

2006 PSAT RESULT LESSON PLAN

The purpose of reviewing PSAT results: All students can use the results as a tool to help them prepare for the PSAT next year or the SAT. This is a junior test so freshmen and sophomores are taking this for practice for their junior year.

P.R.I.D.E. Teachers have the students do the following:

- I. Have the students look at their Critical Reading and Math scores. Add the two scores together and then add a zero. The writing score is separate and should not be added. This gives the student an idea of how PSAT scores relate to the SAT. A score of 1600 is the highest score (Critical Reading and Math added together) for the SAT.
- II. The writing score is separate. Even though the SAT score is now 2400, colleges are only using the critical reading and math scores for admission. The writing score is used for placement or another area the college chooses to look at the student. Add a zero to the writing score. The top score writing score for the SAT is (800).

FRESHMEN, SOPHOMORE OR JUNIOR P.R.I.D.E. teacher, please read the appropriate paragraph for your P.R.I.D.E. group:

- III. **Freshmen P.R.I.D.E. teachers**, please make sure your freshmen understand that this is a junior test. They should use this test as a tool to get ready for the PSAT in October of their junior year and for the SAT the spring of their junior year. Freshmen should put their emphasis on their correct and incorrect answers and going over the questions they missed. Ask them to highlight each incorrect answer and look over the question in their test booklet. They should use their results to prepare for the PSAT next year. Because this is a junior test, freshmen scores may not be as high as they would like. They should be concerned with how the test is organized, the different sections of the test, and specifically what material on the test is not their strong area.
- IV. **Sophomore P.R.I.D.E. teachers** should ask their students, how have you improved from last year? Please make sure your sophomores understand that this is a junior test. They should use this test as a tool to get ready for the PSAT in October of their junior year and for the SAT the spring of their junior year. It is important that they prepare for the PSAT by going over their correct and incorrect answers and the questions they have missed. Ask them to highlight each incorrect answer and look over the question in their test booklet. Because this is a junior test, sophomore scores may not be as high as they would like. They should be concerned with how the test is organized, the different sections of the test, and specifically what material on the test is not their strong area.
- V. **Junior P.R.I.D.E. teachers** relay to your students that their scores are very important and they need to use their test booklets and test results to prepare for the SAT in March, May or June. Juniors should go over each question and incorrect answer and work on the areas that are not their strongest points. Ask your English teacher or math teacher if they have any practice sets on the areas that you need to work on. The PSAT should definitely be used to prepare for the SAT in the spring.

**Have your students open their Score Report for 2006. Look first at Your Scores:
Have the students look at the Critical Reading Section.**

Critical Reading Section:

Look at your score in your critical reading box. Listed below the box are Ranges and Percentiles.

Range: Listed on the range is a low number and a high number.

Tell the students that on any given day their score could fall in between those two numbers.

Listed below the ranges is percentiles: Tell the students what the percentiles means to each student.

Percentiles: This score is **NOT** how many questions you answered correctly. It is how you compare to others taking the test.

Have students review their answers:

1. Under Critical Reading there are sentence completions, passage-based reading, for sections 1 and 3.

Go over the key to the answers with the students first.

2. Questions are listed with a correct answer in bold, your answer by either a check, the answer you gave if not correct, **o** for omitted, or **u** for unscorable, and the degree of difficulty **e** for easy, **m** for medium and **h** for hard.
3. **Have students open their test booklets and turn to page 2, section 1, question one.**
4. Go over the first few questions with the students saying in question one, the correct answer is, your answer is, the degree of difficulty is. Make sure the students know how to read the section and the key. Don't forget to remind them to highlight each incorrect answer so they can go back and review each question to see why they missed it.
 - **Scoring: look on the bottom left hand corner of the page for guidelines on how points were either given or taken away.**
 - **Now read the summary of your answers at the bottom of the critical reading chart. They give you information on how to improve in applying ideas presented in a reading passage, determining an author's purpose or perspective, and understanding negative words, suffixes, and prefixes affecting the sentence.**

Mathematics Section: Now go to the math section and repeat the steps of the range and percentile of this section.

5. Under the Mathematics section of the score sheet there is multiple choice and student- produced responses, for sections 2 and 4.

Go over the key to the answers with the students first.

6. Questions are listed with the correct answer in bold, your answer by either a check, the answer you gave if not correct, **o** for omitted, or **u** for unscorable, and the degree of difficulty **e** for easy, **m** for medium, or **h** for hard. Math has added another column, **Num** for number and operations, **Geom** for geometry and measurement, and **Alg** for Algebra and Functions.
7. **Have students turn in their test booklets to page 9, section 2, question one.**
8. Go over the first few questions with the students saying in question one, the correct answer is, your answer is, the degree of difficulty is. Make sure the students know how to read the section and the key. Don't forget to remind them to highlight each incorrect answer so they can go back and review each question to see why they missed it.
9. At the bottom of section 4 have the students read how many questions they answered correctly or incorrectly, whether they were easy, medium, or hard, and how many they omitted.
10. Have the students read the summary at the bottom of the math chart. How to improve in understanding geometry and coordinate geometry, using basic algebraic concepts and operations to solve problems, and using answer choice to help solve problems.

Writing Skills Section: Now go the writing skills section and repeat steps of the range and percentile sections.

11. Under the writing skills section of the score sheet there are improving sentences, identifying sentence errors, and improving paragraphs.

Go over the key to the answers with the students first.

12. Questions are listed with the correct answer in bold, your answer by either Check, the answer you gave if not correct, **o** for omitted, or **u** for unscorable, and the degree of difficulty **e** for easy, **m** for medium, or **h** for hard.
13. **Have the students turn in their test booklets to page 30, section 5 question one.**
14. Go over the first few questions with the students saying in question one, the correct answer is, your answer is, the degree of difficulty is. Make sure the students know how to read the section and the key. Don't forget to remind them to highlight each incorrect answer so they can go back and review each question and see why they missed it.
15. At the bottom of section 5, have the students read how many questions they answered correctly or incorrectly, whether they were easy, medium, or hard and how many they omitted.
16. Have the students read the summary at the bottom of the writing skills.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ALL STUDENTS: (Please read)

17. The National Merit Scholarship Corporation gives scholarships to the juniors taking the PSAT that scores in the top 1%. This is why it is so important to work on improving your scores your freshmen and sophomore years to get ready for your junior year. The selection index at the top right box of the page on the score report tells you if you are eligible to meet entry into the NMSC's 2008 scholarship program. To learn more about the program, please see your counselor. **JUNIORS SHOULD SIGN UP FOR THE SAT AND ACT IN THE SPRING OF THEIR JUNIOR YEAR. USE YOUR PSAT TO HELP YOU GET READY....**

18. Please ask your students to do the following:

- **Do not throw the PSAT booklet or the test results away.**
- **Start a folder to keep your booklet and test results. This will help keep you stay organized and you will know where they are when you need to work on improving your scores.**
- **Go over the test results by comparing your answers with the questions.**
- **Look at each incorrect answer to see why you missed it.**

19. AP Potential (*Please see the flyer)

The scores that you receive on the PSAT are also used to help determine if you would be successful taking Advanced Placement courses. Some of you will be contacted in the near future about your scores. Remember this when you take the PSAT next year.

SAT Web Site: www.collegeboard.com

ACT Web Site: www.act.org

Peachtree Ridge School code: 112866