ABOUT US

Ivyguideamerica is an innovative education consulting firm that is committed to widening students’ opportunity for college admission. We believe that every student possesses something unique, which, given the right presentation, will maximize his or her chance of college acceptance. Our counselors, who are experts in their specific fields, seek to customize each service plan to meet individual student’s needs. At Ivyguideamerica, we value collaborated efforts. Rather than being assigned to one counselor, each student will have the advantage of benefiting from the expertise of our entire team.

**Our vision:** Ivyguideamerica will become the most competitive option in the business of education consulting.

**Our mission**: create an efficient, collaborative working system to find the best academic and social fit for a student’s potential.

RESOURCES

IELTS

TOEFL

SAT

About the SAT I Reasoning Test

**What is the SAT I?**

The SAT I is a standardized examination designed to measure students’ abilities in three areas: reading, writing, and mathematical reasoning. Many American colleges and universities, including the most prestigious, consider [SAT scores](http://www.ivyglobal.com/sat/rankings.asp) an important factor in judging the quality of applicants.

Why do American schools care about the SAT? They care because it provides a level playing field for applicants to demonstrate their abilities. Since grading standards undoubtedly vary from one school to another, there is no way to know whether one student with a 4.0 GPA is truly as talented as another student with the same GPA. Thus, many schools rely on the SAT as a fair metric by which to judge a student’s abilities against another's. And this is no minor detail. As a result of the intensely competitive nature of the application process for the best schools, an impressive SAT score is all the more desirable, because a superior test score could potentially provide an applicant with that extra edge needed to prove successful.

Unfortunately or not, any student seriously considering any of the most prestigious universities in the United States must recognize the SAT as an important element of the application process. True, a less-than-outstanding SAT score will not necessarily nullify an applicant’s chances of acceptance, since other factors including GPA, extracurricular activities, and application essays are also considered. However, an outstanding score certainly helps.

For two of the three areas (Reading and Writing, and Math) tested by the SAT, a scaled area score (ranging from 200 to 800) is determined, giving a maximum possible total score of 1600. The essay score is reported separately, with three subscore in reading, analysis, and writing ranging from 1-4 for a total out of 12.

In March 2016, the format of the SAT changed significantly. The test has been simplified: instead of nine subsections of twenty or twenty-five minutes each, the SAT is now composed of four longer sections plus the optional essay. The emphasis on general reasoning and abstract knowledge and application has been replaced with an emphasis on applied reasoning and analysis of provided evidence.

The good news is that the changes made to the SAT in March 2016 have made significant improvement a more achievable goal. Armed with serious diligence and commitment, you have a greater chance than ever before to do well on the SAT. A

**What is the format of the SAT?**

The SAT is 3 hours and 50 minutes long (including the optional essay):

**100-minute Evidenced-based Reading and Writing section**

Reading Test (65 minutes, 52 questions)

Writing and Language Test (35 minutes, 44 questions)

**80-minute Math section**

Calculator allowed section (55 minutes, 37 questions)

No-calculator allowed section (25 minutes, 20 questions)

**Optional Essay-writing section (50 minutes)**

The SAT from 2016 onward

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Old SAT | Current SAT |
| Scoring | 600 - 2400 | 400 - 1600  Subscore and Cross-test Scores available |
| Timing | 3 Hours 45 Minutes | 3 Hours (+50 minute optional essay) |
| Sections | Critical Reading: 200-800  Writing: 200-800  Math: 200-800  Essay (included in Writing score) | [Evidence-Based Reading](http://sat.ivyglobal.com/evidence-based-reading) and [Writing](http://sat.ivyglobal.com/writing): 200-800  [Math](http://sat.ivyglobal.com/math): 200-800  [Optional Essay](http://sat.ivyglobal.com/essay) (separately scored) |
| Guessing Penalty | 1/4 guessing penalty | no guessing penalty |
| Format | Available in print | Available in print or on computer |

The College Board made content, format, and scoring changes to the SAT in 2016. The redesigned SAT test prioritizes content that reflects the kind of reading and math students will encounter in college and their future work lives. It was first administered in the spring of 2016.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Evidence-Based Reading and Writing | Math |
| Sections | 65-minute Reading section  35-minute Writing and Language section | 25-minute No Calculator section  55-minute Calculator section |
| Questions | 52 Questions (Reading)  44 Questions (Writing and Language) | 20 Questions (No Calculator)  38 Questions (Calculator) |
| Score Range | 200-800 | 200-800 |

Old SAT vs. Current SAT (2016)

Current SAT Structure

Timeline of Changes for Test Takers

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| January 2016 | Current SAT is administered for the final time. |
| March 2016 | New SAT will be administered for the first time. |

The new SAT will have no bearing on students scheduled to graduate in 2015 or 2016. However, for students planning to graduate in 2017 or any year after, the [new SAT exam](http://sat.ivyglobal.com/about-sat) will be the exam they have to take (assuming they would prefer to take the exam no sooner than spring of 2016).

Free Official SAT Practice Tests

*Prep for the pre-2016 SAT*

We offer a compilation of real SAT practice tests and sample questions available on the Web. [View practice material for the new 2016 SAT](http://sat.ivyglobal.com/new-sat-practice).

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Name | Scoring | Download |
| SAT Practice Test 2012-2013 | 2400 | [Download](https://satonlinecourse.collegeboard.org/SR/digital_assets/assessment/pdf/0833A611-0A43-10C2-0148-CC8C0087FB06-F.pdf) | [Answers](https://satonlinecourse.collegeboard.org/SR/digital_assets/pdfs/eri/scoring_2012-2013.pdf) |
| SAT Practice Test 2011-2012 | 2400 | [Download](https://satonlinecourse.collegeboard.org/SR/digital_assets/assessment/pdf/F4D31AB0-66B4-CE32-00F7-F5405701F413-F.pdf) | [Answers](https://satonlinecourse.collegeboard.org/SR/digital_assets/pdfs/eri/scoring_2011-2012.pdf) |
| SAT Practice Test 2007-2008 | 2400 | [Download](http://www.collegeboard.com/prod_downloads/prof/counselors/tests/sat/2007-08_sat_preparation_booklet.pdf) | [Answers](https://satonlinecourse.collegeboard.org/SR/digital_assets/pdfs/eri/scoring_2007-2008.pdf) |
| SAT Practice Test 2005 | 1600 | [Download](http://www.collegeboard.com/prod_downloads/prof/counselors/tests/sat/sat-prep-book-stu.pdf) |
| SAT Practice Test 2004-2005 | 1600 | [Download](http://www.collegeboard.com/prod_downloads/sat/satguide/SAT_full_0405.pdf) | [Answers](http://www.collegeboard.com/prod_downloads/sat/satguide/SAT_score_0405.pdf) |
| SAT Practice Test 2003-2004 | 1600 | [Download](http://www.collegeboard.com/prod_downloads/sat/satguide/SAT_Full.pdf) | [Answers](http://www.collegeboard.com/prod_downloads/sat/satguide/sat_score_2003.pdf) |
| SAT Practice Test 2002 May | 1600 | [Download](http://www.collegeboard.com/prod_downloads/sat/html/may2002/sat_may02.pdf) |
| SAT Practice Test 2001 October | 1600 | [Download](http://www.collegeboard.com/prod_downloads/sat/html/may2002/sat_oct01.pdf) |

*Total Number of Official Practice Tests: 28*

[The College Board's The Official SAT Study Guide (2nd Edition)](http://sat.collegeboard.org/practice/official-sat-study-guide) - 10 Official Exams (aka Blue Book)

[Official SAT Study Guide Answers](http://www.onlinemathlearning.com/sat-test-prep.html)

[Khan Academy Videos (SAT)](https://www.khanacademy.org/?video=sat-prep--test-1-section3-part-1#sat-preparation)

[Official SAT Online Course](https://satonlinecourse.collegeboard.org/SR/index.jsp) - Download 10 more official exams (pdf)

How to Study for the SAT

[Silverturtle's Guide to SAT](http://www.4shared.com/office/OHdOSqYA/Silvertur%20tles_Guide_to_SAT_and.html)

[Noitaraperp's Guide to Critical Reading](http://criticalreadingmethod.blogspot.ca/)

[Previous SAT Test Curves (PDF)](http://www.erikthered.com/tutor/SAT-Released-Test-Curves.pdf)

[College Confidential - Tips From A 2400er](http://talk.collegeconfidential.com/sat-preparation/602755-tips-2400er.html)

[College Confidential - How to Write a 12 Essay in Just 10 Days](http://talk.collegeconfidential.com/sat-preparation/645763-how-write-12-essay-just-10-days.html)

SAT Vocabulary

[6000 Word List](http://www.satvocabulary.us/) - Longest on the Web.

[SAT Vocabulary Recommendations](http://www.ivyglobal.com/sat/sat_vocabulary.asp)

AP

ACT

About the ACT Test

**What is the ACT?**

The ACT is a standardized examination designed to measure students’ abilities in five areas: English, Math, Reading, Science and Writing. Many American colleges and universities, including the most prestigious, consider ACT scores an important factor in judging the quality of applicants.

Why do American schools care about the ACT? They care because it provides a level playing field for applicants to demonstrate their abilities. Since grading standards undoubtedly vary from one school to another, there is no way to know whether one student with a 4.0 GPA is truly as talented as another student with the same GPA. Thus, many schools rely on the ACT as a fair metric by which to judge a student’s abilities against another's. And this is no minor detail. As a result of the intensely competitive nature of the application process for the best schools, an impressive ACT score is all the more desirable, because a superior test score could potentially provide an applicant with that extra edge needed to get into the school of his or her dreams.

Any student seriously considering any of the most prestigious universities in the United States must recognize the ACT as an important element of the application process. True, a less-than-outstanding ACT score will not necessarily nullify an applicant’s chances of acceptance, since other factors including GPA, extracurricular activities, and application essays are also considered. However, an outstanding score certainly helps.

For each of the five areas (English, Math, Reading, Science and Writing) tested by the ACT, a score (ranging from 1 to 36) is determined, giving a maximum possible total score of 36. The median total score on the ACT is 21.1.

The current ACT, introduced in 2005, takes three hours and twenty-five minutes and costs USD $38 or $54.50 (with the writing section). The ACT incorporates the objectives for instruction for middle and high schools throughout the United States, and is most popular in the Midwest and Southern United States.

The good news is that the changes made to the ACT in 2005 have made significant improvement a more achievable goal. Armed with serious diligence and commitment, you have a greater chance than ever before to do well on the ACT. And we at Ivy Global are prepared to equip you with the skills and strategies needed to maximize your results. Ivy Global offers both ACT preparation classes and ACT tutoring.

**What is the format of the ACT?**

The ACT is 3 hours and 25 minutes long. It is composed of 5 sections::

**One 45-minute multiple-choice English section (75 questions)**

--Measures standard written English and rhetorical skills.

**One 60-minute multiple-choice Math section (60 questions)**

--Measures mathematical skills students have typically acquired in courses taken up to the beginning of the 12th grade.

**One 35-minute multiple-choice Reading section (40 questions)**

--Measures reading comprehension.

**One 35-minute multiple-choice Science section (40 questions)**

--Measures the interpretation, analysis, evaluation, reasoning, and problem-solving skills required in the natural sciences.

**One 30-minute essay-writing section, with 1 prompt (optional)**

--Measures writing skills emphasized in high school English classes and in entry-level college composition courses.

These 5 sections, along with a short break after the first 2 tests, compose the whole of the ACT.

 Free ACT Practice Tests

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Official ACT Practice Test | Administration Date |
| [Preparing for the ACT 2014/2015 (PDF)](http://www.act.org/aap/pdf/Preparing-for-the-ACT.pdf)  (same as 2012/2013) | June 2009 |
| [Preparing for the ACT 2011-2012 (PDF)](http://www.actquantum.com/storage/act-tests/ACT%20April%202007%2064E%20Practice%20Test%202011-2012.pdf)  (same as [2009/2010](http://www2.btcs.org/ths/ACT_Resources/Preparing%20for%20the%20ACT%20Booklet%202009-10%20%28Practice%20Test%29.pdf)) | April 2007 |
| [Preparing for the ACT 2008-2009 (PDF)](http://www.actquantum.com/storage/act-tests/ACT%20Practice%20Test%202008-2009%2061C.pdf)  (same as [2007-2008](http://www.collegetidbits.com/tools/preparing-for-the-act.pdf)) | - |
| [Preparing for the ACT 2005-2006 (PDF)](http://www.actquantum.com/storage/act-tests/ACT%20Practice%20Tests%202005-2006%2059F.pdf)  (same as [2003-2004](http://www.lavamind.com/study/files/act_practice_test.pdf)) | - |

A compilation of real ACT practice tests and sample questions available on the web.

[Practice Questions from actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org/sampletest/) - Sample online practice test including English, Math, Reading, Science and Writing.

[Video explanations to all the math questions for all the Preparation for the ACT practice tests](http://www.actquantum.com/releasedacttests/) - ACT Quantum

[Question of the Day from act.org](http://www.act.org/qotd/) - Daily practice questions from the ACT.

[Various practice resources from about.com](http://testprep.about.com/od/ACT_Prep/tp/Free_ACT_Practice.htm) - Links to various free practice problems from test prep companies.

**COLLEGE APPLICATION**

**USEFUL LINKS**