

# Consider the SAT Language with Listening Tests

By Mick Rosenblum

Language with Listening . . . what on earth is that? The Language with Listening Tests are SAT Subject Tests (for foreign language coursework) that allow students to answer a portion of the test via a recorded verbal listening format. I have found that these tests are particularly suited to students who are either native speakers or who are fluent in one of the foreign languages offered in the Listening Test format.

The kicker is that these tests are offered in November only, so you have to plan carefully. In most cases, the best time to take a listening test is in either your sophomore or junior year. If you do well on that test, then you will have the confidence in knowing that you have one of your SAT Subject Tests (for colleges and universities that require them) in the bag. If you do not do well, then you can take other more appropriate SAT Subject Tests at a later date. If you wait until the fall of your senior year, however, you will have to sacrifice one of your SAT Reasoning Test opportunities in order to take a Language with Listening Subject Test.

Incidentally, I should mention that, although the College Board changed the rather confusing test name years ago, remarkably some colleges and universities still refer to the SAT Subject Tests as “SAT IIs.” In any case, please remember that many educators and school counselors are unfamiliar of the Language with Listening Subject Tests and, therefore, are unlikely to remind you to take them. Yet those tests can be wonderful opportunities to secure a solid SAT Subject Test score early in your Sophomore or Junior Year! Questions? . . . Give me a call.