

SAT Exam Sample Paper

SAT Evidence-Based Reading and Writing (EBRW)

Reading Section:

Passage:

The following passage is adapted from a speech by environmentalist Rachel Carson, discussing the impact of human activity on the natural world.

"The history of life on Earth has been a history of interaction between living things and their surroundings. To a large extent, the physical form and the habits of the Earth's vegetation and its animal life have been molded by the environment. Considering the whole span of earthly time, the opposite effect, in which life actually modifies its surroundings, has been relatively slight. Only in the present century has one species—man—acquired significant power to alter the nature of his world."

1. What is the main idea of the passage?

- a) The environment has always shaped life on Earth.
- b) Humans have recently gained the ability to significantly change the environment.
- c) Animals and plants have no impact on their surroundings.
- d) The Earth's vegetation has remained unchanged over time.

2. The author uses the phrase "the whole span of earthly time" (line 4) to emphasize:

- a) The rapid pace of environmental change.
- b) The long history of life on Earth.
- c) The insignificance of human impact.
- d) The importance of animal life.

Writing and Language Section:

Passage:

The following passage contains underlined portions. Choose the best alternative for each underlined section.

(1) The invention of the printing press in the 15th century revolutionized the way information was shared. (2) Before this, books were copied by hand, which was a time-consuming and expensive process. (3) The printing press allowed for the mass production of books, making them more accessible to the

general public. (4) As a result, literacy rates increased significantly during this period.

3. Which choice best improves sentence 2?

- a) Before this, books were copied by hand, a process that was time-consuming and expensive.
- b) Before this, books were copied by hand, which was time-consuming and expensive.
- c) Before this, books were copied by hand, and it was time-consuming and expensive.
- d) Before this, books were copied by hand, being time-consuming and expensive.

4. Which choice best combines sentences 3 and 4?

- a) The printing press allowed for the mass production of books, making them more accessible to the general public, and as a result, literacy rates increased significantly during this period.
- b) The printing press allowed for the mass production of books, making them more accessible to the general public, so literacy rates increased significantly during this period.
- c) The printing press allowed for the mass production of books, making them more accessible to the general public, which resulted in significantly increased literacy rates during this period.
- d) The printing press allowed for the mass production of books, making them more accessible to the general public, with literacy rates increasing significantly during this period.

SAT Math Section

No-Calculator Section:

5. If $3x + 4 = 19$, what is the value of x ?

- a) 3
- b) 5
- c) 7
- d) 9

6. A line passes through the points $(2, 5)$ and $(4, 9)$. What is the slope of the line?

- a) 1
- b) 2
- c) 3
- d) 4

7. If $f(x) = 2x^2 - 3x + 1$, what is $f(-2)$?

- a) 15
- b) 11
- c) 7
- d) 3

Calculator Section:

8. A store sells a shirt for \$40, which is a 20% discount from the original price. What was the original price of the shirt?

- a) \$48
- b) \$50
- c) \$52
- d) \$55

9. The table below shows the number of students in a school who participate in various clubs. What percentage of students participate in the Math Club?

Club	Number of Students
Math	50
Science	30
Art	20
Total	100

- a) 20%
- b) 30%
- c) 40%
- d) 50%

10. A circle has a radius of 5 cm. What is the area of the circle? (Use $\pi = 3.14$)

- a) 15.7 cm^2
- b) 31.4 cm^2

c) 78.5 cm^2

d) 157 cm^2

Answer Key:

1. b) Humans have recently gained the ability to significantly change the environment.
2. b) The long history of life on Earth.
3. a) Before this, books were copied by hand, a process that was time-consuming and expensive.
4. c) The printing press allowed for the mass production of books, making them more accessible to the general public, which resulted in significantly increased literacy rates during this period.
5. b) 5
6. b) 2
7. a) 15
8. b) \$50
9. d) 50%
10. c) 78.5 cm^2