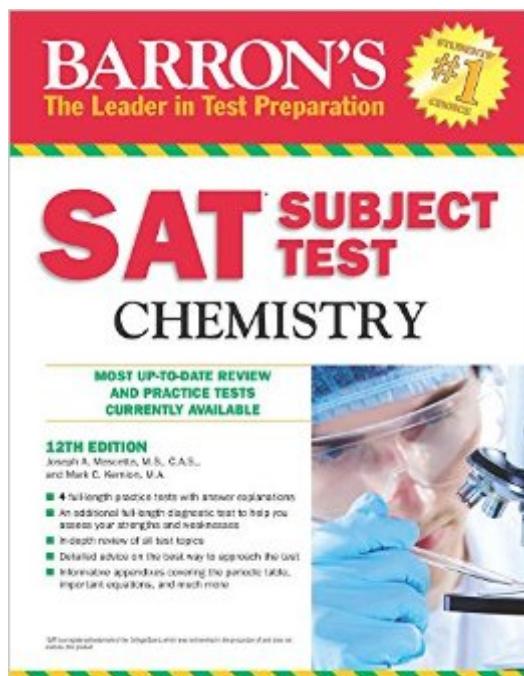


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# Barron's SAT Subject Test Chemistry, 12th Edition



## Synopsis

The updated edition of Barron's SAT Subject Test: Chemistry includes:  
A full-length diagnostic test with explained answers  
Four practice tests that reflect the actual SAT Subject Test Chemistry  
All questions answered and explained  
Detailed reviews covering all test topics  
Appendixes covering the Periodic Table, important equations, and more. Both teachers and test-taking students have praised earlier editions of this manual for its wealth of well-organized detail. The manual can be purchased alone or with an optional CD-ROM that presents two additional full-length practice exams with automatic scoring and fully explained answers.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 starsÂ  See all reviewsÂ  (49 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

PROS:  
1. Good topic by topic review  
2. Four practice tests (more than Princeton, which has three)  
CONS:  
1. Has some test questions that are really dependent on some odd memorization quirks that I don't think often come up on the actual SAT  
2. Has slightly more errors than some of their competitors (though usually the errors are easy to spot in that they've given you the correct explanation and it's an obvious typo and/or flip-flop of least/great)  
In terms of the SAT II Chemistry options out there:  
a) Kaplan is WAY too easy in terms of the test bank/practice tests and, in my opinion, good for foundations review and/or confidence boosting  
b) the Official College Board one is, of course, great, but only gives you ONE practice test for Chemistry and really no subject review  
c) It's a toss up between Princeton and Barron's in terms of which is the best. I feel like the Barron's

has questions that are almost a little too hard (or emphasize memorizing things that aren't as commonly tested, like heat of fusion constants that aren't provided), but Barron's gives you four practice tests whereas Princeton gives you three. Both have some errors (some of them are very obvious, where the explanation is correct, and then they list the wrong answer or give the wrong letter). They both have diagnostic tests and decent topic by topic review... so it comes down to whether you'd rather have one extra practice test (Barron's) or are used to the Princeton method (if you've bought other ones).\*\* You can find additional review questions online for free via sparknotes, but they have some errors, and there are also like 20 free questions provided by College Board online...

I found many mistakes in the book, especially in the practice problems' explanations, but I found its topic reviews to be very clear and easy to read. By reading through the whole entire book, one can quickly grasp the essential ideas that are key to scoring well on the Chemistry Subject Test. (Personally, however, I found the Organic Chemistry to be unnecessarily detailed)

Prepares you intensely. Unlike other review books, this one's information and test are harder than the actual SAT Subject test, so when you sit down to take the actual test, it is a lot easier to do, resulting you in a higher score.

There are many errors in the practice tests! It claimed that Lithium was the most reactive metal in the group one elements when it is Francium. There are other errors that you should probably search up before trusting the answer key of the book.

The fact that there were quite a few errors in approaching problems in the book is pretty disgusting. I personally only used the book to test what I would get on the actual SAT II and my score was roughly the same on the actual test so the practices are good. The book itself though is horrible. Invest in a tutor.

Very good book. It is almost flawless, except for some flaws inherent in almost every test-prep book; that is, every test-prep book cannot cover every single material covered in a high school, non-prepatory chemistry book. Some stuff will almost certainly be left out. However, this book gives the reader so much crucial information and make us understand a concept thoroughly that you'll likely ace the test if you review this book multiple times. This book is not without its flaws. On page

224, for instance, there is an error about the equation of adding chemical equations algebraically. Also, the book does not give a good description on distinction of types of cells such as monoclinic, triclinic, rhombic, etc. But overall, this book does a great job at describing concepts and information in-depth, especially in organic chemistry section. Now this book is perhaps the best SAT II Chemistry prep book out in the market as of summer of 2015. It has in-depth coverage of many crucial concepts, write in coherent manner so that readers will come away with important knowledge and concept they need for the test. Not only that, this book gives many practice problems. Perhaps best of all, this book shows us many ways we can approach a certain problem, so that when we are stuck with one problem we can try a different approach. I must say that this book is for those who are willing to TRY. Just as a tennis player with a great personal coach cannot win a strong match if he doesn't try hard in his practice, so it is for preparing for the test. While good materials - such as this great book - will definitely help your study, YOU have to be willing to put a lot of effort into it, especially since SAT II Chemistry requires quite a lot of memorization, at least compared to SAT II Physics. In short, you should definitely get this book.

Yep there are mistakes everywhere and the explanations are absolutely horrible. Not enough practice problems.

So many errors! There was this limiting reactant problem #42 on the diagnostic test saying that Zn is the limiting reactant but it's HCL! If they're present in the SAME amounts but HCL has a mole ratio of 2 while Zn is 1, it's HCL so the answer is 0.50g. I really dislike how erroneous this Prep book is but the topics it covers is very nice.

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