



# SAT Grammar

By Zhazira Karabalayeva



## New SAT

600 - 2400

400 - 1600

3 Hours 45 Minutes  
minute optional)

3 Hours (+50

Critical Reading: 200-800

Evidence-Based Reading

and Writing: 200-800

Writing: 200-800

Math: 200-800

Math: 200-800

Essay (included in Writing score)  
(separately scored)

Optional Essay

scored)

Time per question:

Reading 72 sec

52 quest 65 min

Writing and Language 48 sec 44 quest 35 min



# Subject Verb agreement

- She and her friends **are** at the fair.
- The book or the pen **is** in the drawer.
- His friends or the boy **runs** every day.
- Everyone has finished **his** or her homework.
- There **are** many questions.



# Practice

- The President, accompanied by his wife, \_\_\_\_\_ traveling to India.
- The crew \_\_\_\_\_ preparing to dock the ship.
- Five dollars \_\_\_\_\_ a lot of money.
- The news \_\_\_\_\_ on at six.
- My glasses \_\_\_\_\_ on the bed.



# Answer

- The President, accompanied by his wife, **is** traveling to India.
- The crew **is** preparing to dock the ship.
- Five dollars **is** a lot of money.
- The news **is** on at six.
- My glasses **are** on the bed.



# Tricky one

- Either A or B
- Neither A nor B
- Must agree with A or B?
- agree with **B**, the noun **closer** to the **verb**.



# Practice

- Either Kiana or Casey \_\_\_\_ helping today with stage decorations.
- *Either Kiana or Casey **is** helping today with stage decorations.*
- *Neither she, I, nor my friends \_\_\_\_going to the festival.*
- *Neither she, I, nor my friends **are** going to the festival.*



# Singular or Plural?

- Phenomena
- Phenomenon
- Criteria
- Criterion
- Data
- Datum
- athletics





**Alumni**

**Alumnus**

**Bacteria**

**Bacterium**

**Algae**

**Alga**

**Fungi**

**Fungus**



# Singular or Plural?

- each, anyone, anybody,
- anything, another, neither, either, every,
- everyone, someone, no one, somebody, everything,
- little, and much



**none (of), any (of), some (of), most (of), more (of), and all (of).**

**All of them can be either singular or plural, according to the noun that follows**

**Phrases that start as well as . . . , together with . . . , along with . . . , or in addition to . . .**

**are not part of the main subject**



# How to “Trim” a Sentence

Step 1: Cross out all nonessential prepositional phrases.

e.g., The bird ~~in the cage~~ began singing.

Step 2: Cross out all interrupting phrases.

e.g., The committee, ~~ignoring tradition,~~ will approve the measure.

Step 3: Cross out all other nonessential modifiers and modifying phrases.

e.g., ~~Having traveled so far,~~ the ~~baseball~~ team hardly wanted to forfeit the ~~championship~~ game.



# Can you spot an error?

Juggling the demands of both school and my social agenda often seem too much to bear.

Juggling ~~the demands of both school and my social agenda often~~ seem too much to bear.

**Juggling** ~~the demands of both school and my social agenda often~~ **seems** too much to bear.



# One more

Others on the committee, like the chairwoman Amanda Sanders, is concerned about the lack of attention given to school safety.

Others ~~on the committee, like the chairwoman Amanda Sanders,~~ is concerned about the lack of attention given to school safety.

~~Others~~ ~~on the committee, like the chairwoman Amanda Sanders,~~ **are** concerned about the lack of attention given to school safety.



# Do some more practice!

McGraw-Hill, SAT (Grammar Section can be taken from any edition)

Lauren Starkey, SAT WRITING ESSENTIALS (Old SAT, but grammar is the same anyway)

My very favorite web-site on Grammar: Purdue Online Writing Lab

<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/1/5/>