



How to Use
PSAT/NMSQT[®]
Results to Improve
Your School's
Performance
Through Pre-AP[®]
and SAT Professional
Development[™]
(Writing Skills)

**Coordinating the PSAT/NMSQT
Summary of Answers and Skills
(SOAS) Report and Your Teachers'
Professional Development Needs.**

© 2006 The College Board. All rights reserved. College Board, AP Vertical Teams, Pre-AP, and the acorn logo are registered trademarks of the College Board. connect to college success, SAT Professional Development, and SAT Readiness Program are trademarks owned by the College Board. PSAT/NMSQT is a registered trademark of the College Board and National Merit Scholarship Corporation. Visit the College Board on the Web: www.collegeboard.com.

www.collegeboard.com

How to use this document

This document is designed to make explicit the relationship of skills measured by the PSAT/NMSQT® and particular teaching strategies found in various Pre-AP® Professional Development workshops. Pre-AP is PSAT/NMSQT professional development.

Begin by obtaining your PSAT/NMSQT Summary of Answers and Skills (SOAS) report at collegeboard.com/reports (pictured below). The SOAS allows you to analyze aggregate test question information and makes it easy to take a closer look at the level of your students' academic skills when they took the PSAT/NMSQT. The report compares the performance of your students to a comparable group of students in your state and the nation. One special feature of the SOAS is the aggregate skills data based on your students' performance on the PSAT/NMSQT. Provided for each test section, the Analysis of Performance on Skills shows your students' academic strengths and areas in need of improvement. Any skills in which your students performed below (to the left of) the Nation or State should probably be reviewed. For individual skills (represented by a letter and a number, M04, CR04, or W4, for example) that need to be strengthened, **use the grid at the end of this document to determine which Pre-AP and/or SAT Readiness Program™ workshops address the skill areas.** The grid should also prove helpful in determining skill

combinations that need to be strengthened, and workshops that address these combinations. Use the suggestions to determine workshop solutions for your school or district's teacher professional development needs. For help with these determinations, or to bring this professional development to your site, consult your College Board regional office.

Pre-AP Professional Development (Pre-AP) is a suite of K–12 professional development resources and services. The purpose of Pre-AP is to equip all middle and high school teachers with the strategies and tools they need to engage their students in active, high-level learning, thereby ensuring that every middle and high school student develops the skills, habits of mind, and concepts needed to succeed in college.

For more information on **PSAT/NMSQT Skills**, please visit collegeboard.com/psat.

For more information on **Pre-AP Professional Development**, or to search for a workshop or conference near you, visit apcentral.collegeboard.com.

For recommended workshop sequences for your school, please contact your regional office.

SAMPLE SCHOOL (00000)
SATURDAY FORM: CLASS OF 2006

PSAT/NMSQT SUMMARY OF ANSWERS AND SKILLS 2004

**PSAT/
NMSQT®**

SUMMARY OF ANSWERS AND SKILLS PSAT/NMSQT SOAS REPORT 2004

SAMPLE SCHOOL (00000) CLASS OF 2006

This online SOAS Report details the performance of 242 students from the 11th grade. This report provides a closer look at the level of your students' skills when they took the PSAT/NMSQT this past October. The comparative information can give you valuable insights into your students' performance and assist in identifying curriculum needs to address academic weaknesses that may have been identified through this assessment.

This report keeps the focus on student skills as it analyzes answers across each grade of students, providing insights into how well students are understanding and applying the skills taught in your curriculum. When shared with teachers, especially as a companion to the Student Data on Disk (comprehensive data, including the responses of each student to every question, that can be shared with teachers at a classroom level), this report can inform the instructional needs within the classroom.

What Is Included?

This report is divided into three sections representing the academic areas tested: Critical Reading (pages 2–6), Math Reasoning (pages 7–11), and Writing Skills (pages 12–16). Within each area, the information is shared from three different perspectives: an analysis of correct answers; an analysis of incorrect answers; and a comparative analysis of skills.

These analyses will include comparisons with the nation's performance, the state's performance and a comparable group's performance. (Comparable group is a statistically created group—virtual group—that illustrates your group's expected performance on each question. As a result, it makes it easy for you to identify areas where your students performed above, or below, what would have been expected of a group with your school's performance profile.)

PSAT/NMSQT® Writing Skills Questions:

Writing skills questions present sentences and paragraphs that contain the kinds of errors that students must look for and learn to correct in their own writing.

Improving Sentences

These questions require students to select the most effective form of a sentence.

Identifying Sentence Errors

These questions ask students to find errors in grammar, sentence construction, or sentence punctuation, as well as inappropriate usage.

Improving Paragraphs

These questions relate to a flawed draft of an essay. Most questions require students to consider revisions in the context of the essay and to think about the interrelationships of sentences and paragraphs.

Pre-AP®/SAT Readiness Program™ Workshops

1. Pre-AP: Topics for AP Vertical Teams® in English

This workshop addresses the following PSAT/NMSQT writing skills:

- Understanding
 - Structure of sentences with unfamiliar vocabulary (W6)
 - Complicated sentence structures (W7)
 - Structure of long sentences (W8)
 - Structure of sentences with abstract ideas (W9)
 - Structure of sentences that relate to the arts (W11)
- Recognizing
 - Logical connections within sentences (W3)

2. Pre-AP: Topics for AP Vertical Teams in English—Grammar

This workshop addresses the following PSAT/NMSQT writing skills:

- Understanding
 - Structure of sentences with unfamiliar vocabulary (W6)
 - Complicated sentence structures (W7)
 - Structure of long sentences (W8)
 - Structure of sentences with abstract ideas (W9)
 - Structure of sentences that relate to science or math (W10)
 - Structure of sentences that relate to the arts (W11)
- Recognizing
 - Logical connections within sentences (W3)
 - Improper pronoun use (W5)
- Being precise and clear (W1)
- Following conventions in writing (W2)
- Using verbs correctly (W4)

3. Pre-AP: Strategies in English—Beyond Acronyms: Inquiry-Based Close Reading

This workshop addresses the following PSAT/NMSQT writing skills:

- Understanding
 - Complicated sentence structures (W7)
 - Structure of long sentences (W8)
 - Structure of sentences with abstract ideas (W9)
 - Structure of sentences that relate to the arts (W11)
- Recognizing
 - Logical connections within sentences (W3)
- Being precise and clear (W1)

4. Pre-AP: Strategies in English—Reading to Write

This workshop addresses the following PSAT/NMSQT writing skills:

- Understanding
 - Complicated sentence structures (W7)
 - Structure of long sentences (W8)
 - Structure of sentences with abstract ideas (W9)
 - Structure of sentences that relate to the arts (W11)
- Recognizing
 - Logical connections within sentences (W3)
- Being precise and clear (W1)

5. Pre-AP: Strategies in English—Rhetoric

This workshop addresses the following PSAT/NMSQT writing skills:

- Understanding
 - Structure of sentences with unfamiliar vocabulary (W6)
 - Complicated sentence structures (W7)
 - Structure of long sentences (W8)
 - Structure of sentences with abstract ideas (W9)
 - Structure of sentences that relate to science or math (W10)
 - Structure of sentences that relate to the arts (W11)
- Recognizing
 - Logical connections within sentences (W3)
- Being precise and clear (W1)

6. Pre-AP: Strategies in English—Writing Tactics Using SOAPStone

This workshop addresses the following PSAT/NMSQT writing skills:

- Understanding
 - Complicated sentence structures (W7)
 - Structure of long sentences (W8)
 - Structure of sentences with abstract ideas (W9)
 - Structure of sentences that relate to the arts (W11)
- Recognizing
 - Logical connections within sentences (W3)
- Being precise and clear (W1)
- Following conventions in writing (W2)

7. Pre-AP: Interdisciplinary Strategies—Argumentation and the Writing Process

This workshop addresses the following PSAT/NMSQT writing skills:

- Understanding
 - Complicated sentence structures (W7)
 - Structure of long sentences (W8)
 - Structure of sentences with abstract ideas (W9)
 - Structure of sentences that relate to the arts (W11)
- Recognizing
 - Logical connections within sentences (W3)
- Being precise and clear (W1)

8. Pre-AP: Interdisciplinary Strategies for English and Social Studies

This workshop addresses the following PSAT/NMSQT writing skills:

- Understanding
 - Complicated sentence structures (W7)
 - Structure of long sentences (W8)
 - Structure of sentences with abstract ideas (W9)
 - Structure of sentences that relate to the arts (W11)
- Recognizing
 - Logical connections within sentences (W3)
 - Improper pronoun use (W5)
- Being precise and clear (W1)
- Following conventions in writing (W2)
- Using verbs correctly (W4)

9. SAT Readiness Program: Animating Student Writing Workshop

This workshop addresses the following PSAT/NMSQT writing skills:

- Understanding
 - Complicated sentence structures (W7)
 - Structure of long sentences (W8)
 - Structure of sentences with abstract ideas (W9)
 - Structure of sentences that relate to the arts (W11)
- Recognizing
 - Logical connections within sentences (W3)
 - Improper pronoun use (W5)
- Being precise and clear (W1)
- Following conventions in writing (W2)
- Using verbs correctly (W4)

10. SAT Readiness Program: Writing Preparation Workshop for ESL/ELL Students

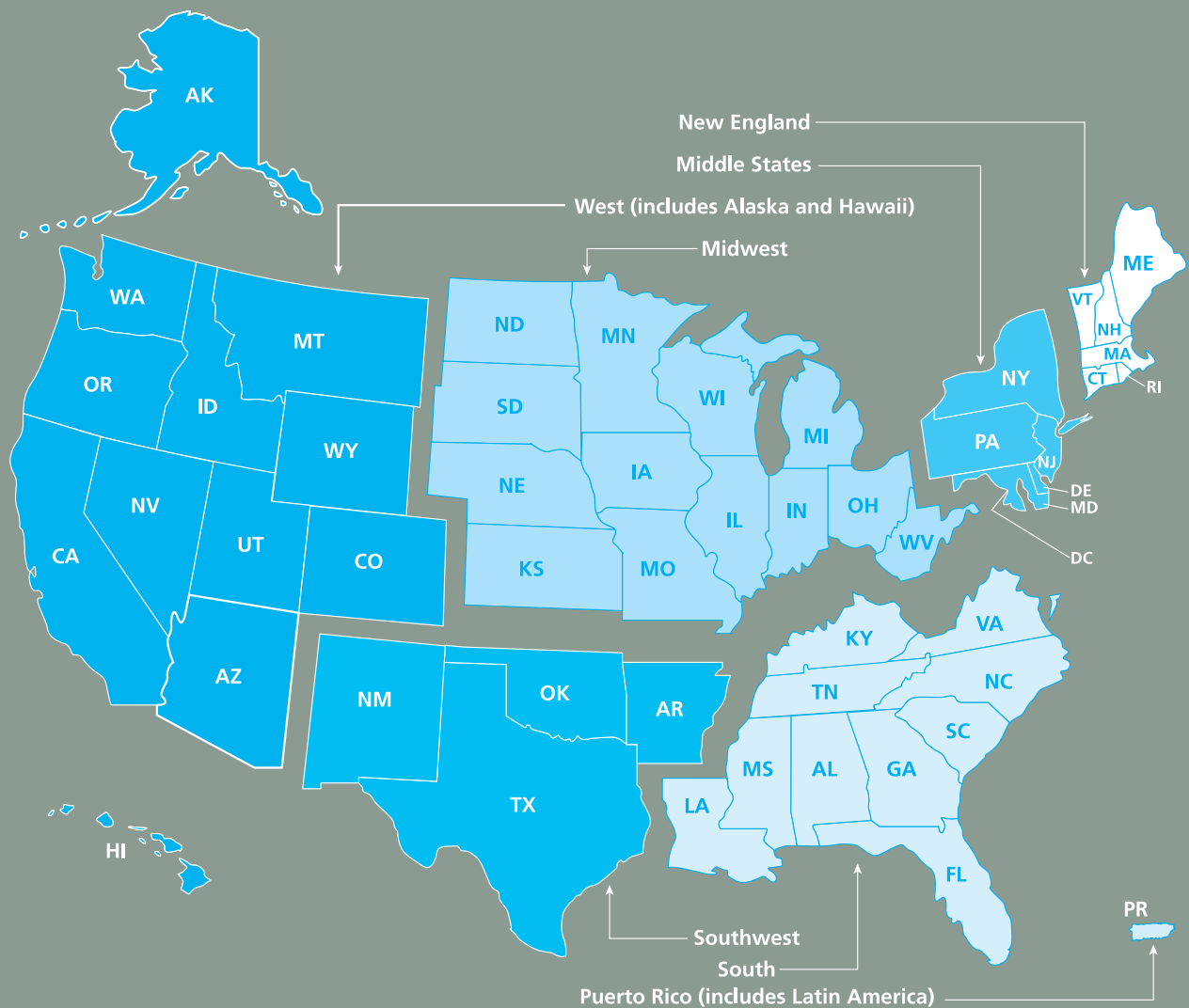
This workshop addresses the following PSAT/NMSQT writing skills:

- Understanding
 - Structure of sentences with unfamiliar vocabulary (W6)
 - Complicated sentence structures (W7)
 - Structure of long sentences (W8)
 - Structure of sentences with abstract ideas (W9)
 - Structure of sentences that relate to the arts (W11)
- Recognizing
 - Logical connections within sentences (W3)
 - Improper pronoun use (W5)
- Being precise and clear (W1)
- Following conventions in writing (W2)
- Using verbs correctly (W4)

K-12 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS											
PSAT/NMSOT STANDARD	Pre-AP: Topics for AP Vertical Teams in English	Pre-AP: Topics for AP Vertical Teams in English—Grammar	Pre-AP: Strategies in English—Beyond Acronyms: Inquiry-Based Close Reading	Pre-AP: Strategies in English—Reading to Write	Pre-AP: Strategies in English—Rhetoric	Pre-AP: Strategies in English—Writing Tactics Using SOAPStone	Pre-AP: Interdisciplinary Strategies—Argument and the Writing Process	Pre-AP: Interdisciplinary Strategies for English and Social Studies	SAT Readiness Program: Student Writing Workshop	SAT Readiness Program: Writing Preparation Workshop for ESL/ELL Students	PSAT/NMSOT: “How To Improve” Advice for Students; Workshop(s) on the left with checkmark provide additional strategies for teachers.
WRITING SKILLS											
W1 Being precise and clear	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Learn to recognize sentence elements that are ambiguous and confusing. In your writing, choose words carefully and connect them for clear meaning.
W2 Following conventions in writing	✓					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Review the chapters in a grammar book that cover grammatical conventions, such as word choice, use of noun and prepositional phrases, and sentence construction. Work with your teacher to become more familiar with the conventions of standard written English.
W3 Recognizing logical connections within sentences and passages	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Use the writing process to help you revise your draft essays. Work with classmates and teachers to clarify meaning in your writing.
W4 Using verbs correctly		✓						✓	✓	✓	Make sure that you can identify the subject and verb of a sentence. Make sure you understand subject and verb agreement.
W5 Recognizing improper pronoun use		✓						✓	✓	✓	Learn to understand the distinction between informal spoken pronoun usage and standard written pronoun usage. Review the way you use pronouns in your own writing. Ask your teacher to help you identify and correct pronoun errors in your own writing.
W6 Understanding the structure of sentences with unfamiliar vocabulary	✓	✓			✓					✓	Read material that contains unfamiliar vocabulary. Look for context clues to help you guess at the meaning of unfamiliar words as you read.
W7 Understanding complicated sentence structures	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Refer to a grammar book to identify various sentence patterns and their effective use. Vary the sentence patterns in your own writing.
W8 Understanding the structure of long sentences	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	As you read, break long sentences into smaller units of meaning.
W9 Understanding the structure of sentences with abstract ideas	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Read newspapers, magazines, and books that deal with subjects such as politics, economics, history, or philosophy.

K-12 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS

	Pre-AP: Topics for AP Vertical Teams in English	Pre-AP: Topics for AP Vertical Teams in English—Grammar	Pre-AP: Strategies in English—Beyond Inquiry-Based Close Reading	Pre-AP: Strategies in English—Reading to Write	Pre-AP: Strategies in English—Rhetoric	Pre-AP: Strategies in English—Writing Tactics Using SOAPStone	Pre-AP: Inter-disciplinary Strategies—Argumentation and the Writing Process	Pre-AP: Inter-disciplinary Strategies for English and Social Studies	SAT Readiness Program: Animating Student Writing Workshop	SAT Readiness Program: Writing Preparation Workshop for ESL/ELL Students	PSAT/NMSQT: “How To Improve” Advice for Students; Workshop(s) on the left with checkmark provide additional strategies for teachers.
PSAT/NMSQT STANDARD											
WRITING SKILLS											
W10 Understanding the structure of sentences that relate to science or math	✓				✓						Focus on how something is said as well as on what is said. Write about the things you are learning in math and science classes. Read articles in the science section of newspapers and magazines so that you will feel more comfortable with scientific or math content.
W11 Understanding the structure of sentences that relate to the arts	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Focus on how something is said as well as on what is said. Read articles in newspapers and magazines about the arts so that you will feel more comfortable with these subjects.



National Office

45 Columbus Avenue
 New York, NY 10023-6992
 212 713-8000
 212 713-8255 (Fax)
 ap@collegeboard.org

Middle States Regional Office

Two Bala Plaza, Suite 900
 Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004-1501
 866 392-3019
 610 227-2580 (Fax)
 msro@collegeboard.org

Midwestern Regional Office

6111 N. River Road, Suite 550
 Rosemont, IL 60018-5158
 866 392-4086
 847 653-4528 (Fax)
 mro@collegeboard.org

New England Regional Office

470 Totten Pond Road
 Waltham, MA 02451-1982
 866 392-4089
 781 663-2743 (Fax)
 nero@collegeboard.org

Southern Regional Office

3700 Crestwood Parkway NW, Suite 700
 Duluth, GA 30096-7155
 866 392-4088
 770 225-4062 (Fax)
 sro@collegeboard.org

Southwestern Regional Office

4330 South MoPac Expressway, Suite 200
 Austin, TX 78735-6735
 866 392-3017
 512 721-1841 (Fax)
 swro@collegeboard.org

Western Regional Office

2099 Gateway Place, Suite 550
 San Jose, CA 95110-1051
 866 392-4078
 408 367-1459 (Fax)
 wro@collegeboard.org

Puerto Rico and Latin America Office

208 Ponce de León Avenue, Suite 1501
 San Juan, PR 00918-1017
 Mailing address:
 P.O. Box 71101
 San Juan, PR 00936-8001
 787 772-1200
 787 759-8629 (Fax—Reception area)
 787 764-4306 (Fax—Director's office)

Washington Office

1233 20th Street NW, Suite 600
 Washington, DC 20036-2375
 202 741-4700
 202 741-4743 (Fax)

International Services

45 Columbus Avenue
 New York, NY 10023-6992
 United States
 001 212 713-8000
 001 212 262-0946 (Fax)
 international@collegeboard.org

College and University Enrollment Services

11911 Freedom Drive, Suite 300
 Reston, VA 20190-5602
 571 262-5600
 703 707-5599 (Fax)

Florida Office

1545 Raymond Diehl Road, Suite 250
 Tallahassee, FL 32308-1500
 850 521-4900
 850 521-4921 (Fax)

New York State Office

122 South Swan Street
 Albany, NY 12210-1715
 518 472-1515
 518 472-1516 (Fax)

Sacramento Office

915 L Street, Suite 1200
 Sacramento, CA 95814-3705
 916 444-6262
 916 444-2868 (Fax)