

**Official SAT Practice**

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# Lesson Plans

for Teachers by Teachers

**LESSON 14**

## Reading—Putting It All Together

**Subscore:** **Command of Evidence, Words in Context**

**Focus:** Completing two Reading sets (one single passage set and one paired passage set)

### Teacher Notes

Throughout these lessons to prepare students for the Reading Test, students have been practicing the individual skills somewhat separately and in isolation. On the actual SAT<sup>®</sup>, however, students will have to apply many of these skills to answer questions for a single passage. This lesson will give students an opportunity to work through one Reading passage and one paired Reading passage, answer sample SAT questions, and reflect on their strengths and weaknesses.

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### Objective:

Students will practice and reflect on all aspects of the Reading Test.

### Before the Lesson:

- Preview the overview of the Reading Test video if you haven't already.
- Preview and print (if necessary) the student materials.

## Opening Activity | 5 minutes

Remind students about the key skills the SAT Reading Test asks students to demonstrate. Direct students to look at the overviews in the student materials for this lesson. You may want to view this 2-minute overview of the Reading Test from Khan Academy® (it was also suggested in Lesson 1).

<https://www.khanacademy.org/test-prep/sat/new-sat-tips-planning/about-the-sat-reading-test/v/about-sat-reading-test-what-to-expect>

## Individual Practice | 30 minutes

1. For the real SAT, students will have 65 minutes on the Reading Test to answer 52 questions. In the practice opportunity for this lesson, students will have 30 minutes to answer 20 questions, which is just about the recommended average of time to spend on each question. Be sure to note that one of the sections students will practice will include a paired passage.
2. Direct students to read the passages as they have practiced, annotating for main ideas and supporting evidence and answering as many of the questions (19–38) that follow in the time allowed.

## Group/Pair Activity | 15 minutes

1. After time has been called, ask students to work with a partner to examine the correct answers and the rationales for each of the 20 questions.
2. Individually, they should identify what types of questions are easier or more challenging for them and plan additional practice accordingly.

## Homework | 20 minutes

- Students should continue their Reading practice on Official SAT Practice on Khan Academy, making note of their strengths and areas to improve. Ask students to record how their levels have changed for each Reading content area.

## Student Materials—Lesson 14

### Introductory Activity

#### The Reading Test in Overview

Having a general sense of how the Reading Test is put together will help you to prepare for the test and pace yourself during the test itself.

- Total Questions: 52
- Total Time: 65 minutes (on average, a minute and 15 seconds per question, inclusive of passage reading time)
- Number of Passages: Four single passages plus one pair of passages
- Passage Length: 500 to 750 words; total of 3,250 words
- Passage Subjects: One U.S. and world literature passage, two history/ social studies passages (one in social science and one from a U.S. founding document or text in the Great Global Conversation), and two science passages
- Passage Complexities: A defined range from grades 9–10 to early postsecondary
- Questions per Passage: 10 or 11

### The Three Main Categories of Skills on the Reading Test Are:

- **Information and Ideas:** These questions focus on a close, careful reading of the passage and on what the author is saying. In these sorts of questions, you'll be asked to locate stated information, make reasonable inferences, and apply what you've read to another, similar situation. You'll also be asked to figure out the best evidence in the text for the answer to another question or the best support for a conclusion offered in the question itself.
- **Rhetoric:** These questions take a different approach, focusing your attention on how an author puts together a text and how the various pieces contribute to the whole text. You'll be asked to think about how an author's word choice shapes meaning, tone, and style.
- **Synthesis:** Unlike questions in the other two categories, Synthesis questions only accompany certain passages. They come in two basic forms: Some Synthesis questions ask you to draw connections between a pair of passages. Other Synthesis questions ask about an informational graphic and its connection to a print text.

### Individual Practice

Here is the link for the pages for texts and questions:

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=0BynYpdxIQ5fMNU5Ub2ICSFp1S1E>

Here is the link to the pages of explanations for the questions above:

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=0BynYpdxIQ5fMZmFVaXJYLTVQUzg>