

Tips for Success on the PSAT and SAT Assessment

1. **Be on time on test day.**
2. **Eat breakfast.**
3. **Use a #2 pencil and erase completely** if needed so the computer can read your bubble sheet.
4. **Review the [“Test Day Checklist.”](#)**
5. **Learn the directions and test format ahead of time.** The structure is always the same!
6. **Listen to your proctor.** He or she will always read directions—before testing begins, before each test, before and after each break, and after the test.
7. **Listen for and act when you hear, “You Have Five Minutes Remaining in this Section.”** Each test, the proctor will give a 5-minute warning before the test is over. When you hear those words, pick your favorite letter A, B, C or D, and bubble the rest of the answers for that test. Do not leave any blanks. There is no penalty for a wrong answer, so bubble in your favorite letter.
8. **Keep an eye on the time.** There will be a clock and a timer in the room, use them. Make sure you use all the time you are given. If you finish early, go back and re-check your answers for that test. You can never go ahead or back to a different test.
9. **Use your breaks wisely.** They go quickly and cannot be extended. Take a quick stretch, eat a quick snack and then get back to work.
10. **Wear comfortable clothing and dress in layers.**
11. **Use the restroom before the test begins.** If you leave during the test to use the restroom, you will not be extra time.
12. **Write in the test booklet.** Make sure you transfer your answers to the bubble sheet.
13. **Use Process of Elimination.** If you are unsure of an answer, write in your test booklet to narrow it down. Cross off one of two and then guess from the remaining options.