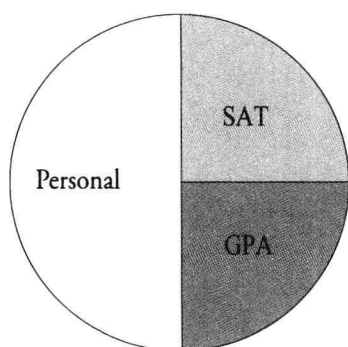
Score Choice!

This is maybe the one nice thing that ETS has ever done for you. Don't let it go to your head, though, they are doing it to compete with the ACT which has always given students this privilege.

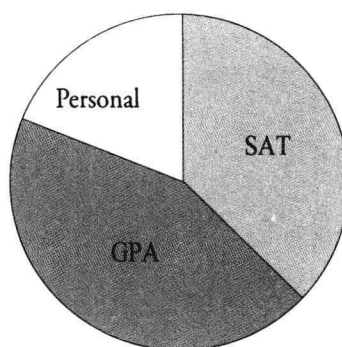
As of March 2009, you can now choose which SAT (by test date) and which SAT Subject Scores (by individual test) you want to sent on to colleges. Previously, colleges would see your whole record. Now they just see what they need to (i.e., your best score). Score Choice is optional and you have to specify by checking a box that you'd like to use it. If you don't check the box, all your scores will be sent automatically.

How Important Are SAT Scores?

The SAT is an important factor when you apply to colleges, but it is not the only factor. A rule of thumb: The larger the college, the more important the SAT score. Small liberal arts colleges will heavily weigh your extracurricular activities, interview, essays, and recommendations. Large state universities, however, often admit students based on formulas consisting mostly of just two ingredients: test scores and grade-point averages.



Small Liberal Arts Colleges



Large State Universities

Even at a small liberal arts college, however, SAT scores can be a deciding factor. If your scores fall below a school's usual range, admissions officers will look very critically at other elements in your application. For most college applicants, their SAT scores are the equivalent of a first impression. If your scores are good, an admissions officer will be more likely to give you the benefit of the doubt in other areas.

How Important Are the Writing Scores?

Colleges and universities are still working on how best to utilize the Writing score on the SAT. The Math and Critical Reading scores are both familiar to colleges and comparable with the older test's scores, but the Writing score is obviously less familiar. Many schools are using the Writing score for placement purposes, but other schools aren't quite sure what to do with it. So for the time being, expect to see a decent amount of variation in how colleges treat the SAT Writing score.

The best approach to the Writing portions of the test is to do your best, just as you do on the other portions. Don't worry about how colleges may or may not use this score. They may not even be sure themselves. If you want to know how a college to which you are applying will use the Writing score, contact the admissions office of that college directly, or refer to the college's website for more details.

WHAT IS THE PRINCETON REVIEW?

The Princeton Review is the nation's largest SAT-preparation company. We offer courses in more than 500 locations and online, and we publish best-selling books and software to get students ready for this test. We also prepare students and schools for the PSAT, ACT, GRE, GMAT, LSAT, MCAT, USMLE, TOEFL, and many other national and state standardized tests.

The Princeton Review's techniques and tools are unique and powerful. Our team of crack experts in Research & Development (R&D) created them after spending countless hours taking and scrutinizing real SATs, analyzing them, and proving our theories in hundreds of classrooms across the country with thousands of real students. Our methods are widely imitated, but no one else achieves our score improvements. Trust us; you're in the right place.

WHAT IS THE BEST WAY TO PREPARE FOR THE SAT?

First off, take your time. Do not try to prep in the week before the test. Ideally, you should spread the work out over a month or two. Second, give it some effort. The SAT is important and requires you to spend at least 40 hours getting ready. Taking just four practice tests will use up a third of that time; you should spend the rest reviewing the basic skills tested by the questions you're getting wrong and practicing your pacing and test-taking skills.

Should you take a course or get a tutor? It depends on the gains you're looking for. A good course or tutor should enable you to raise your scores by 200 points or more. However, if your scores are pretty good to begin with, or if you work very well on your own, you're probably fine with a book.



Chapter 2 Scoring