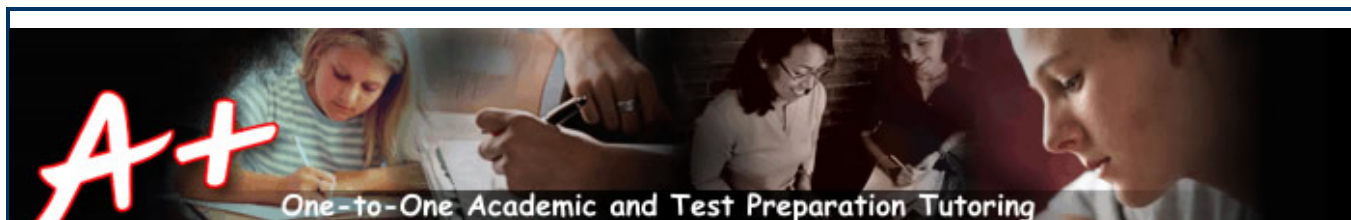


From: [A+ Tutoring Service, Inc.](#)
To: aplusteam@aplustutoring.com;
CC:
Subject:
Date: Tuesday, September 26, 2006 3:26:51 PM
Attachments:



A+ Test Prep and Tutoring Newsletter

September 2006

In This Issue

[SAT Tip of the Month](#)

[Common Misconceptions About Dyslexia](#)

[Symptoms of Dyslexia](#)

[The International Dyslexia Association](#)

[More Dyslexia Resources](#)

[The Wilson Reading System](#)

[Monthly Promotion](#)

SAT Tip of the Month

Many students struggle with how to approach the reading passages in the Critical Reading section of the SAT. The SAT reading passages come from different sources and represent various genres: scientific tracts, social studies texts, fiction, and personal essays or opinion pieces. A passage can be short (100 words or less), long (averaging 700- 800 words), or paired with another passage on some aspect of the same topic but with an

What is Dyslexia?

Dyslexia is a language-based learning disability that is neurological in origin and affects 1 out of every 5 children.

• Common Misconceptions About Dyslexia

- *Dyslexic children see words backward.* In fact, backward writing and reversal of letters and words are common in the early stages of writing development among both dyslexic and nondyslexic children. Ironically, many children with this learning disability go undiagnosed because they do not transpose letters or write backward!
- *Dyslexia is primarily a male problem.* In fact, studies show it affects both genders almost equally.
- *Dyslexia is linked to intelligence.* In fact, dyslexia has no bearing on intelligence. There are many highly intelligent and accomplished dyslexic people, including novelist John Irving, playwright Wendy Wasserstein, financial guru Charles Schwab, actress Whoopi Goldberg, inventor Thomas Edison, and Leonardo da Vinci.

• Symptoms of Dyslexia

alternative viewpoint.

A common question many students ask is whether they should read the questions before reading the corresponding passage (s). We at A+ do not recommend this approach for the following reasons:

- Primarily, the student wastes precious time reading the questions first. The questions always fall into these general categories: main idea, inference, tone, and vocabulary-in-context. The student's time is better spent reading the passage first and comprehending the author's message and tone.
- It is too difficult and distracting to try to memorize the questions and to keep them in mind as you read. Some paired passages, for example, are followed by as many as 10 or 12 questions! The focus should be placed instead on comprehending the overall meaning of the passage.
- Any question relating to smaller details within the passage or about individual words or phrases will redirect the student anyway to the relevant line(s) in the text, and the student can then puzzle it out. It is simply not necessary to read in advance this type of question because the student must refer back to the text anyway.

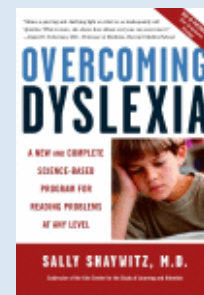
Put simply, by not reading the questions first, the student saves valuable time that can be better spent advancing further into that section of the SAT, revisiting a question that he initially skipped, or rechecking his work.

Quick Links...

- [A+ Website](#)
- [Overcoming Dyslexia. A book by Sally Shaywitz, M.D.](#)
- [The College Board](#)

The symptoms of dyslexia are varied and evolve as the child matures; there are too many to list here and each child is unique and may not exhibit all symptoms, but the following is a sampling:

- At a young age, has difficulty learning the alphabet or rhyming words
- Has difficulty matching letters to the sounds they make
- May read very slowly and with difficulty
- Avoids reading out loud because the task is too difficult
- Prefers to guess at new words in a text rather than sound them out
- Spells words incorrectly and may spell the same word differently in one piece of writing
- May have difficulty learning a foreign language



• The International Dyslexia Association

Founded in 1949, the International Dyslexia Association (IDA) is the oldest organization in the United States helping individuals with dyslexia, their families, and professionals in the field. Their mission is to provide information and referral services, promote research and advocacy, and direct services to professionals in the field of learning disabilities.



The Philadelphia Branch will hold its annual Fall Conference on October 6, 2006 at the Union League in Philadelphia.

The IDA holds an annual conference that attracts experts from all over the world (it will be held in Indianapolis November 8- 11, 2006). The organization publishes a journal, Annals of Dyslexia, newsletters, and fact sheets. Their website allows you to access information according to the audience: children, teens, adults, educators, etc.

Philadelphia IDA Fall Conference

• More Dyslexia Resources



This site offers practical tips on identifying early signs and symptoms, dealing with emotional and psychological issues, and coping with school-related problems. It lists helpful resources including books, videos, and websites and also features a parent-to-parent message board.

Spark Top

This is an offshoot of Schwab Learning's website and was developed just for children with dyslexia and other learning

SSAT Flex Test Center

Students who want to take the Secondary School Admissions Test (SSAT), but are unable to take the test on one of the national test dates, may now take the test at A+ Test Prep and Tutoring in Jenkintown. Our test center code is 0132. Please call our office for more information.

- [SSAT Flex Testing](#)

office@aplustutoring.com
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differences. This interactive site is enhanced by colorful graphics and encourages creativity and answers kids' questions about this learning difficulty through a variety of means, including movies, quizzes, games, and an "Ask the Experts" feature. It fosters communication among dyslexic children and teens through its carefully screened message board. See link below.

[Spark Top](#)

- **The Wilson Reading System**

We offer individualized, one-to-one instruction by highly qualified instructors in the renowned Wilson Reading System, a 12-step reading and writing program which teaches the structure of words in the English language in an

organized and sequential way to those with dyslexia and other language-based disabilities. This highly successful, multi-sensory program is designed to be very interactive between teacher and student.



[The Wilson Reading System](#)

- **Monthly Promotion**

September, 2006

\$50 Off Write Better Essays Program

Is your son or daughter frustrated getting his/her ideas across on paper?

This program covers all aspects of the writing process from brainstorming a topic and developing a thesis, all the way through revisions and final editing. Students will write on topics of their choosing while learning both the key components of an excellent essay and strategies for creating an exciting, polished piece of writing using these components.

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