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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Grade 8</th>
<th>Grade 9</th>
<th>Grade 10</th>
<th>Grade 11</th>
<th>Grade 12</th>
<th>Missing</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All English</td>
<td>1 0%</td>
<td>72 0%</td>
<td>1,458 4%</td>
<td>34,531 94%</td>
<td>761 2%</td>
<td>8 0%</td>
<td>36,831</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linked</td>
<td>0 0%</td>
<td>1 0%</td>
<td>7 0%</td>
<td>6,621 98%</td>
<td>148 2%</td>
<td>1 0%</td>
<td>6,778</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Demographic Characteristics

All English III Writing Examinees Versus Those Linked to SAT Scores

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Economically Disadvantaged</th>
<th>African American</th>
<th>Hispanic</th>
<th>White</th>
<th>Other</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All English</td>
<td>18,894</td>
<td>16,271 44%</td>
<td>4,646 13%</td>
<td>15,484 42%</td>
<td>14,569 40%</td>
<td>2,132 6%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linked</td>
<td>3,843</td>
<td>1,924 28%</td>
<td>888 13%</td>
<td>2,154 32%</td>
<td>3,174 47%</td>
<td>562 8%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Summary of STAAR English III Writing and SAT Writing Achievement

Linked and Unlinked Groups

N = 6,778
Average English III Score = 38/62
Average SAT Score = 464

N = 30,053
Average English III Score = 32/62

N = 313,253
Average SAT Score = 466

Average SAT Writing Scores Based on Students’ STAAR Performance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Satisfactory Academic Performance</th>
<th>509</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advanced Academic Performance</td>
<td>592</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Characteristic</th>
<th>STAAR English III Writing</th>
<th>SAT Writing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Purpose</strong></td>
<td>Created to determine mastery of the English III Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills, the state-mandated curriculum.</td>
<td>Designed to help college admissions officials identify students likely to be successful at their academic institutions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Assessment Type</strong></td>
<td>A criterion-referenced assessment</td>
<td>A norm-referenced assessment</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Content**               | - 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 | - 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**        | - Administered in March, July, and November  
- Administered by school personnel  
- Administered online and on paper  
- Four hour time limit | - 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 of higher. |