

COURSE SYLLABUS: SAT AND ACT EXAM PREPARATION

NW XILIN – SUNDAYS, 3:00 – 5:00 -- INSTRUCTOR: MR. FOXWORTH; chicagopaul@gmail.com

OBJECTIVES

- 1) To acquaint students with all Language Arts sections of the SAT and ACT
- 2) To provide practice testing and an explanation of correct answers for each section
- 3) To help students determine ***what subject areas will require extra preparation on their part****
- 4) To recommend resources students can use
- 5) To discuss test-taking strategies

Parents, please note:

- 1)* *The instructor assumes no responsibility for how well individual students perform on the test. The instructor's role is to show students how to assess their strengths and weaknesses, and to encourage them to increase their mastery of difficult subjects. They, as individuals, MUST commit extra time at home to practice tests and vocabulary study that reinforce their skills.*
- 2) *The instructor is available to conference **after Feb. 26** about students' progress but NOT on Sundays. Contact him by email – chicagopaul@gmail.com -- giving phone numbers and best times to call.*
- 3) *It is recommended that each student study the exams' scoring systems (the instructor gave them handouts about this during the first class) and set a personal goal (for example, to score in the high 20s or 30+ on the ACT). They should know how to conduct effective online searches to see what scores are required at the universities in which they are interested. Part of their taking "personal responsibility for their outcomes" will be for them to (a) create a short list of the universities they prefer, (b) learn whether the SAT or ACT is required at those institutions, and (c) set their personal scoring goals.*

COURSE MATERIALS

The two books I'm asking students' parents to buy are:

McGraw-Hill's 2012 ACT: 8 Practice Tests + CD-ROM
McGraw-Hill's 2012 SAT: 6 Practice Tests

I will use tests from these in class for practice.

Any of these would also be helpful:

Barron's ACT 36 with CD-ROM, 2nd Edition: Aiming for the Perfect Score

Barron's Grammar Workbook for the SAT, ACT and More

Barron's Hot Words for the SAT

Barron's SAT Critical Reading Workbook

College Board: The Official SAT Study Guide

Kaplan ACT 2012 Premier

Kaplan SAT 2012 Premier with CD-ROM (Kaplan SAT Premier Live)

Kaplan SAT Writing Workbook

McGraw-Hill's 10 ACT Practice Tests

McGraw-Hill's ACT with CD-ROM

McGraw-Hill's SAT Demystified

Princeton Review: Cracking the ACT 2012

Princeton Review: Cracking the SAT 2012

******* SEE OTHER SIDE FOR SCHEDULE OF CLASSES *******

SPRING 2012 -- SAT AND ACT PREP COURSE SCHEDULE

1/8	OVERVIEW OF THE ACT AND SAT; BEGIN ENGLISH SECTION (ACT)
1/15	ENGLISH: USAGE AND MECHANICS; RHETORICAL SKILLS (ACT)—Part 1
1/29	ENGLISH: USAGE AND MECHANICS; RHETORICAL SKILLS (ACT)—Part 2
2/5	TEST-TAKING STRATEGIES (SAT AND ACT)
2/12	CRITICAL READING (SAT)
2/26	CRITICAL READING (SAT)
3/4	READING COMPREHENSION (ACT)
3/11	READING COMPREHENSION (ACT)
3/18	REVIEW (SAT AND ACT)
4/1	SCIENTIFIC REASONING (ACT)
4/15	WRITING (ACT)
4/22	WRITING (SAT)
4/29	WRITING (SAT AND ACT)
5/6	ENGLISH AND READING (ACT)
5/13	CRITICAL READING (SAT)
5/27	SETTING PERSONAL SCORING GOALS; FINAL REVIEW