

“Secrets are made to be found out with time.”
CHARLES SANFORD, AMERICAN BUSINESSMAN

INTRODUCTION

Pssst . . . over here. I’ve got a secret Actually, I’ve got ten secrets. And, lucky for you, I’m a blabbermouth. I’m revealing each and every essay-writing secret so that you can add 100 points to your SAT writing score.

This book gives you the secrets—the secret ingredients, the secret formula, the secret weapons—for writing a powerful, persuasive, on-the-spot essay. From approaching the essay to taking a position, to writing an introduction, body, and conclusion, this book reveals the “magic” behind top-scoring essays.

Don’t worry—there are no sleights of hand or fancy mirror tricks involved—just a few little-known tips that can transform an average essay into an awesome essay, regardless of how unsure you are of your writing ability.

I’ll serve as your behind-the-scenes coach. However, coaching is a two-person job: it requires a coach and a player. The coach may prepare the player, but it is the player’s job to practice. I’ll be here to guide, to assist, and to motivate, but you have to do the work. I’ll reveal to you the secrets of SAT essay writing, but you have to utilize these secrets. You have to execute the strategies and apply the skills you learn. With a little effort, you can make these secrets your own.

The secrets I reveal—and the key strategies I introduce—outline the steps you need to create a compelling, unconventional essay in, yes, only twenty-five minutes. You will arrive at the test confident, in control, and ready to answer any essay question thrown at you.



The SAT encourages formulaic writing. This book includes the secret formula needed to achieve a high-scoring SAT essay.

As you read through this book, look in the margins for extra help: key strategies, marked with a skeleton key, pull out important ideas to commit to memory; sticky notes draw your attention to essential SAT facts; and highlighted text blocks serve to underscore important points.

Although twenty-five minutes of writing followed by hours of multiple-choice questions may not make for the perfect Saturday morning, I'll prove to you that the essay is a fantastically easy way to rack up points on the SAT. So roll up your sleeves, crack your knuckles if you're looking for added effect, and put the pencil to the pad. It's time to *Write the SAT Essay Right*.

Note: All essays within this book are actual essays written by students and may contain grammatical errors. Spelling has been corrected for ease of reading.