

ARETE NEWSLETTER

FALL ISSUE: 1

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Dear Parents:

Arete had an unprecedented year for 2005. ALL of our undergraduate students were accepted by at least one of their "reach" schools. The final list of colleges is as follows:

Undergraduate and Graduate School Admissions for 2006: Our Undergraduate Candidates were admitted to:

Amherst
Boston College
Boston University
Brown
Carnegie Mellon
Colgate
Columbia
Cornell
Dartmouth
Emory
Georgetown
George Washington
Harvard
Kenyon
University of Michigan-Ann Arbor

Middlebury
New York University
Pomona
Princeton
Rhode Island School of Design
Syracuse
University of Pennsylvania
UCLA
USC
Vanderbilt
Vassar
Washington University (St. Louis)
Wharton
Williams
Wisconsin-Madison
Yale

Our Law School Candidates were admitted to:

Boston College
Boston University
Cardoza
Columbia
Emory
Fordham
Georgetown
George Washington University
Harvard
Miami
University of Michigan-Ann Arbor
Minnesota
New York University
Rutgers
Tulane
Yale

Our Business School Candidates were admitted to:

University of California-Berkeley (Haas)
Columbia
Chicago
Dartmouth (Tuck)
Emory (Goizueta)
Georgetown (McDonough)
Harvard
University of Michigan-Ann Arbor (Ross)
MIT (Sloan)
New York University (Stern)
Northwestern (Kellogg)
Notre Dame (Mendoza)
Pennsylvania (Wharton)
Stanford University
Vanderbilt (Owen)
Virginia (Darden)

[The New SAT](#)

Arete is proud to announce that of our thirty-five students who took the new SAT on March 2005, three of our students received perfect scores. Over forty percent broke a 2300 and ten received a perfect 800 on the new writing section.

[Nikki Geula](#) was recently interviewed as an expert regarding the new S.A.T. by New York Magazine. She was also a featured guest on UPN News Channel 9. According to Nikki, "The new SAT is not harder than in the past. If anything, it is easier. The dreaded analogies are gone, and while the math is slightly more challenging, it is more straightforward. As for the essay, students need to stick to a basic formula. They must create a strong thesis, back it up with at least three literature references and/or historical data and be specific. Students should employ proper grammar and write NEATLY. If students are not performing well on the SAT, they may be strong candidates for the ACT."

In addition, Nikki has been approached to write a book on how to be a successful tutor.

[Our Thank You to You New Referral Policy](#)

All of Arete's business is based on word-of-mouth. Clients who are pleased with our results recommend us to their friends and family members. To show our appreciation, we are happy to offer a free hour of tutoring for every client referral

[Learning Difficulties](#)

At Arete, we believe that learning issues decrease with proper study skills and with strong learning mechanisms put into place at a young age. By the time most students reach high school, they often have a set path with their approach to learning. High school then becomes increasingly more arduous and overwhelming as the laborious college process begins. SAT tutoring typically is layered on top of schoolwork and pupils with learning issues often become plagued with anxiety and filled with self-doubt. We have found that coaching students with learning issues at a younger age not only helps them with their confidence, but actually diminishes their learning issues over time. The goal is to make these students tutor independent so that when they reach high school, they are ready to take on additional rigorous academic challenges on a more level playing field.

[Arete Expansion](#)

Arete is pleased to announce the availability of international tutoring services. Our most recent assignments have included Scotland, Great Britain, and France. While Arete tutors typically fly throughout the United States to work with students, we now have tutors based in Boston, California, Washington D.C., and Colorado.

[Arete Tutor Update](#)

Arete's success is in part due to the individualized course of study developed for each student. We believe that students are unique and as such, there is no uniform approach to tutoring. We assess and analyze where each student is at and then fill in the blanks for a more efficient approach. However, part of the magic lies in Arete's tutors. We are not simply tutors, but mentors. We try to be examples for our students based on what we achieve and have achieved in our own lives. We believe that academic success is critical to creating a solid foundation for the future. At Arete, our careers are a blend of making a difference for our students as well as pursuing our own dreams. We try to show our students that anything they want to pursue is possible if they establish a strong work ethic and develop the confidence, and the courage, to reach for the moon.

[Kara Medoff](#)

In 2004-2005, Kara Medoff produced the hit Off-Broadway play MODERN ORTHODOX, directed by James Lapin and starring Jason Biggs and Molly Ringwald. The play is currently being developed into a series for Showtime. Kara is currently attending Harvard Business School and is continuing to tutor with Arete. Kara specializes in Business school and college counseling, SAT's, English, History, and essay writing.

[Seth Familian](#)

In November of 2004 Seth transitioned into the consulting practice of Faith Popcorn's BrainReserve, a boutique consumer trend-forecasting and marketing consultancy in New York City. His clients spanned the industries of agribusiness, food retail, quick service restaurants, prescription and over-the-counter drugs. In March of 2005 Seth was granted admission and awarded a full scholarship to the Haas School of Business at the University of California, Berkeley. Shortly thereafter, Seth was also named a Research Fellow to The Media Center at the American Press Institute, a non-profit organization devoted to uncovering the future of media and its implications for major businesses in the industry. At Haas, Seth is focusing his entrepreneurial aspirations on the nexus of technology, content and product design. He will use his Media Center fellowship to maintain a blog of observations about media usage and trends in California and beyond. He continues to tutor SAT's, Business and Law school counseling with Arete in the California area.

[Jodi Citrin](#)

In 2004-2005, Jodi Citrin worked at the New York Stock Exchange providing nutrition counseling and healthy lunches to traders on the floor. She interned at Mt. Sinai Hospital where she assisted in teaching "Winning by Losing", a weight loss program focused on healthy lifestyle modifications. She has set up her own practice, Citrition, LLC. and continues to tutor SAT's, Biology, Chemistry and Math with Arete in the New York area.

[Hilary Rubin](#)

In 2004-2005, Hilary Rubin was elevated to literary agent at Trident Media Group, the literary agency in Manhattan where she has worked for the past two years. She was also appointed co-chair of the Princeton Class of 2003 New York City alumni group. She continues to tutor SAT's, English, History and Art History with Arete.

For a complete list of Arete coaches, please call 212-691-1479 or email aretequestions@aol.com to request a welcome package.

SAT Tips and Strategies

Overall Test Tactics

1. Learn the section directions now. Use the time saved during the test to work on questions.
2. Take care when filling in the answer grid for the student-produced response questions.
3. Avoid stray marks on the answer sheet. A machine scores your test and can't distinguish between a correct answer and careless doodles.
4. Mark only one answer per question.
5. Understand the scoring! You get a point for a right answer. You lose a fractional point for a wrong answer. There is no deduction for omitted answers or for wrong answers in the math section's student-produced response questions.
6. Guess...if you can eliminate at least one choice.
7. Practice, practice, practice!
8. Bring a watch to the test center. You can not be guaranteed that there will be a working clock.
9. Know the question types to expect on the SAT.

Specific Sectional Strategies

Critical Reading and Sentence Completion

1. Before looking at the answers, try to complete the sentence with words that make sense to you.
2. Use the context of nearby words to figure out unknown words.
3. Do not overlook the reversing effect of negative words (like not) or prefixes (like un-).
4. If you're really stuck for the meaning of a word, try to think of other words that have similar prefixes, roots, or suffixes.
5. Let transition words (like although and likewise) help suggest the best answer.

Critical Reading and Reading Comprehension

Critical reading now includes both long and short reading passages with questions. Skim each passage to see what it's about. Do not worry about the details. You can always look them up later if you need to.

Just look for the main ideas; then tackle the questions that direct you straight to the answer by referring you to a specific line in the passage. If you have time afterward, attempt the harder questions.

Writing Section and Written Essay

You will be given an open-ended essay prompt (topic) that asks you to state a viewpoint and to support it. Essays are scored holistically, which means that the final score is based on an overall impression. It is important to develop your ideas and express them clearly, using examples to back them up. Your essay should be focused, organized, and neat.

1. Write a short (about 250-300 words), persuasive essay on an assigned topic.
2. Keep in mind the structure of an essay-5 paragraphs consisting of an: Introduction, Body (about 3 paragraphs), and Conclusion.

3. The allotted time frame is 25 minutes. Read the essay question and think about the topic (about 5 minutes). Allow most of your time (about 15 minutes) to write the essay. Spend the remaining 5 minutes reviewing and editing your work.
4. The introductory paragraph should state the position that is being taken. It should also state at least 3 points that support the position.
5. The body paragraphs should expand upon the points that you present with specific detail and examples.
6. The concluding paragraph should summarize your point of view by restating the thesis statement in a revised format.
7. Keep your writing simple.
8. Avoid wordiness.
9. Avoid slang.
10. Utilize academic examples from Literature and History, but do not make up quotes.

Math Section-Student Produced Response

These questions are not multiple-choice. You come up with an answer and fill it into a grid. The grid does not contain a minus sign, so there is no way to indicate that a value is less than zero. That means that an answer cannot be a negative number.

1. Guess if you can't figure it out. There is no penalty for wrong answers in this section.
2. Again, negative numbers are not possible as answers in this section. If your answer comes up negative, do it again.
3. If an answer is a repeating decimal (like .33333333), just enter as many decimals as will fit in the grid (.333).
4. You may enter an equivalent decimal for a fraction as your answer.
5. Do not try to enter mixed numbers. For example, if your answer is $3\frac{1}{2}$, enter it as 3.5 or 7/2.

Math Section-Multiple Choice

You will be given reference information (formulas and facts), but you will need to know how to use them. You are allowed to use a calculator, but, again, it will not help you unless you know how to approach the problems. If you're stuck, try substituting numbers for variables. You can also try plugging in numbers from the answer choices. Start with the middle number. That way, if it doesn't work, you can strategically choose a higher or lower number.

1. Read the question well. Be sure to select the best answer for the variable, value or expression that is requested.
2. Learn in advance all of the critical definitions, formulas, and concepts that appear in common questions.
3. Early questions in this section are easier. Spend less time on them.
4. Do not get carried away with detailed calculations. Look for a trick or a shortcut if the question seems time consuming.
5. When a question contains a weird symbol, just substitute the accompanying definition when figuring out the best answer choice.

SAT Vocabulary for November

Antediluvian (adj) very old; obsolete

Although old phonograph records seem **antediluvian**, they sound better than new CD's.

Audacious (adj) bold, daring, or fearless

Simone and Pascal are an **audacious** pair, skydiving and motorcycle riding all over the world.

Convivial (adj) festive; characterized by eating and drinking; sociable

Pam has the most **convivial** parents, who are always throwing big parties with lots to eat and drink.

Erudite (adj) highly educated; learned; scholarly

The ideas in the book are **erudite**, but simple explanations make them easy to grasp.

Evanescent (adj) impermanent, fleeting, fragile

Derek's love for Jane turned out to be short-lived, as **evanescent** as blossoms in spring.

Fastidious (adj) fussy; excessively picky; difficult to please

Because Sarah is **fastidious** and Sean is untidy, they decided to break up.

Gregarious (adj) very friendly and sociable

Scott is so exciting to be around due to his **gregarious** nature.

Impecunious (adj) having little or no money; broke

Jennifer came from a wealthy family, but her **impecunious** habits give the impression that she's penniless.

Ineffable (adj) unable to be adequately described; unspeakable

Karen's joy was **ineffable**, too overwhelming to put into words.

Laconic (adj) concise; sparing of words; brief

He was famous for his **laconic** speech; all he ever said was "yup," "nop," and "maybe."

Lassitude (noun) weariness, weakness, and exhaustion

Overcome by **lassitude** after the exam, Sal slept for twelve straight hours.

Paucity (noun) scarcity, shortage

The chorus sounds dreadful because it suffers from a **paucity** of singers who know how to carry a tune.

Salubrious (adj) conducive to good health and well-being; beneficial

Feeling good after a **salubrious** spring break, I was ready for some heavy duty SAT studying.

Zephyr (noun) gently breeze, west wind

When these **zephyrs** blow, it is good to be in an open boat under a full sail.