

Tips & Tricks for the SAT Essay

- Preparing:
 - Understand the basic prompt.
 - Study the examples.
 - Practice.
 - Understand the author's position.
 - Spend time planning.
- College Board Says:
 - Give a clear thesis.
 - Include both an introduction and a conclusion.
 - They can be as short as 2-3 sentences each, but include them.
 - Use effective language and word choice.
 - Don't be repetitive and don't make grammar mistakes.
 - Show off your vocabulary.
 - Only use information from the passage.
 - On the SAT, there's one kind of correct support: specific details drawn from the passage you're asked to analyze.
 - Focus your essay on relevant details.
 - Focus your discussion on just a few points. This shows you can pick out the most important aspects of a reading passage and analyze them.
- College Board "Secrets":
 - Read the prompt before the passage.
 - Your facts must be accurate, but your interpretation doesn't have to be.
 - Make a convincing argument. There is no single right answer, so as long as you are convincing, make a solid case for your interpretation, using facts and quotes from the passage, and you'll be good.
 - Write more than one page. Length matters.
 - Be objective when reading the passage. Don't bring your emotions into the essay.
 - Memorize and identify specific persuasive techniques.
- Strategies for Increasing Your Score:
 - Answer the prompt. Explain why the persuasive devices are important. Analyze the way the author builds her argument.
 - Support your points with concrete evidence from the passage.
 - Keep your essay organized.
 - Make time to read, analyze, plan, write, and revise.
 - Practice. PRACTICE.
- Resources:
 - <https://www.noodle.com/articles/5-tips-for-the-new-sat-essay-from-a-test-prep-expert>
 - <https://blog.prepscholar.com/sat-essay-tips-15-ways-to-improve-your-writing-score>