**SAT Timed Essay Rubric**

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| **Score** | **Development of Position** | **Organization** | **Use of Language** | **Sentence Structure** | **Grammar and Word Usage** |
| **1** | No plausible position is taken on the topic; severely lacking in examples, reasons and/or evidence | Disorganized; little or no focus; incoherent | Contains fundamental vocabulary mistakes | Severely flawed sentence structure | Grammar and word usage are so poor that they interfere with meaning; very poor mechanics (like punctuation) |
| **2** | Position on topic is unclear or extremely limited; inappropriate examples or reasons; insufficient evidence | Poorly organized; lacks focus; problems with coherence or flow of ideas | Poor use of language; indicates very limited vocabulary and poor word choice | Frequent problems with sentence structure | Grammar and word usage mistakes are frequent and interfere with meaning; poor mechanics |
| **3** | Position on topic demonstrates critical thinking skill applied inconsistently; inadequate examples, reasons or evidence | Limited in organization and focus; demonstrates lapses in coherence or flow of ideas | Displays developing use of language; contains indications of weak vocabulary and poor word selection | Some problems with sentence structure; lacks a variety of sentence structures | Contains many mistakes in grammar word usage and mechanics |
| **4** | Position on topic demonstrates competent critical thinking skill; example, reasons and evidence are adequate | Generally organized and focused; demonstrates some coherence and attention to the flow of ideas | Displays adequate, but inconsistent, use of language; vocabulary used is generally appropriate | Good sentence structure; demonstrates some variety of sentence structure | Contains some mistakes in grammar, word usage and mechanics |
| **5** | Position is effectively developed through strong critical thinking skill; examples, reasons and evidence are generally appropriate | Well organized and focused; demonstrates coherence and ideas flow well | Displays competent use of language; uses appropriate vocabulary | Good sentence structure; demonstrates variety in sentence structure | Generally free of mistakes in grammar, word usage and mechanics |
| **6** | Position effectively and insightfully developed through outstanding critical thinking skill; examples, reasons and evidence are clearly appropriate | Well organized and clearly focused; clearly coherent and ideas flow seamlessly | Displays skillful use of language; vocabulary is accurate and varied; words are appropriately and skillfully chosen | Good sentence structure; demonstrates meaningful and skilled variety of sentence structure | Free of most mistakes in grammar, word usage and mechanics |

6 = 100% 5=90% 4=80% 3=70% 2=60% 1=50%

(Each category is a total of 10 points. Items in each category are worth 2 points.)