

Cal State University, Northridge
SAT Preparation
Mrs. Kathy Zimmermann

Summer Academic Enrichment Program
Summer 2005
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Course Overview

This course is designed to stimulate the verbal and math skills of students planning to take College Entrance Exams' SAT Test. Last year about half the class increased their score 100 points or more, 20% 150 points or more, and 10% 200 points or more, up to 280- and 290-point increases.

Course Description

Instruction includes test-taking strategies, shortcuts, traps to avoid, and common types of test questions on the New SAT, and involves intensive reviews of essay writing, reading skills, grammar, and math.

Course Goals and Objectives

Goal: Raise student's SAT score dramatically.

Objective: Take 2 SAT tests in class.

Objective: Learn proven verbal and math strategies.

Goal: Improve SAT Reading score.

Objective: Learn skim reading skills and what to skip.

Objective: Learn which questions to do first to get the most points.

Objective: Use language structure to obtain the answer quickly.

Objective: Be aware of several kinds of trap questions and how to avoid falling in the trap.

Goal: Improve SAT Writing score.

Objective: Learn the most advantageous framework for producing an essay.

Objective: Learn what the essay graders are looking for, and what not to spend time on, how to vary sentence structure, terminology and style

Objective: Review grammar for multiple choice questions, including the Top Ten most common grammar errors tested by the exam.

Goal: Improve SAT Math score.

Objective: Intensive review of math concepts..

Objective: Learn math strategies and short cuts.

Objective: Participate in classroom workshops on common math topics.

Objective: Learn math techniques which enable the student to get the correct answer even when he/she doesn't know how to do the problem.

Course Textbooks

"Basic and Advanced SAT Preparation" by Kathy Zimmermann (this text will be provided in class). Actual SAT material from the "Official Guide to the SAT" by the College Board will be provided in sections with answers retained for passing out later.

Homework, Classwork and Test policy

The bulk of the grade will be based on class participation: attendance (except for excused absences requiring a parent's prompt signed note), getting to class and returning from break on time, bringing class materials daily, respectful behavior in class (focus on instruction, avoid excessive talking, polite toward peers, participate in group projects, and

so on). Students do not have to be a super-high SAT scorer to get a good grade, but improvement and effort are credited. Extra credit may be earned by taking additional SAT tests for homework.

25%	class participation	25%	quizzes (daily, many with your group)
25%	class projects	25%	effort when taking tests

Course Materials

Each student needs a binder, paper, writing utensils, and a calculator. TI-83 to TI-89 calculator is strongly recommended. Book, notebook and calculator should be brought to each class.

We have read and understand the contents of this syllabus. (Turn in the first class.)

Student name _____ Signature _____

Parent name _____ Signature _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Home phone (____) _____ Cell (____) _____ Name _____

Parent work phone (____) _____ Name _____

Parent work phone (____) _____ Name _____

Email _____@_____._____ Name _____

School next year _____ City _____ Grade next fall _____

Have you taken the PSAT? Yes ___ No ___ If yes, what were your scores?

Writing _____ Reading _____ Math _____ Date ___/___/___

Have you taken the SAT? Yes ___ No ___ If yes, what were your scores?

Writing _____ Reading _____ Math _____ Date ___/___/___

Have you taken the ACT? Yes ___ No ___ If yes, what were your scores?

Writing _____ Reading _____ Science _____ Math _____ Date ___/___/___

For teacher's use only: End Writing _____ Reading _____ Math _____ Total _____

Begin Writing _____ Reading _____ Math _____ Total _____

Change Writing _____ Reading _____ Math _____ Total _____