

Inference Questions: the 60-Second Checklist

For every "Which choice most logically completes the text?" — run the same four beats.

1 Name the premises

Usually two. Say them plainly to yourself before touching the choices.

2 Predict before you peek

Force one DULL sentence of your own into the blank. Dull is the goal.

3 Kill the drama

Cross off outside facts, unnamed motives, and absolute words ("must", "always", "never") the passage never earned.

4 Run the must-test

If the passage is true, is this choice FORCED to be true? Only one survives.

The leash rule: the right answer never leaves the leash.

Wrong answers drift toward: your outside knowledge · a cooler story · extreme claims.

Full walkthrough with worked examples: unlimitedtests.com/blog/sat-inference-questions-strategy

Practice: unlimitedtests.com/learn/inferences · Reviewed July 11, 2026