



m a r i g o l d p r e p

SMALL GROUP COURSE

Lesson 1

January 2022

Overview and Reading 101

Meet Your Instructors

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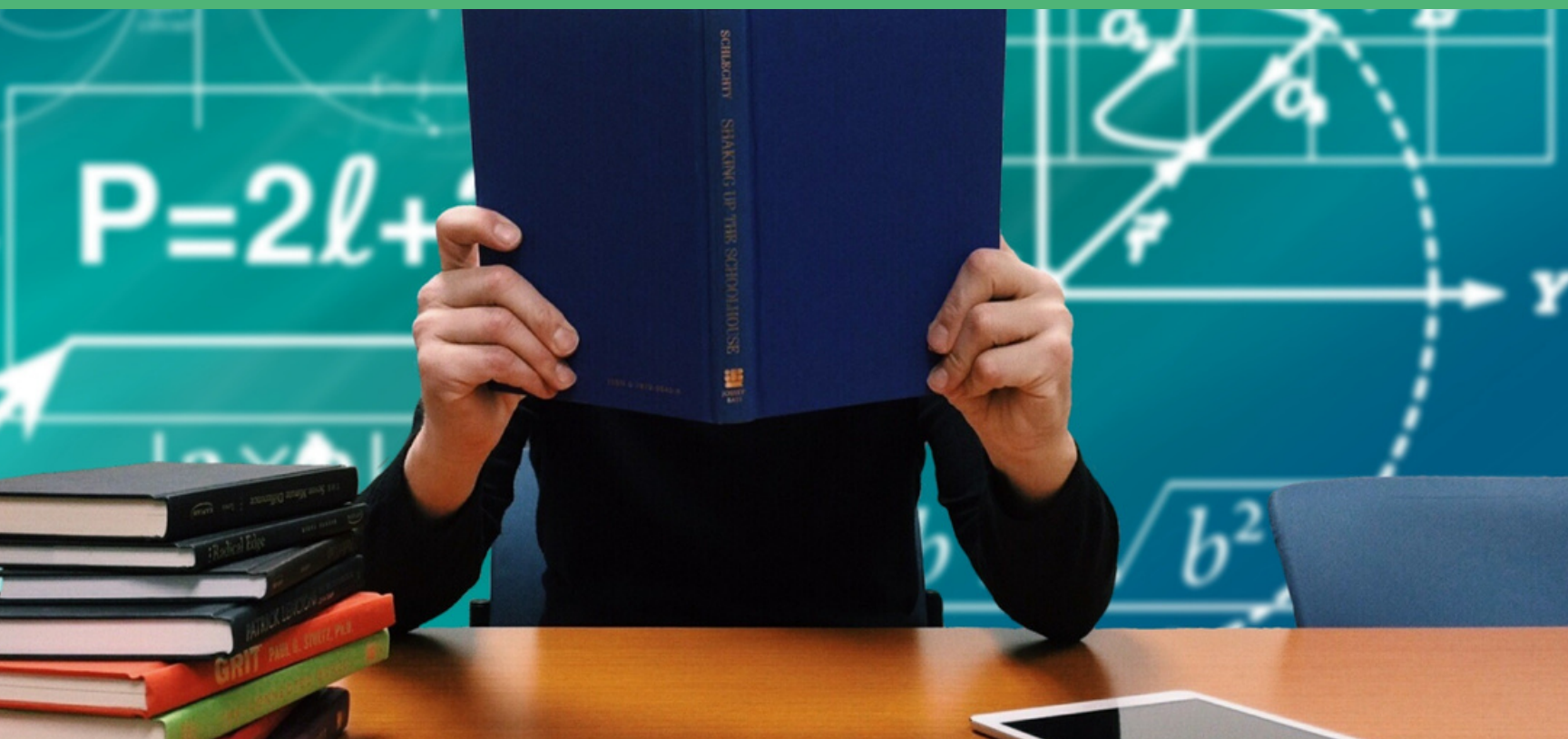


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So, what is the SAT?

What is the SAT?



- The SAT is a standardized test used to **evaluate the “college readiness”** of applicants. It includes sections of reading, writing and language (English), and math.
- The reading and writing sections combine to make the **EBRW (Evidence-Based Reading and Writing)**, or verbal, side of the test.
- The **two verbal sections are each scored out of a possible 400**, for a maximum score of 800 on the verbal test.
- The **math section is scored out of 800**, making the **maximum score possible for the entire test a 1600**.



What is the SAT?

Verbal Section

Reading Section

Reading section is made up of **five passages** with questions involving the main idea, details, inferences, and evidence of the information presented. The SAT gives you **65 minutes to complete the 52 reading questions**. This translates to **13 minutes per reading passage**.

Writing and Language

The Writing and Language section is made up of **four passages with 11 questions each**. The questions focus on grammar and punctuation, tone and style, author's purpose, and other editing topics. You have **35 minutes** to complete the section, which translates to **8 minutes and 45 seconds per passage**.



What is the SAT?

Math Section

Timing and calculator use

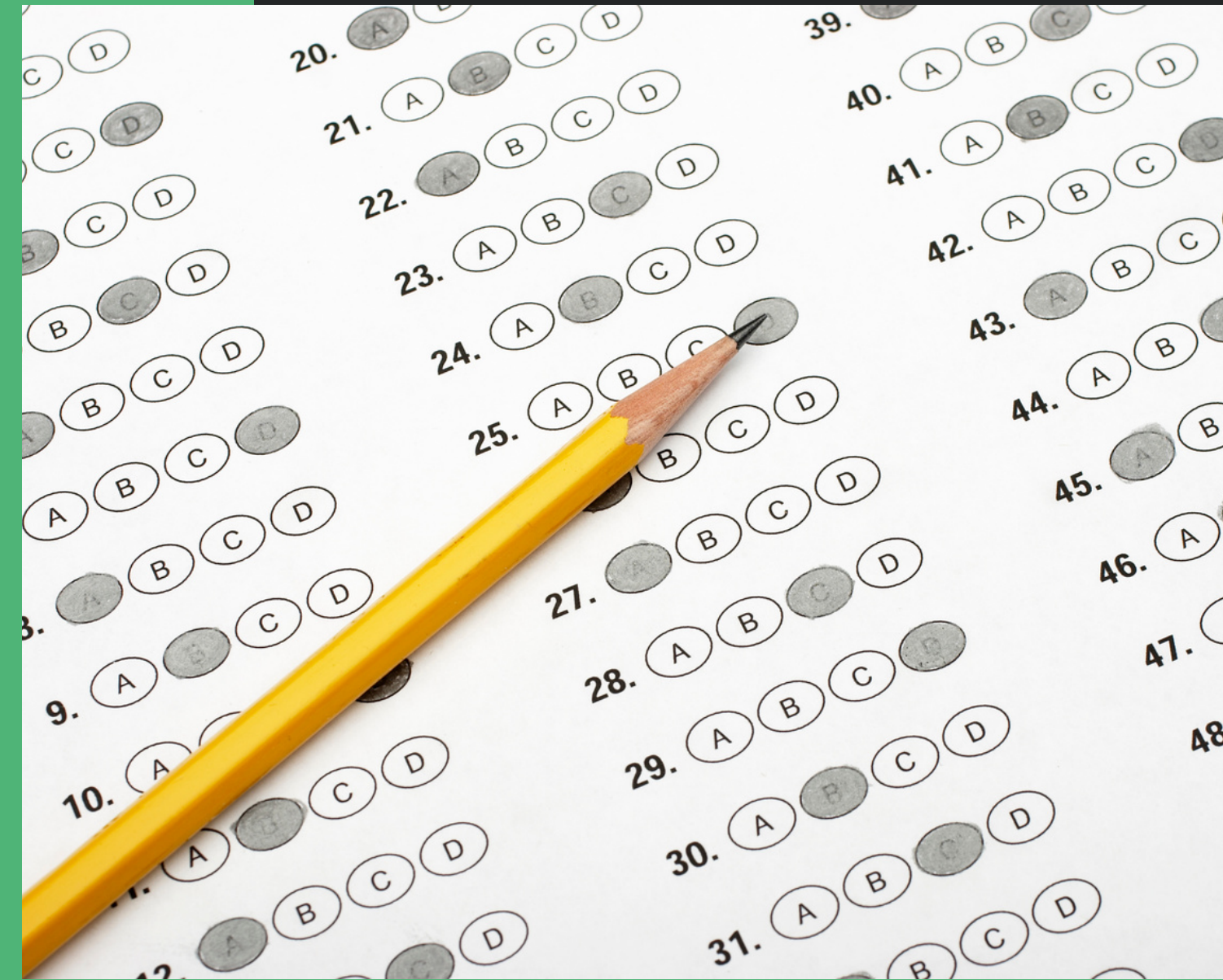
The math section of the SAT is broken up into a no-calculator section and a calculator section.

The **no-calculator** section is **25 minutes long and made up of 20 questions.**

The **calculator** section is **55 minutes long and made up of 38 questions.**

Bubble sheets and Student Generated Responses

Each portion features several Student Generated Response questions which require you to fill in your own answers. **The test covers middle- and high-school math up through Algebra II.**



Does the SAT test your intelligence?

- In short, no, the SAT is focused on **college readiness**.
- What the test makers ask you to do is **process** through unfamiliar information and **make sense** of it, **edit** effectively, and use **concepts you know** in ways you **potentially haven't seen** before.
- It is **not to be confused** with an intelligence test!



Basic Strategies of the SAT

What **strategies** have you used when taking the **PSAT or SAT in the past?**

Basic Strategies of the SAT

Read Carefully

Questions may be confusing by design!

Getting derailed

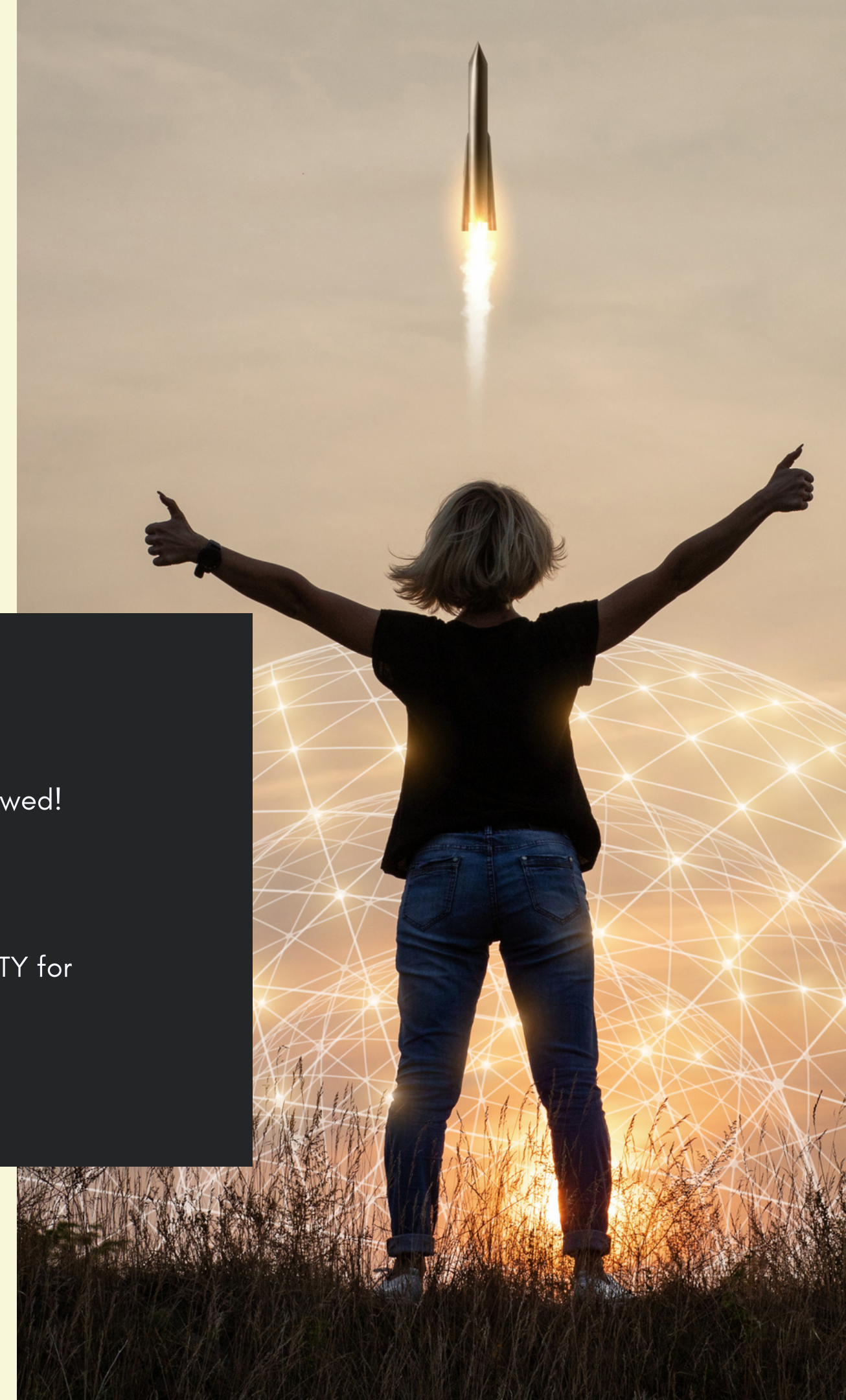
Don't let an individual question derail you, you can always come back to it.

Write Things Down

Annotation of passages, writing out math is allowed!

Blanks

Do not leave anything blank. There is NO PENALTY for guessing!



Read Questions Carefully

One of the ways that the test makers cause students to miss questions is to **word those questions in confusing ways**. Learning to read those questions **carefully and strategically** can really pay dividends.





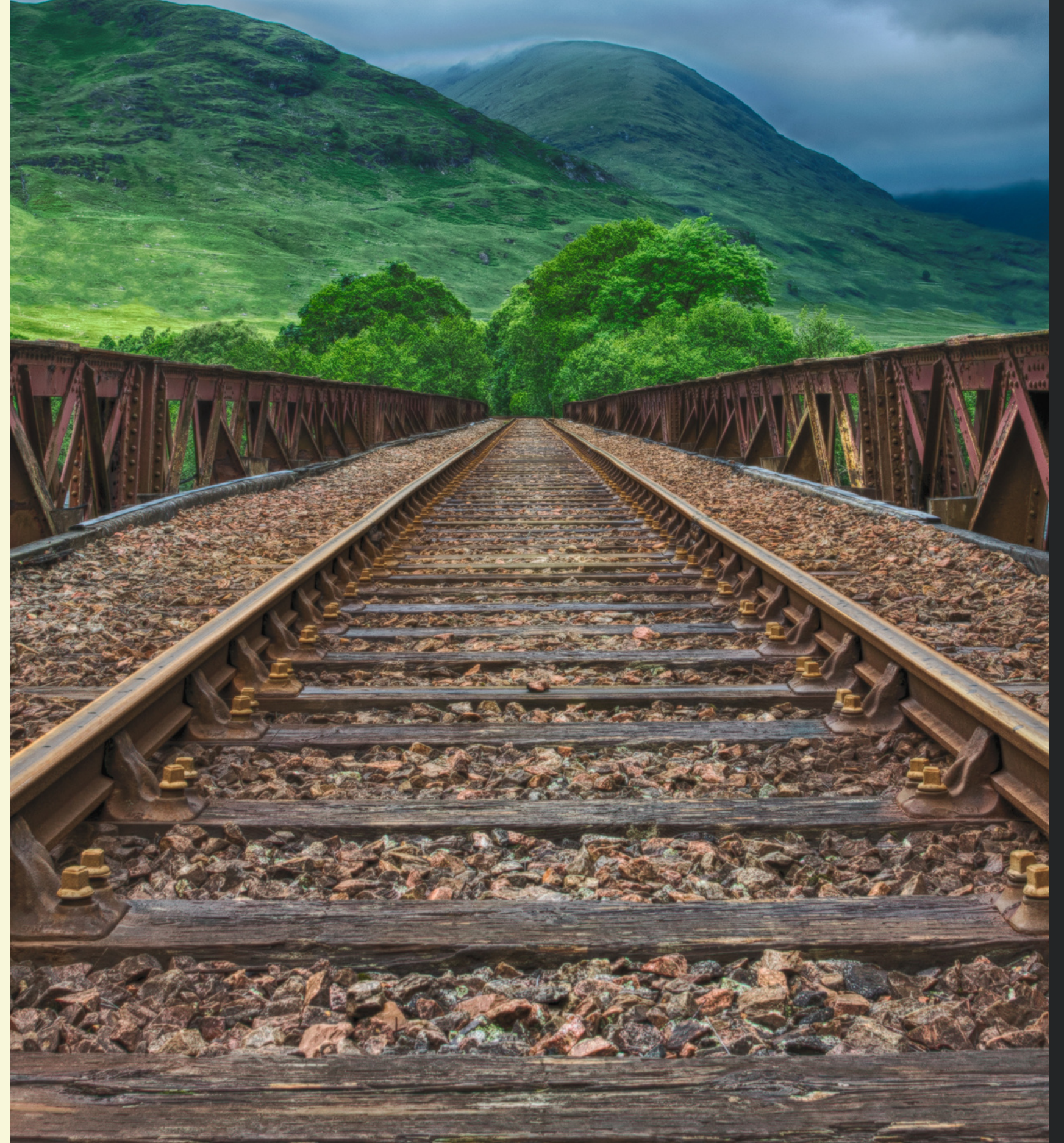
Write Things Down

Whether it's **annotating in the reading section** or drawing out a **geometric figure in math**, writing things down can make it much easier to do what you need to do.

Don't Get Derailed

Don't get **derailed by any single question** (or passage)!

One of the biggest mistakes students make on the test is to get hung up on a particularly difficult or confusing question or passage. **Don't be afraid to skip** questions, when needed. Make sure you're spending your **time on the questions you know how to tackle!**





Don't Leave Anything Blank

The SAT **does not penalize you for guessing**, so if you leave any answers blank, you're throwing away a chance of getting it right.

This is **especially important on the multiple-choice** questions, where you have a 1 out of 4 chance of getting the right answer, but it **also is important on the student-generated responses** in math. While the odds of guessing correctly on a fill-in-the-blank question are low, if you leave that answer blank, you have no chance at all!

The SAT Reading Section

How to Read



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Five passages: 1 Literature, 2 social sciences, 2 natural sciences



One of the SS passages will be the **Great Global Conversation**



One of the passages will be a **Paired Passage**

The SAT Reading Section: **How to Read**

Let's start with a short passage. Can you **summarize the main idea in six words or fewer?**

Food has always been considered one of the most salient markers of cultural traditions. When I was a small child, food was the only thing that helped identify my family as Filipino American. We ate pansit lug-lug (a noodle dish) and my father put patis (salty fish sauce) on everything. However, even this connection lessened as I grew older. As my parents became more acculturated, we ate less typically Filipino food. When I was twelve, my mother took cooking classes and learned to make French and Italian dishes. When I was in high school, we ate chicken marsala and shrimp fra diablo more often than Filipino dishes like pansit lug-lug.