



## Comparing Old and New SAT to ACT



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*Reimagining Education*

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	Current SAT	New SAT (Spring 2016)	ACT
Description	The new SAT require similar skills and feature content similar to that of the ACT. Many of the changes to the new SAT's format makes it look a lot like the ACT, but the SAT retain certain distinctions. Among the biggest changes to the SAT are an intended greater emphasis on critical-thinking, contextual reading analysis and real-world problem solving, a "new" scoring system, and an overhaul of the essay. Comparatively, the ACT will remain more of an achievement test, requiring a broad knowledge of many concepts, time management and answering speed, and test taking endurance.		
Format & Length	<b>10 short sections:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3 Critical Reading;</li> <li>• 3 Mathematics;</li> <li>• 3 Writing (including Essay);</li> <li>• 1 experimental (not scored)</li> <li>• Questions have 5 answer choices</li> <li>• Total testing time: 3 hours, 45 minutes</li> </ul>	<b>4 long + 1 optional section:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Writing &amp; Language; Evidence-Based Reading; Math (2 sections); Essay (optional)</li> <li>• Questions have 4 answer choices</li> <li>• Total testing time: 3 hours, 50 minutes (including Essay)</li> </ul>	<b>4 long + 1 optional section:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• English; Mathematics; Reading;</li> <li>• Science; Writing (optional Essay)</li> <li>• Most questions have 4 answer choices (Math has 5)</li> <li>• Total testing time: 3 hours, 25 minutes (with Essay)</li> </ul>
Scoring	<b>Combined score: 600-2400:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Critical Reading; Math; Writing (each 200-800)</li> <li>• Writing score based on Multiple Choice and Essay subscores.</li> <li>• ¼-point deduction for incorrect answers</li> </ul>	<b>Combined score: 400-1600:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evidence-Based Reading and Writing &amp; Language: 200-800; Math: 200-800</li> <li>• Essay score reported separately</li> <li>• "Cross-Test Scores" report performance on Science and History/ Social Studies across entire test</li> <li>• No deduction for incorrect answers</li> </ul>	<b>Composite score: 1-36 (average of 4 tests):</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• English; Math; Reading; Science (each 1-36)</li> <li>• Writing (Essay) score not factored into Composite score</li> <li>• Combined English/Writing score provided separately: 1-36</li> <li>• No deduction for incorrect answers</li> </ul>
Writing / English	<b>Identify and correct errors in single sentences:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Standard English grammar and usage</li> <li>• Punctuation not tested</li> <li>• Limited and predictable set of errors</li> </ul>	<b>Revise and edit a piece of writing for logical structure and effective rhetoric:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Standard English grammar and usage</li> <li>• Punctuation is tested</li> <li>• Logical structure</li> <li>• Effective rhetoric</li> <li>• Includes informational graphics</li> </ul>	<b>Revise and edit a piece of writing for logical structure and effective rhetoric:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Standard English grammar and usage</li> <li>• Punctuation is tested</li> <li>• Logical structure</li> <li>• Effective rhetoric</li> <li>• Commonly confused words</li> </ul>
Math	<b>Arithmetic, Algebra I and II, Geometry:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Apply core math skills to solve mostly non-standard, "tricky" problems</li> <li>• Formulas provided</li> <li>• 10 Grid-In questions (no answer choices)</li> </ul>	<b>Pre-Algebra through basic Trigonometry</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strong emphasis on Algebra</li> <li>• Calculator not allowed on one section</li> <li>• 12 Grid-In questions (no answer choices)</li> <li>• 1 Extended Thinking question (4 points)</li> </ul>	<b>Pre-Algebra through basic Trigonometry</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Math tested in straightforward manner</li> <li>• Extensive range of concepts tested</li> <li>• Emphasis on word problems</li> <li>• Formulas not provided</li> </ul>

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<p><b>Reading</b></p>	<p><b>Vocabulary-based sentence completions + 7 short or long reading passages:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Many inference, tone, purpose questions</li> <li>• Questions follow progressive order of the passage</li> </ul>	<p><b>Vocabulary de-emphasized 4 long passages and 1 paired passage:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 passages include diagrams &amp; charts</li> <li>• 1 passage from historical U.S. "Founding Document"</li> </ul>	<p><b>4 long passages:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Very little emphasis on vocabulary</li> <li>• Straightforward questions that require close reading of passage</li> <li>• Questions do not follow the progressive order of the passage</li> <li>• Less time spent to answer each question compared to SAT</li> </ul>
<p><b>Science</b></p>	<p><b>No Science section.</b></p>	<p><b>No stand-alone Science section, but Science-related questions will be included throughout the Math, Reading, and Writing &amp; Language tests.</b></p>	<p><b>40 questions distributed over 7 passages:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emphasis on charts, diagrams, etc.</li> <li>• Questions rarely require prior science knowledge</li> </ul>
<p><b>Essay</b></p>	<p><b>25 minutes (always the 1<sup>st</sup> section):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Broad range of topics; scored 2-6 each by 2 readers</li> <li>• Persuasive essay that allows for formulaic responses</li> </ul>	<p><b>50 minutes (always the last section):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Analyze a passage and evaluate author's reasoning and rhetoric</li> <li>• Students' opinions discouraged</li> <li>• Essay is scored on 2-8 scale each on three traits (Reading, Analysis, and Writing)</li> </ul>	<p><b>30 minutes (always the last test):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Narrow topic "relevant" to high school students</li> <li>• Demands a more structured response</li> <li>• Optional, but required by most schools</li> </ul>



### KEY TEST DATES 2018 -2019

<b>SAT</b>	<b>ACT</b>
<b>TEST DATES</b> (Released)	<b>TEST DATES</b> (Anticipated)
06 October 2018	09 June 2018
01 December 2018	08 Sept 2018
09 March 2019	27 Oct 2010
04 May 2019	08 Dec 2018
	13 April 2019
	08 June 2019

The **ACT dates are projected and subject to change**. The final schedule will be released by June. However, **based on previous years' dates, this schedule should be close to accurate**.

### SAT: some important details

In March 2016, College Board, the international organization that proctors the SAT, changed the format of the exam to make it more indicative of aptitude.

According to the new format, the SAT will have the following sections -

Section	Total Time (In minutes)	Total Questions	Time per Question (In seconds)
Reading	65	52	75
Writing	35	44	48
Math (No Calculator)	25	20	75
Math (Calculator)	55	38	86

The **SAT redesign** also involves some major changes to the scoring. Let's go through them one at a time.

**Essay Scores** - Since it's now optional, the new SAT essay will work a lot more like the ACT essay—you'll receive a separate essay score that doesn't factor into your score on the 400-1600 range. The essay score itself is also changing: rather than one score between 2 and 12, you'll get three scores, for reading, analysis, and writing, between 2 and 8.

**Sub-scores** - The College Board will be providing a number of sub-scores and cross-test scores as supplements to your composite score:

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- Analysis in History/Social Studies
- Analysis in Science
- Command of Evidence
- Heart of Algebra
- Passport to Advanced Math.
- Expression of Ideas
- Standard English Conventions
- Words in Context,
- Problem Solving and Data Analysis



## Reading

In the SAT Reading section, you'll read passages and interpret informational graphics. Some questions ask you to locate a piece of information or an idea stated directly whereas some might also need to understand what the author words imply. In other words, you are expected to read between the lines.

The Reading Test includes

- One passage from a classic or contemporary work of U.S. or world literature.
- One passage or a pair of passages from either a U.S. founding document or a text in the great global conversation.
- A passage from Economics, Psychology, Sociology, or some other Social science.
- Two science based passages (or one passage and one passage pair) that examine foundational concepts and developments in Earth science, biology, chemistry, or physics

## Writing

The SAT Writing and Language Test asks you to be an editor and improve passages that include deliberate errors.

When you take the Writing and Language Test, you'll do three things:

- Read.
- Find mistakes and weaknesses.
- Fix them.
- The passages you improve will range from arguments to nonfiction narratives and will be about careers, history, social studies, humanities, and science.
- Some passages are accompanied by informational graphics, such as tables, graphs, and charts — but no math is required.
- Prior topic knowledge is never tested.

***The Writing and Reading Test is part of the Evidence-Based Reading and Writing section.***

## **Math**

The Math Test in SAT will focus in depth on the three areas of math that play the biggest role in a wide range of college majors and careers:

Heart of Algebra	Focuses on the mastery of linear equations and systems.
Problem Solving and Data Analysis	It is about being quantitatively literate.
Passport To Advanced Math	These questions require the manipulation of complex equations.
Additional Topics in Math	It includes geometry and trigonometry most relevant to college and career readiness.

### **Test Section**

- No calculator Section
  - 25 Minutes
  - 15 MCQ and 5 Grid In Questions
- Calculator Section
  - 55 Minutes
  - 30 MCQ and 8 Grid In Questions

### Essay

The prompt argues a point and expresses subtle views on complex subjects. The passage examines ideas, debates, or trends in the arts and sciences, civic, cultural, or political life. The author uses logical reasoning and evidence to support his claims.

Your task will be to analyze this piece of writing. The purpose of the new SAT Essay is to assess your ability to analyze an author’s argument. To write a strong essay, you will need to focus on how the author uses evidence, reasoning, and other rhetorical techniques to build an argument and make it convincing. Your analysis should focus on the most relevant features of the passage. Your essay need not explain whether you agree or disagree with the author’s claims. You are required to showcase how well you understand the passage and use it as the basis for a well-written, thought-out discussion.

Your essay will be scored by two people. They will each award between 1 and 4 points in the following three categories:

- Reading.
- Analysis
- Writing

### ACT : Some important details

The ACT is composed of four multiple-choice sections—English, Math, Reading, and Science—and one optional essay section—Writing.

Total testing time is 2 hours and 55 minutes for the ACT without Writing and 3 hours and 35 minutes for the ACT with Writing.

Section	Total Time	Total Questions	Time per Question
English	45 minutes	75	36 seconds
Math	60 minutes	60	60 seconds
Reading	35 minutes	40	53 seconds
Science	35 minutes	40	53 seconds

The **ACT redesign** also involves some major changes to the scoring. Let's go through them one at a time.

**STEM Score** – This helps students assess their strength and weaknesses in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. This includes Math and Science



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score.

**ELA Score** - This will allow students to compare their score with others. It will consist of their English, Reading plus Writing score.

**Career Readiness Indicator** - This will help students assess their career readiness provide measures for foundational work skills and be an indicator for future scores on the ACT National Career Readiness Certificate (ACT NCRC).

**Text Complexity Indicator** - This will show students how well they understand complex texts that they will see in college and possibly their future careers. It will be based on their writing performance.

### English

The ACT English Test is not a grammar test or a test of how well you write. Instead, the ACT tests your editing skills—your ability to fix errors in grammar and punctuation and to improve the organization and style of five different passages.

On the ACT English Test you'll face five passages on topics ranging from historical essays to personal narratives. Portions of each passage are underlined, and you must decide if these are correct as written or if one of the other answers would fix or improve the selection. Other questions will ask you to add, cut, or reorder text, and ask you to evaluate the passage as a whole.

### Math

On the ACT Math questions will be based on topics covered in typical high school classes.

The ACT does not provide any formulas at the beginning of the Math Test. This means you need to memorize relevant formulas, so you can recall them quickly as needed.

	Topic	Questions
Algebra	Pre-algebra	14
	Elementary algebra	10
	intermediate algebra	9
Geometry	Plane geometry	14
	Coordinate geometry	9

Trigonometry	Basic sine, cosine, and tangent functions, trig identities, and graphing.	4
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### Reading

There are four reading passages of about 750 - 800 word each, always in this order:

- Prose fiction
- Social science
- Humanities
- Natural science

After each passage, you'll answer *10 questions* testing your understanding of content, purpose, tone, point of view, and organization. You will also be tested on the ability to make logical inferences on what was directly stated as well as what meanings were implied in the text.

### Science

The ACT Science section is not a test of scientific facts. It's a test of how well you look up data and trends. You are expected to make predictions and synthesize information from tables, graphs, illustrations, and passages. Most of the questions can be answered from the information presented in the passages or figures, but be prepared for 3 to 4 questions that require outside knowledge.

For passage topics, ACT pulls content from Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and the Earth/space sciences such as astronomy, geology, and meteorology.

**Types of ACT Science Passages**

Types of ACT Science Passages		
Data Representation	5 questions each	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Always come with figures</li> <li>• Contain 1 or more charts, tables, graphs, or illustrations.</li> </ul>
Research Summary	6 questions each	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Usually come with figures.</li> <li>• Describe several experiments.</li> <li>• Include more text than the charts and graphs passages do.</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sometimes comes with figures.</li> </ul>

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Conflicting  
Viewpoints

1 passage,  
7 questions.

- Feel more like the passages on ACT Reading Test.
- Ask you to compare, contrast, and synthesize different viewpoints.

### Essay

The prompt is a general topic, typically something related to current events or broad based ethical issues. The essay prompt will include an issue and three perspectives on the issue. You will be asked to discuss the three perspectives and present your own perspective. You are expected to

- Analyze and evaluate the perspectives given
- State and develop your own perspective on the issue
- Explain the relationship between your perspective and those given

Your Writing Test score will be scored on a 2-6 scale by two readers and does not affect your overall composite score. However, you will now receive four sub-scores on:

- Ideas and Analysis
- Development and Support
- Organization
- Language Use

## Admission Timing Options

The colleges on your list may offer any or all of the following admission timing options, each of which has specific deadlines:

- **Early Action:** This is a “non-binding” early admission process, which means you do not have to attend the school if you are accepted. Application deadlines are in the fall.
- **Early Decision:** This is a “binding” early admission process, which means you are obligated to enroll if accepted. Application deadlines are in the fall.
- **Regular Decision:** Used by the majority of applicants, this process usually has a deadline in January or February.



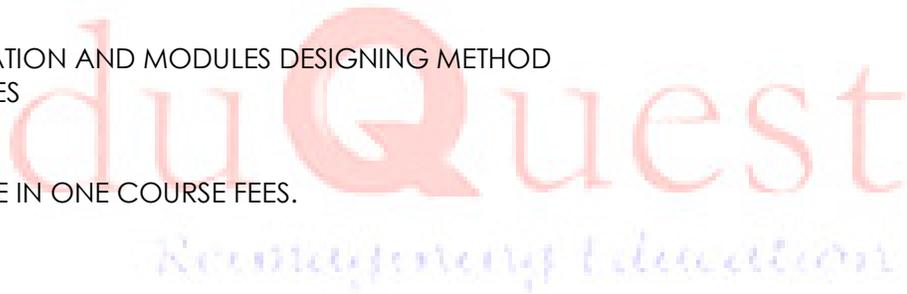
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- **Rolling Admission:** This process permits applications to be submitted over a longer period of time, sometimes with no set deadline.
- **Open Admission:** The school accepts all applicants who have a high school diploma, a General Education Development (GED) certificate, or a complete high school education in a homeschool setting approved under state law.

Courses	MODE
PSAT SAT ACT AP COURSES SUBJECTS TEST (SAT II) IELTS/TOEFL	ONLINE LIVE CLASSES OFFLINE CLASSES BLENDED CLASSES PEDAGOGY

CONTINUOUS EVALUATION AND MODULES DESIGNING METHOD  
CUSTOMISED CLASSES  
PERSONALIZED TEST

END TO END SERVICE IN ONE COURSE FEES.





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