

Helping Idaho Students Succeed Using Official SAT Practice with Khan Academy

Webinar – recorded March 1st, 2019

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Hello and welcome to today's webinar. My name is Stephen McCue Director for State and District Partnerships with the College Board. I'm looking forward to sharing with you some exciting information about an important resource that can help Idaho students prepare for the SAT.

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The College Board and Khan Academy have partnered for the past two years in an effort to provide students with world class support for the SAT. This support includes eight full length SAT practice tests, as well as video lessons, interactive problems and instant feedback. We believe Official SAT Practice at Khan Academy is the single best way a student can practice for the SAT and the best part is that all of these resources are available at no charge.

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Since Official SAT Practice at Khan Academy was introduced we have seen 6 million unique users access the tool. 3 million students have also linked their College Board account with Khan Academy. In doing so, these students have directed Khan Academy to prepare a personalized practice plan just for them using their PSAT scores as the basis.

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The College Board recently released findings from a study of 250,000 students from the class of 2017. As part of that study we concluded that the average student sees their scores improve from the PSAT/NMSQT to the SAT by 60 points on average. However, students who spent just 6 hours practicing on Khan Academy saw their SAT scores increase on average by 90 points. Furthermore, students who spent 20 hours of time practicing on Khan Academy saw their scores increase on average by 115 points. Students everywhere are starting to realize that use of this tool is time well spent and that they get out of it what they put into it.

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In any give week, the Official SAT Practice tool at Khan Academy sees 200,000 active users. Those users spend an average of 44 minutes/week using the tool.

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An interesting take-away from our research is that students are using Official SAT Practice at Khan Academy at roughly an equal usage rate, regardless of race, family income or parental education. We are very pleased to see that some of the demographics most in need of support are finding it through this resource.

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Our research also shows that 28% of all SAT practice at Khan Academy is done at school. More and more teachers, schools and districts are using this tool to support the work teachers and students are doing in class every day. The College Board has prepared several resources to help teachers in this work. Those resources and case studies can be found at satpractice.org/k12. We also provide teachers with lesson plans as well as a coaching guide.

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We encourage every student to consider the benefits associated with linking their College Board account with Khan Academy. While this step is completely optional and voluntary it is the best way for the student to get a personalized SAT practice plan. The College Board is also committed to student privacy and both the College Board and Khan Academy's data privacy policies are available online.

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I've mentioned the benefits associated with linking College Board and Khan Academy accounts. Now I'd like to briefly show you how that is done.

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There are three simple steps in the process and they take only a couple of minutes to complete. Once done, students can immediately start practicing.

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Step 1 is to create a Khan Academy account. If a student already has an existing Khan Academy account, used in a previous class for example, they should continue to use that account moving forward. Like a College Board account, a Khan Academy account is free.

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Step 2 is to link the two accounts together. While at Khan Academy, students will be asked whether they wish to send their PSAT results to Khan Academy. Once that option is chosen, the student will be directed to collegeboard.org.

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Step 3 is to create a College Board account unless the student already has one. Again we ask that students continue to use their existing account if they have one. After they have successfully logged in to their College Board account, the student will be asked for permission to link their accounts. After clicking 'send' they will be immediately redirected back to Khan Academy so they can start practicing. As a reminder, students can revoke this permission at any time.

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One of the benefits of the SAT practice tool is that it is adaptive. With each additional problem and activity the student completes, the personalization gets stronger and stronger helping each student reach their personal SAT goals.

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The coaching resources at Khan Academy allow teachers, counselors and other educators to see student progress and provide targeted help to students. The lesson plans we have available are all created by teachers for teachers and they are available in math, reading and writing. This is a great way for adults to monitor recent SAT activity by students and track individual student progress.

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To use this resource, teachers must first set up their own free Khan Academy account.

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When setting up an account, teachers will establish a username and password.

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Once their account is established, educators can select the coach dashboard from the available options.

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In this dashboard, the coach can then select the type of resources they would like to monitor and support.

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New coaches are encouraged to select the 'getting started' button under the K12 teachers heading. This will provide them with useful directions and guidance in the use of the coaching tool.

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We also recommend teachers and coaches to review the training modules found on the site. This will help teachers get the most out of the SAT practice tool.

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As many of you know, students were given the option to select the essay as part of the SAT school day test on April 9th.

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For those students who have chosen this option, they will receive three scores associated with their essay response. Students will receive a score of 2-8 in the areas of reading, writing and analysis.

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Unlike the SAT essay prompt used prior to 2016. Students who have chosen the SAT essay will now demonstrate how well they can comprehend an argumentative source text and produce a written analysis of the text supported by evidence.

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To help students prepare for the SAT essay, the first two SAT practice tests found at Khan Academy have essay passages and prompts that students can respond to online and receive constructive feedback.

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In addition the Official SAT Practice tool at Khan Academy also features three essay practice prompts. Students can again respond to these prompts and receive automated feedback in the form of signal strengths in reading, writing and analysis. Students can continue to modify their written response until they are satisfied. Then they can submit their response and receive their scores. To further help them practice for the essay, students can also find the SAT essay rubric at Khan Academy.

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Finally, the College Board has also prepared a series of professional development modules related to the SAT suite of assessments that are available to all educators. Module 10 provides additional guidance in the use of Official SAT Practice at Khan Academy. We hope you find these tutorials very helpful.

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If you have any questions about Official SAT Practice at Khan Academy please don't hesitate to contact me or our colleague Melanie Jones at the Idaho State Department of Education. Thanks very much for your time.

