

## The Writing Section – SAT

The writing section of the test is 60 minutes long and is composed of both multiple choice questions and an essay. The SAT will begin with the 25 minute essay. Students will be asked to express their position on a provided passage and to support their opinions with evidence. The essay will be scored on a scale of 1 to 6. The multiple choice portion of the writing section is composed of 49 questions that test the student’s ability to clearly communicate ideas, identify grammatical errors and to improve sentences and paragraphs. Students will have 35 minutes to complete this portion of the test.

1. Find the error, if any, in the following sentence:  
The members of the board will vote on its favorite design for the new auditorium during today’s meeting.
  - a. Members
  - b. Its
  - c. For
  - d. Today’s
  - e. No Error
  
2. Find the error, if any, in the following sentence:  
The kitten, attempting to mimic the older cat’s graceful leap, missed his target and falling to the floor.
  - a. Kitten,
  - b. Cat’s
  - c. Missed
  - d. Falling
  - e. No Error
  
3. From the choices below, select the best version of the following sentence:  
Though nervous, a flawless presentation was delivered by Jennifer to her history class.
  - a. Though nervous, a flawless presentation was delivered by Jennifer to her history class.
  - b. Though she was nervous, a flawless presentation was delivered by Jennifer to her history class.
  - c. Though nervous, Jennifer delivered a flawless presentation to her history class.
  - d. Jennifer delivered a flawless, though nervous, presentation to her history class.
  - e. Though nervous, a presentation delivered by Jennifer to her history class was flawless.

4. From the choices below, select the best version of the following sentence:  
When Bobby had been taking his first college writing class, he discovered that effort alone did not always guarantee success.
- When Bobby had been taking his first college writing class
  - When the college writing class Bobby had been taking first
  - When Bobby is going to take his college writing class first
  - When Bobby took his first college writing class
  - When Bobby was taking his first college class, which was a writing class,

The questions below are based on the following passage, which is a selection from an early draft of an essay:

(1) Vacations are supposed to be relaxing, but at the start, they are almost always stressful. (2) Flying might be the worst part, though. (3) The process of getting to the airport on time and getting through security has been the subjects of stand-up comedy routines since practically the invention of air travel. (4) After that ordeal is through, then the unlucky vacationers have to navigate the complex system of terminals and gates, laid out in a seemingly random order, in order to make it to their plane. (5) All these tasks are made even more difficult by the necessity of hauling around the absolute limit of each type of baggage allowed. (6) For those fortunate enough to make it to their gate early, waiting becomes the difficult part. (7) The intrepid travelers are now surrounded by crying children, angry cell phone conversations, and the smell of exorbitantly priced fast food (which can be either tempting or nauseating). (8) Aware of the price of an airport soda, and the fact that they may face severe penalties if they abandon their baggage while seeking out sustenance, savvy travelers strive to resist temptation, but when their flights are inevitably delayed an extra two hours, many cave in.

5. Which sentence would work best after sentence 1?
- Tasks like coordinating time off, choosing a destination, booking tickets, and boarding pets can make the time leading up to a vacation especially hectic.
  - This stress makes many wonder if a vacation is even worth the effort involved.
  - I went to New York City on my last vacation.
  - The beach is a popular vacation destination.
  - Nowadays, many Americans consider flying to be time-consuming and expensive.
6. A paragraph break could be inserted after which sentence?
- Sentence 3
  - Sentence 4
  - Sentence 5
  - Sentence 6
  - Sentence 7

Answers:

1. B
2. D
3. C
4. D
5. A
6. C