



Prepped & Polished, LLC  
21 Eliot Street  
South Natick, MA 01760

Hey everyone, Alexis Avila, founder of Prepped & Polished LLC, here in South Natick, Massachusetts. If you want to do well on the SSAT math section, you have to wipe out those careless errors, and do steady, careful work on the SSAT math.

Time and time again, whether you're a lower level or upper level student, I see the same student make the same careless mistake on this particular problem. So let's go to the board. I'm going to show you this problem. This is a relatively easy problem, but almost 75% of students get this one wrong.

"A \$15 shirt is on sale for 20% off. What is the sale price of the shirt?" Students get really happy and excited, because they think to themselves that this is an easy and manageable problem. So, what they do is they'll take \$15, get the 20% discount, so they'll multiply it by .2, and then they will get \$3. Knowing this is a time-pressure test, they're going to instantly go to choice 'A', and circle \$3. However, you don't want to go with 'A'. You don't want to go with \$3. You went for the trap answer.

You have to re-read the question every time. After doing the math, go back to the question and make sure you're answering what the question is asking. They want what the sale price of the shirt is. You got the discount. Now you have to subtract 3 from 15. The new price of the shirt is \$12. You go with choice 'C' and you move on to the next question on the test.

So just remember, you could be a really good math student, but not do well on the SSAT math if you keep making careless mistakes. Avoid careless mistakes and you'll do well on the SSAT math section.

I'll talk to you soon. Good luck.