



THE SAT EXAM READING & WRITING

An Overview

What is the SAT Exam Format?

The digital SAT takes
2 hours and 14 minutes

and consists of

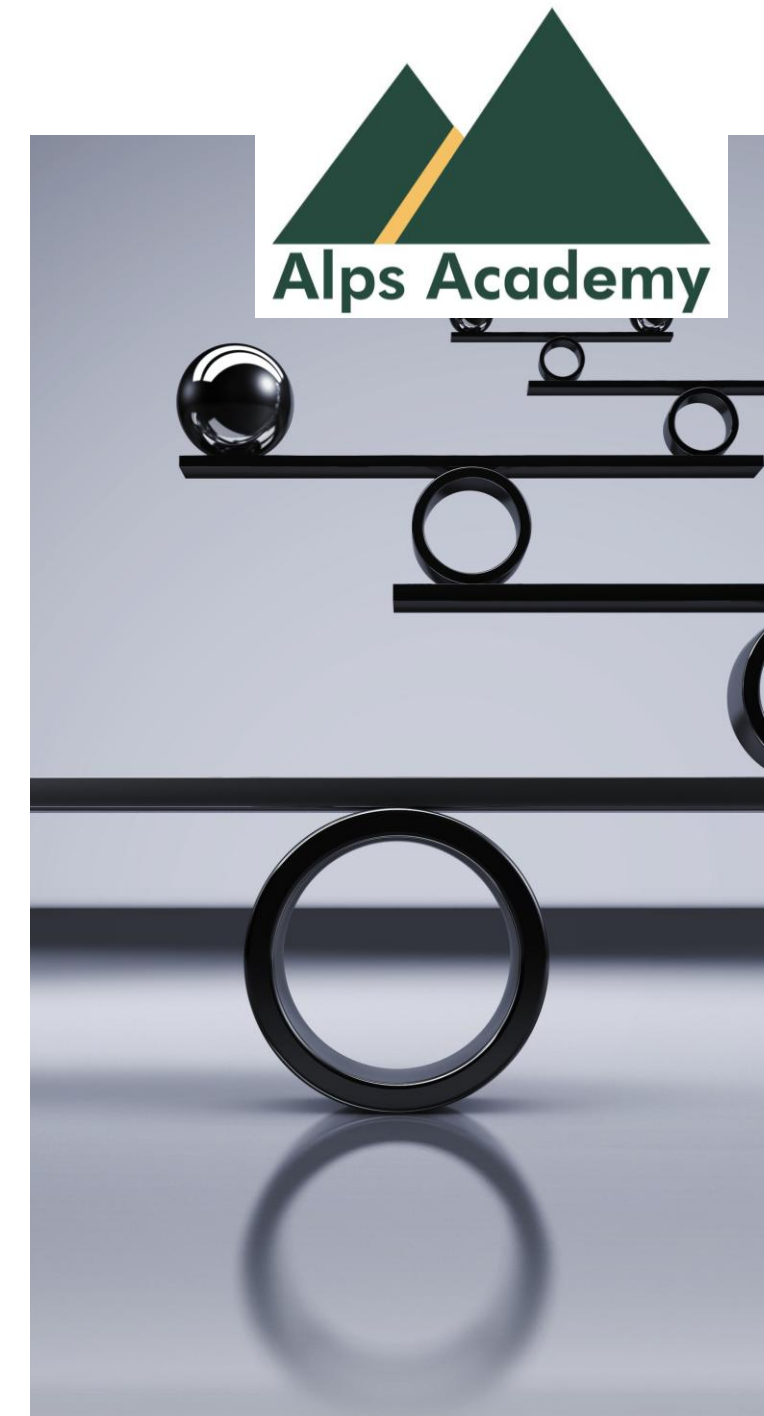
98 questions

divided into:

- ❑ **Mathematics and Reading & Writing**
- ❑ with a 10-minute break in between.
- ❑ Both have 2 modules

How is it marked?

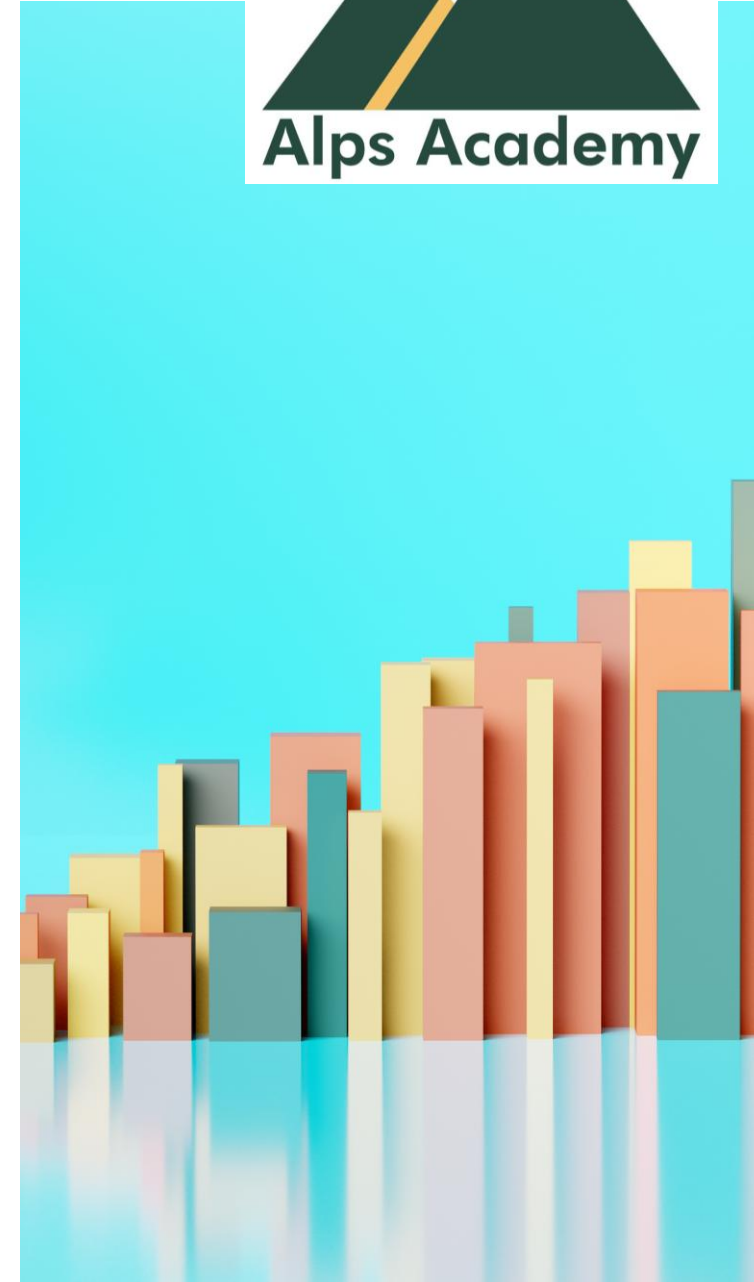
- ❑ The overall SAT score ranges from
 - ❑ 400 to 1600
- ❑ SAT Reading & Writing scores range from
 - ❑ 200 to 800



What is the SAT Reading & Writing Format?



- ❑ SAT Reading & Writing has 2 modules
 - ❑ module 1 and module 2
- ❑ Module 1: 27 questions 32 minutes
- ❑ Module 2: 27 questions 32 minutes
- ❑ All questions are multiple choice
 - ❑ (*a, b, c, or d*)

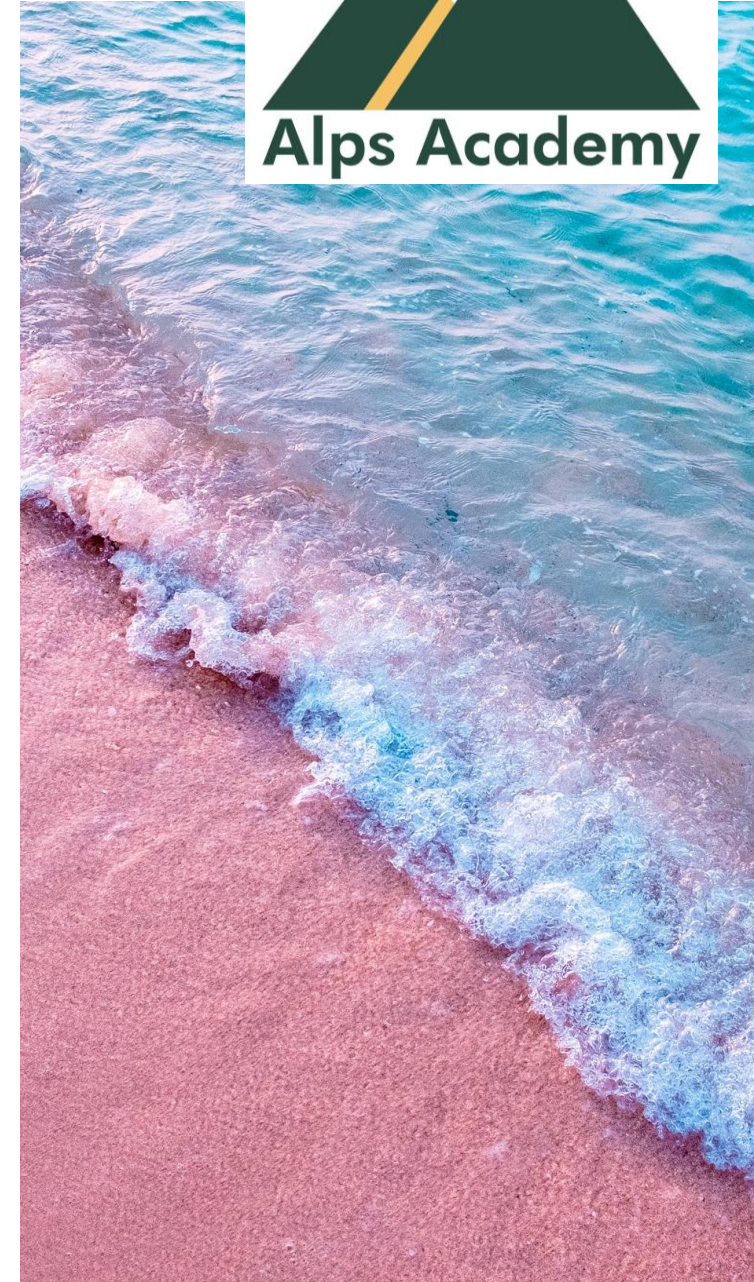


27-question modules

- ❑ There are 2 experimental questions
 - ❑ they are **NOT** scored
- ❑ In both 27-question modules

you have no idea which questions these are!

- ❑ So, you score from 25 questions
- ❑ in both modules
- ❑ These are also '**adaptive**' modules



What are ‘*adaptive*’ modules?

Module 2 difficulty is based on your module 1 score

- ❑ If you **do well** (e.g. about 65% or more):
 - ❑ you will take a hard module 2,
 - ❑ but you will get a **higher** overall score
- ❑ If you **not do well** (e.g. less than 65%)
 - ❑ you will take an easier module 2,
 - ❑ but you will get a **lower** overall score



In SAT, what is IRT?

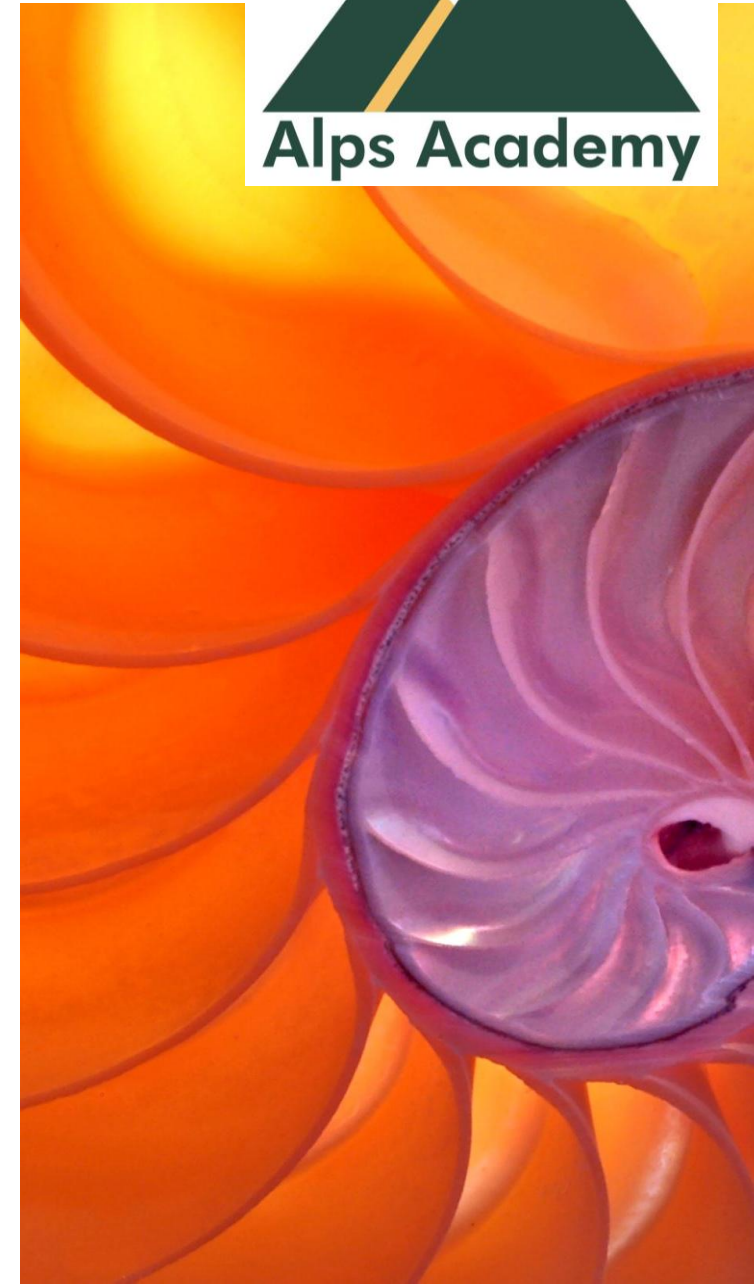
(Item Response Theory)



It is the framework that decides the points for each question and modules

getting easy questions wrong is worse than getting hard questions wrong

- ❑ Focus on the **easy questions**
- ❑ **Don't waste time** on hard questions
- ❑ But, answer **every** question
 - ❑ **Remove** wrong options
 - ❑ **Guess** if no idea

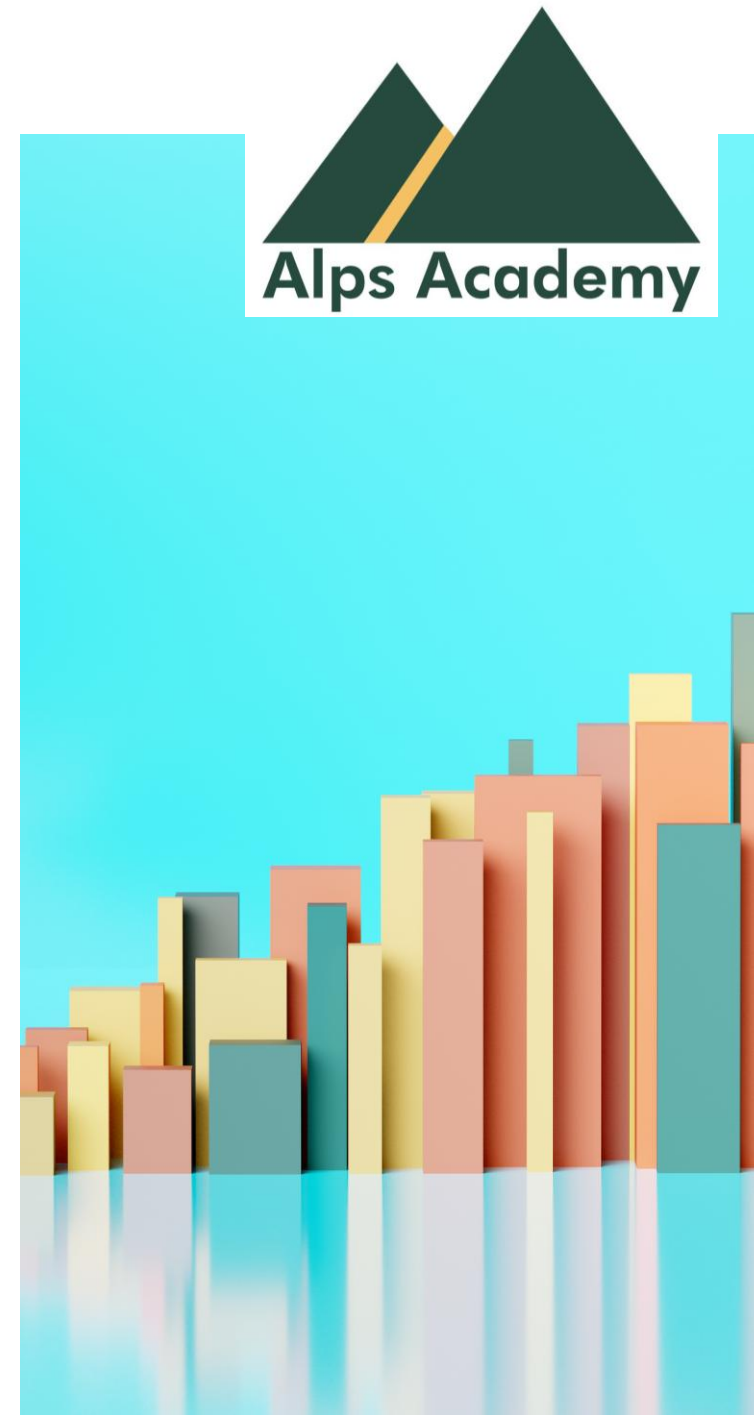


Is SAT OK for international students?



The SAT is designed for US students

- ❑ It assumes you:
 - ❑ have learnt in the US,
 - ❑ understand US history & culture,
 - ❑ have prepared for SAT for years



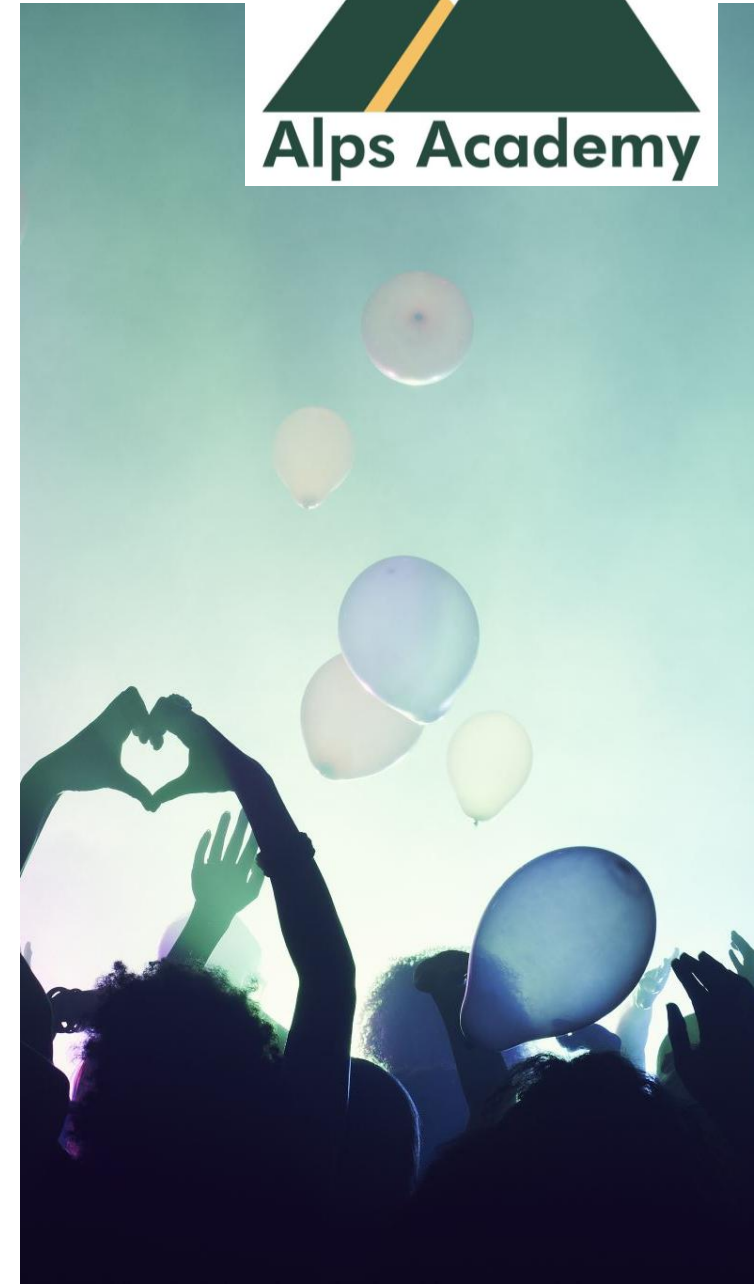


THE SAT READING & WRITING EXAM

A Strategy for ESL Students

Preparation

- ❑ you will need to answer the ‘easier’ questions,
- ❑ therefore, it is important that you
- ❑ **know ‘how’ to answer** these questions.



Goal

Qualify for the 'hard' module 2

- ❑ About 65%
- ❑ About 18 correct from 27 questions



Understand the questions

- ❑ Understand the types of questions
- ❑ Practice each of the types of questions, so, you can answer the 'easier' level.
- ❑ Practice question types start on
 - ❑ foundation level on Khan Academy
 - ❑ grammar & transitions
- ❑ Practice the bluebook mock exams

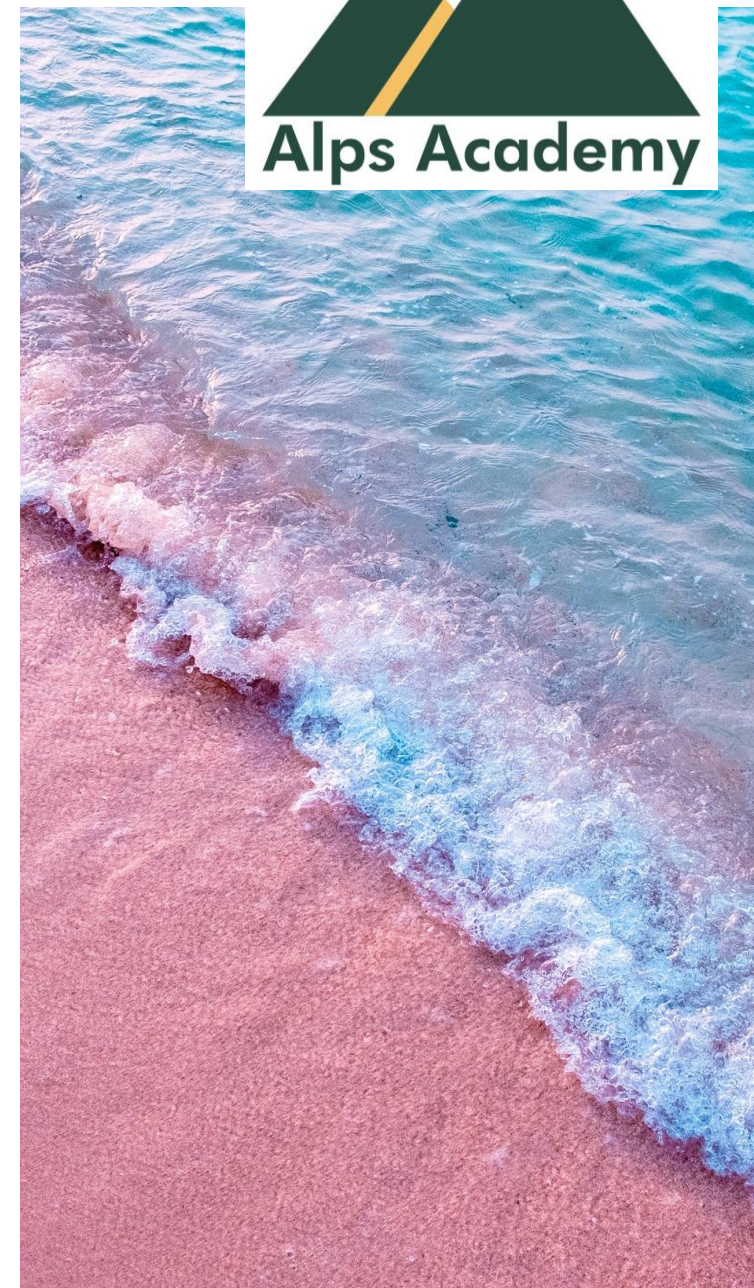


What are the easier questions?

- ❑ The shorter questions
 - ❑ At the end of the module
1. **Grammar**
 2. **Transitions** - based on one transition word
 3. ***Rhetorical Synthesis*** - often can answer reading just the options
 4. ***Evidence (graph or table)*** - more visual

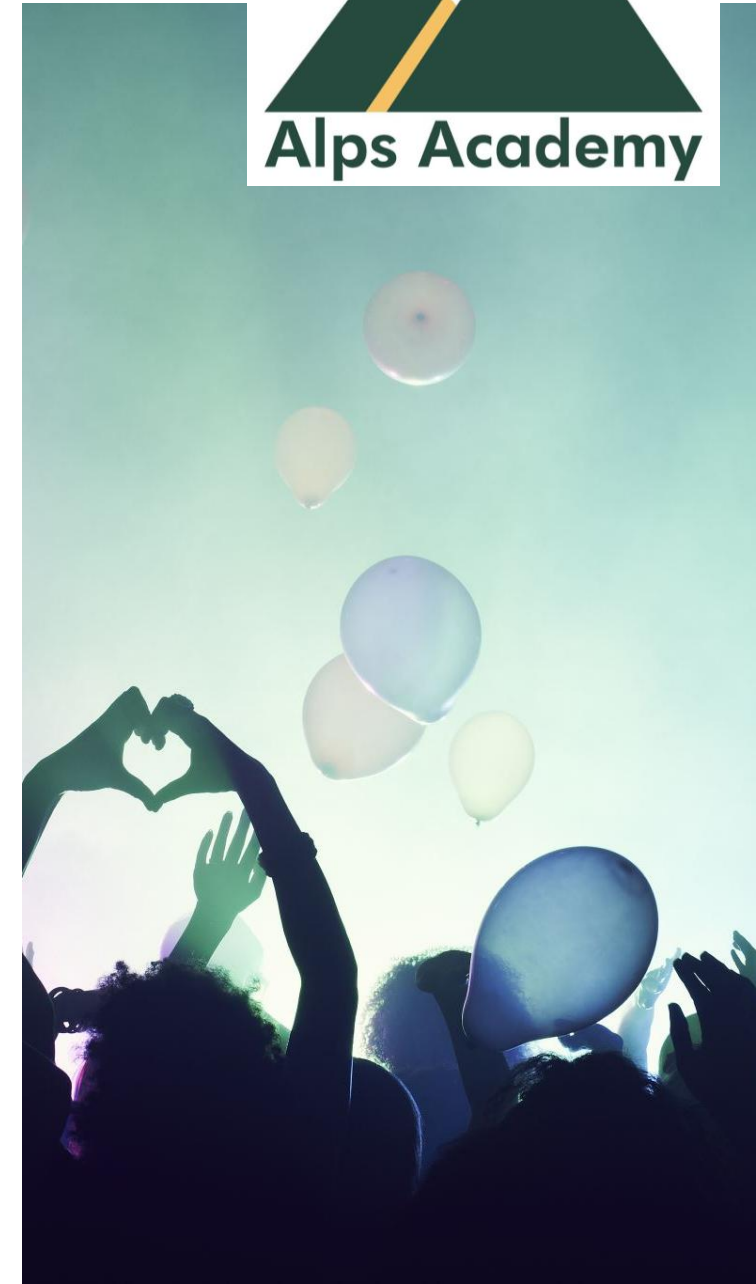


Appearance	Question Type	Content Focus	Difficulty Level	ESL Strategy
Questions 1–5	Words in Context	High-level vocabulary filler words.	● Hard	Skip / Guess if stuck. Do not waste time here.
Questions 6–14	Reading & Analysis	Main ideas, detail matching, and text evidence.	● Medium	Focus on short paragraphs first.
Questions 15–20	Standard English Conventions	Punctuation, verbs, and sentence structure.	● Easy	Target these first. Strict, logic-based grammar rules.
Questions 21–24	Transitions	Linking words (<i>However, Therefore, Moreover</i>).	● Easy	Learn the structural categories to get free points.
Questions 25–27	Rhetorical Synthesis	Bullet-point student notes summarized	● Easy	Very long to read, but highly predictable



AI - Example Scores

Total % Correct	Est. Scored Questions Right (Out of 50)*	Module 2 Track	Estimated SAT English Score
40%	20 / 50	Easier Track	380 – 420
50%	25 / 50	Easier Track	450 – 480
55%	27 – 28 / 50	Borderline Track	490 – 520
60%	30 / 50	Harder Track	530 – 560
65%	32 – 33 / 50	Harder Track	570 – 600
70%	35 / 50	Harder Track	610 – 640



STRATEGY EXAMPLE

An explanation of
the strategy with
an example

