

The Three Little PSATers

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Once upon a time there were three little PSATers. All three of the PSATers were enrolled in the PSAT class and workshop, and they were **contenders** to become National Merit Semifinalists. However, the first little PSATER was only in the PSAT class because his parents **compelled** him. Also he **infrequently** completed his work, and if the work was turned in, it was always **dilatory**. On the other hand, the second little PSATER was quite different. She was a **bibliophile**, and always worked **diligently** on her PSAT assignments. The second PSATER was on the verge of meeting the cutoff score on her practice tests, but she was very **reluctant** in using the tactics. The **pedagogues** always reminded her to “kill the distracters” and not fall for the “sucker bait,” but she never listened. Finally, the third PSATER **devoted** all of his time to prepare for the PSAT, worked **indefatigably** on his assignments, and followed all the PSAT tactics. He was an **exemplar** to all students.

October was there before the PSATers knew it, and the day came to take the **arduous** PSAT. Before the three PSATers sat down to complete the test, the **sagacious pedagogues** explained to the students that “It’s not how smart you are but how smart you do. Your only **adversary** is yourself.” With that said, the test booklets and answer sheets were distributed, and the test **commenced** promptly at 8:00. Just a few minutes into taking the test, the first little PSATER realized he had made an **egregious** error. He wished that he paid more attention in class and put forth greater effort. The second little PSATER fell for the many **ruses** hidden in the PSAT because she still refused to kill the distracters. On the contrary, the third little PSATER was **undaunted** by the test, and made sure to **eschew** the sucker bait just as his **pedagogues** told him. When he finished the PSAT, the third little PSATER walked out the testing room feeling **sanguine** and **optimistic** because he knew he did his very best.

When the test results arrived a few months later, the third little PSATER was **elated**, **exuberant**, and **ebullient** to find out that he qualified to be a National

Merit Semifinalist. He received a full ride from the college of his dreams and lived happily ever after!