

Study Profile: STAAR English III Writing – SAT Writing (★★★★☆☆)

The STAAR English III writing – SAT writing external validity study is designed to establish empirical links between performance on the STAAR English III writing assessment and performance on the SAT writing test.

Motivation (★★★★☆☆)

This analysis was based on a single group of students who took both the STAAR English III writing and the SAT writing assessments in 2010 or 2011. Data from STAAR derive from a stand-alone field test administered in 2011 and are linked to motivated SAT writing scores in corresponding years.

Representativeness (★★★★☆☆) and Sample Size (★★★★★)

Grade Levels

All English III Writing Examinees Versus Those Linked to SAT Scores

Group	Grade 8		Grade 9		Grade 10		Grade 11		Grade 12		Missing		Total
All English	1	0%	72	0%	1,458	4%	34,531	94%	761	2%	8	0%	36,831
Linked	0	0%	1	0%	7	0%	6,621	98%	148	2%	1	0%	6,778

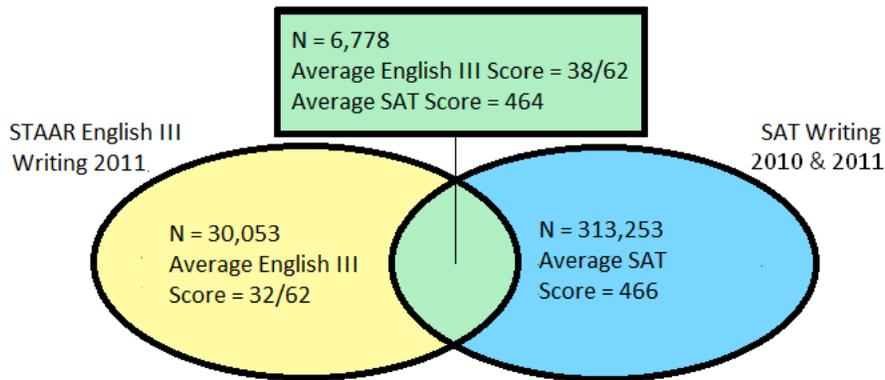
Demographic Characteristics

All English III Writing Examinees Versus Those Linked to SAT Scores

Group	Female		Economically Disadvantaged		African American		Hispanic		White		Other	
All English	18,894	51%	16,271	44%	4,646	13%	15,484	42%	14,569	40%	2,132	6%
Linked	3,843	57%	1,924	28%	888	13%	2,154	32%	3,174	47%	562	8%

Summary of STAAR English III Writing and SAT Writing Achievement

Linked and Unlinked Groups



Average SAT Writing Scores Based on Students' STAAR Performance

Satisfactory Academic Performance	Advanced Academic Performance
509	592

Correlation (★★★★☆☆)

Correlation between STAAR English III writing and SAT writing = **0.68**

Content Overlap (★★★★☆)

There is moderate (approximately 67%) content/skills overlap between the STAAR English III writing assessment and the SAT writing test.

Assessment Characteristics

Assessment Characteristic	STAAR English III Writing	SAT Writing
Purpose	Created to determine mastery of the English III Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills, the state-mandated curriculum.	Designed to help college admissions officials identify students likely to be successful at their academic institutions.
Assessment Type	A criterion-referenced assessment	A norm-referenced assessment
Content	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measures skill level in persuasive and analytical writing, revision, and editing • Includes literary nonfiction, expository, and persuasive texts to test revision and editing skills • Compositions assess students' understanding of purpose, organization/progression, development of ideas, and language/conventions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measures skill level in persuasive writing, revision and editing • Includes literary nonfiction, expository and persuasive texts to test revision and editing; also includes stand-alone items to test same skills • Composition assesses students' understanding of purpose, organization, development of ideas, and language/grammar • Addresses approximately 67% of the content assessed on the STAAR English III assessment, primarily in persuasive writing, revision, and editing
Item Format	30 multiple-choice items total) 2 compositions (1 persuasive, 1 analytical)	49 multiple-choice items total 1 composition (persuasive)
Administration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administered in March, July, and November • Administered by school personnel • Administered online and on paper • Four hour time limit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administered seven times annually • Administered at an approved testing site (often a school with the test administered by school personnel) • Administered on paper • Three timed sections totaling 60 minutes (two 25-minute sections and one 10-minute section)
Performance Standards	Performance standards established and implemented in spring 2012	The SAT Writing college readiness benchmark is a scale score of 500 (maximum score of 800). It indicates a 65% likelihood of earning a first-year college GPA of 2.7 or higher.