

SAT, PSAT/NMSQT, PSAT 10, and PSAT 8/9 READING DOMAIN

Content Dimension	Description
Text Complexity	SAT: grades 9–10 to early postsecondary; PSAT/NMSQT and PSAT 10: grades 9–10 to college and career readiness; PSAT 8/9: grades 6–10
Information and Ideas	These questions focus on the informational content of text.
Reading closely	These questions focus on the explicit and implicit meaning of text and on extrapolating beyond the information and ideas in a text.
Determining explicit meanings	The student will identify information and ideas explicitly stated in text.
Determining implicit meanings	The student will draw reasonable inferences and logical conclusions from text.
Using analogical reasoning	The student will extrapolate in a reasonable way from the information and ideas in a text or apply information and ideas in a text to a new, analogous situation.
Citing textual evidence	The student will cite the textual evidence that best supports a given claim or point.
Determining central ideas and themes	The student will identify explicitly stated central ideas or themes in text and determine implicit central ideas or themes from text.
Summarizing	The student will identify a reasonable summary of a text or of key information and ideas in text.
Understanding relationships	The student will identify explicitly stated relationships or determine implicit relationships between and among individuals, events, or ideas (e.g., cause-effect, comparison-contrast, sequence).
Interpreting words and phrases in context	The student will determine the meaning of words and phrases in context.
Rhetoric	These questions focus on the rhetorical analysis of text.
Analyzing word choice	The student will determine how the selection of specific words and phrases or the use of patterns of words and phrases shapes meaning and tone in text.
Analyzing text structure	These questions focus on the overall structure of a text and on the relationship between a particular part of a text and the whole text.
Analyzing overall text structure	The student will describe the overall structure of a text.
Analyzing part-whole relationships	The student will analyze the relationship between a particular part of a text (e.g., a sentence) and the whole text.
Analyzing point of view	The student will determine the point of view or perspective from which a text is related or the influence this point of view or perspective has on content and style.
Analyzing purpose	The student will determine the main or most likely purpose of a text or of a particular part of a text (typically, one or more paragraphs).
Analyzing arguments	These questions focus on analyzing arguments for their content and structure.
Analyzing claims and counterclaims	The student will identify claims and counterclaims explicitly stated in text or determine implicit claims and counterclaims from text.
Assessing reasoning	The student will assess an author's reasoning for soundness.
Analyzing evidence	The student will assess how an author uses or fails to use evidence to support a claim or counterclaim.
Synthesis	These questions focus on synthesizing multiple sources of information.
Analyzing multiple texts	The student will synthesize information and ideas from paired texts. (Note: All of the skills listed above may be tested with either single or paired passages.)
Analyzing quantitative information	The student will analyze information presented quantitatively in such forms as graphs, tables, and charts and/or relate that information to information presented in text.