

July 25, 2011

Dear Student/Parent;

This is an introduction to my second book called **“Proven PSAT and SAT Breakthrough Tips: How to Think like the Test Makers.”** My goal is for a release date of mid-summer for the ebook with a soft-cover release soon to follow. This resource book is designed to give you my latest proven tips and strategies to help you improve your performance on the PSAT and SAT I in all three areas: critical reading, math, and writing. Essay only on the SAT 1.

For the past 11 years my in-office course in Central Phoenix, AZ has helped thousands of high school students improve their PSAT and SAT scores significantly. This brief resource book can be used as a summary of valuable tips to aid you in getting to know how to “think like the test makers” and “beat them at their own game” and thus maximize your test performance.

Although this book can well serve many students’ needs in and of itself, it is recommended that it be used in conjunction with my PSAT or SAT prep course or the student’s favorite test-prep book. It is not designed to be a “quick fix.” Many of the tips and tricks presented in this book are discussed and emphasized constantly throughout my course. This book should be viewed as a tool of review for important test-taking information. Some do’s and do-not’s. Some timing and guessing strategies, scoring information, review of math formulas, essay-writing tips, grammar tips, and sentence-completion and critical-reading strategies. It should also be studied and reviewed regularly over a period of time, not merely during the week before the test.

As a former math teacher and counselor for many years, and as a current standardized-test-prep tutor and college consultant for the past 11 years of my 36 years as an educator, I recognize from perusing hundreds of SAT and PSAT practice tests and real tests, how the test makers from ETS (Educational Testing Services) and CEEB (The College Entrance Examination Board) think and how they formulate their test questions. I have seen how the questions often confuse students and trap them into putting the wrong answer choices. I have witnessed test anxiety, fearfulness, and lack of confidence in students who need to learn how to overcome such self-defeating symptoms through practice, practice, and more practice, and who also need to learn how to “think like the test makers.”

In addition to my general test-taking strategies, there are some 50 math strategies and tips discussed that I use in my course that you will hardly find elsewhere in test prep books, along with many other valuable tips for the critical reading and analytical writing sections of the PSAT and SAT I.

I believe this book can be especially helpful to people who many not be able to take my course because of time constraints or financial constraints or because of lack of openings in my office or because they live in another geographic location. As with anything, you get out of something that which you put into it. My father always said during my high school football and track days, “you play like you practice.” He meant that if you perform half-heartedly, you will not perform at your best during the big game or track meet. So it is with the PSAT and the SAT. It is important for you to make a commitment and put in the

time to maximize your standardized test-score potential, whether it be the PSAT, SAT, or ACT, which by the way will be discussed in a later ebook.

Visualize success. Visualize yourself doing better than you did in the previous SAT or PSAT that you took, and then work hard to “make it happen” by using this book and/or my course.

This resource book contains not only successful tips that I have discovered myself while tutoring over 2000 students in recent years, but also numerous examples to illustrate those tips. These tips and examples are detailed and proven to boost test-performance success. Students have raised their scores on average 150 points and up to 400 points on the SAT I or from a PSAT-projected SAT score to a real SAT score several points through my in-office prep program. My web site testimonials substantiate and verify the testing success of my students. Please feel free to go to [www.educationalguidanceservices.com](http://www.educationalguidanceservices.com) and click on the testimonials link to read comments from students and parents.

These tips are in a listed format with examples illustrating each. A simple tip like “knowing how to analyze correctly” instead of under analyzing or over analyzing questions may not be clear to you, the reader, at this point, but in the context of my course and this book, can make a huge difference in how students approach test questions and thus how they perform on test day.

On another note, a common tendency students have is to be a “slave to their calculator” without knowing that every math question on the SAT can be done without using a calculator. Students have told me that they “hear” me when taking the real PSAT or SAT I. That is probably because they have learned how to approach and analyze questions. They have learned when to guess and not guess and how their test scores can be affected. They have learned to practice using math formulas. They have learned the 500 most common vocabulary words that surface on SATs and PSATs. They have practiced reading strategies and have discovered the one or ones best for them. They have practiced writing essays. They have learned shortcuts and strategies for all sections of the test, week in and week out. Probably most importantly though, students have learned to have the confidence and calmness needed to master the PSAT and SAT.

So remember, what you commit to now will pay off down the road. Put in the time to reach your goal. My father always said when I was young: “Set your goal high, because you will always come closer to reaching that goal if you set one, than if you don’t.” How true ...

So please stay tuned for more information about the release of this insightful test prep resource that contains a clear, concise, and useful summary of tips to help you “think like the test makers”.

Sincerely,

Ken Krueger, M.Ed.