

Text Structure and Purpose - SAT Style

Types of question:

1. Main Purpose
2. Overall Structure
3. Function of a Sentence
4. Main Idea

Q1 A school wanted students to read more books. The teachers created a reading challenge and awarded small prizes for completing books. After three months library visits had increased. School staff said the challenge helped encourage reading.

Which choice best states the main purpose of the text?

- a) To compare libraries in different schools
- b) To explain how a reading challenge increased student reading
- c) To describe the history of reading competitions
- d) To argue that prizes should not be used in schools

Q2 Several years ago, a city park was an empty field with few visitors. City officials decided to improve the area by planting trees, building walking paths, and adding places to sit. Today, the park is used by many residents for exercise, relaxation, and community events.

Which choice best describes the overall structure of the text?

- a) It explains how trees grow in city parks.
- b) It argues that parks should charge visitors an entrance fee.
- c) It describes a situation and then explains how it changed over time.
- d) It compares two different parks in the same city.

Q3 Many schools now offer coding classes. These classes teach students how computer programs work. As a result, students can gain useful technology skills for future jobs. Schools hope these courses will prepare students for the changing workplace.

Which choice best describes the function of the underlined sentence in the text as a whole?

- a) It introduces a different topic.
- b) It criticizes coding classes.
- c) It describes the history of computers.
- d) It explains a benefit of coding classes.

Q4 Researchers studied whether short exercise breaks helped students focus during lessons. Students who took brief activity breaks paid attention longer than students who remained seated for the entire class. The researchers concluded that movement may improve concentration.

Which choice best states the main idea of the text?

- a) Students dislike sitting in classrooms.
- b) Schools should replace lessons with exercise.
- c) Researchers should study more sports.
- d) Exercise breaks may help students concentrate better