

# The Best ACT Prep Course Ever

## Study & Pacing Guide: 6-month plan (~25 weeks)

If you're looking to get the most out of our course, this is a guide to help you do that! You're welcome to figure out your own study path, but if you'd like some guidance, or a template you can tailor to your own needs, here it is.

We've designed a few different study plans depending on how much time you have. This study guide is for those who have around 4-6 months to prep. We suggest using all the resources of our course, as well as some resources that go beyond our course (such as free practice sections from ACT and other free practice tests). If you have five months, cut weeks 17-18 and 25. If you have four months, you can additionally cut weeks 11, 14, and 21 if necessary, or double up some work in one week.

Also note that we're assuming you have Test #4, which appears in the 2018-2019 Guide (or newer) only. If you have the older guide, email us at [info@supertutortv.com](mailto:info@supertutortv.com) if you'd like to renew your course (for 3-6 months), upgrade to receive explanations to the 4<sup>th</sup> test, and receive a copy of the new book. If you don't have that test, you can also swap it out for another (instructions at bottom).

If you have six months to prep, you've got a good amount of time to get ready for this test. We recommend those on the 6-Month Plan to get a copy of **the REAL ACT Prep Guide, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition** (available [used from Amazon](#) or your local library) to maximize your resources on the exam. You'll be taking the English, Reading, and Science exams 1, 2, 3, and 5 in that book, but we advise skipping the math portions and instead focus on our math worksheets (as the math in the new book you have overlaps significantly with the that of the old book). We've budgeted 4 weeks per month, and about 4-6 hours per week of work. We know some months are a bit longer, but we also know that you might need time to catch up.

Please note, the first half of your prep focuses on the OLD book, NOT THE NEW ONE we shipped you! Do that book first as it is less similar to the actual test than the new book. **In the old book, avoid doing test #4 in Science and Reading and Test #5 in English. If necessary, mark these as "DO NOT DO" (they appear in one test in the new book. Save them for later).**

## SupertutorTV Video list

Another tool you'll likely find handy is our spreadsheet list of videos here:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1tdQJbvqqmNTE3rbmipIqVII0kaVrYPqMi3JKFdvLGqM>

## Month 1:

### Week 1:

**Watch Intro video:** How to use this course (17 min)

**Watch Youtube Videos:** (20 min)

#1 Secret Tip series if you haven't seen (Watch before you take your first test!!)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9G0DsYkJjRQ>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DCe1p9vvnE4>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IfYNngl8B50>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9G0DsYkJjRQ&t=7s>

Optional: You can also watch this to get a feel for good principles in ACT self-study:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0tDJ5DV8IQw>

**Take a diagnostic exam from Preparing for the ACT** (~3.5-4 hours)

Free test from ACT.org, 72CPRE, available here:

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1OzZLtKpb\\_pBLu3hoZDE6bOwTN3Qvx80C/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1OzZLtKpb_pBLu3hoZDE6bOwTN3Qvx80C/view)

- Time it and use the bubble sheet provided at the end of the document.
- Star anything you're not 100% sure about and are guessing on. You should still put an answer, though; bubble everything since there is no score penalty for guessing!
- Score your test.
- If you're taking the essay, [practice taking the essay](#) too.
- If possible, do the entire test in one sitting.

## Week 2:

**Review** (2-6 hours)

Go over all the questions you missed in the practice test ("free" test), as well as any questions you've starred.

- Go through each video explanation using our course.
- For English and Math, make a list for each section of what areas you need to review in terms of content. I usually will indicate the problem "type" as I explain the answer. Make a list or use our [spreadsheet](#) to mark what you need to work on. This is your study list for next week.

**Reading and Science:** Try to figure out why you didn't perform as well as you could.

- ★ Was it timing?
- ★ Was it strategy?

**English Tip Videos: General Strategies** (30 min)

**Math Tip Videos: Intro/General Tips, Backsolving and Making up Numbers**

### **Week 3:**

**Focus on skill improvement and reworking your habits. Spend at least 4 hours per week.**

#### **Content Work: Math & English (Videos and Practice Exercises)**

Review at least 2 content videos related to your study list you made in week 2 for each subject.

- Anything you missed, you should review the video for and then complete the worksheet/drill.
- Then review the answers you missed using the explanatory answers.
- If anything is confusing, or an explanation seems off, you can always reach out to us at [info@supertutortv.com](mailto:info@supertutortv.com).
  - Please also note we have a list of errata you can access via the link on our site. The link is on the front “blurb” of the math tab.
- Do the drills associated with these content videos, grade, and review them.

**Science Tip Videos: General Tips 1-10 and Timing Tips** (about 1 hour)

- Check them off on your viewing checklist.

**Reading Tip Videos: How to Read the Passage, How to Speed Read, and How to Approach the Questions** (~1 hour)

### **Week 4:**

**Practice Test Sections: Science & Reading** (2.5 hours)

Take a full section for each of these untimed, using **Test 1 in The Real ACT Prep Guide, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition**.

Your goal this week is to “get everything right.”

- ★ Fight for the answer.
- ★ Look back for answers and focus on finding the evidence.

- ★ Learn how the test works and get to the “aha” moment.

Go over any questions you missed using the video explanations in our course.

**Math Tip Videos:** (1 hour)

- If you have a TI-83 or 84, watch “**How to Program Calculator**” (Youtube), **SupertutorTV Programs, and ACT Calculator Hacks.**
- Program your calculator this week with a few ACT-friendly programs.

**English Tip Videos:** **10 Ways to Raise the Bar, Careless Error Traps, and Pacing Strategies** (1 hour)

## **Month 2:**

### **Week 5:**

**Reading Tip Videos:** **How to Narrow Your Choices (both videos)** (~1 hour).

**Science Tip Videos:** **Timing Tips** (20 min)

**Practice Test:** **Practice Test #2 in the Real ACT Prep Guide, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition** (2.5-3 hours)

- Take the English, Science, and Reading sections.
- Time the English section but do the Science and Reading with extra time. Keep track, however, of how long the Science and Reading sections take you. Be aware of your pace so you can start to speed up after this week.
- Grade the exam.

**Content Work: Math (if time permits)** (1 hour)

- Continue to work through your study list from Week 2, completing at least 2 strategy videos and/or related packets.
- Go over all your answers from these.

### **Week 6:**

**Review** (2-3 hours)

Watch video explanations for **Practice test #2 in the Real ACT Prep Guide, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition** (English, Science & Reading)

- Update your list of areas to work on in **English** (content) after taking the test, analyzing what you missed.

### **Content Work: Math & English**

- Spend 1 hour watching content videos in **Math** and **English**
- 1-2 hours doing more drills in English according to your content list
- More drills in math according to your list.

### **Science Tip Videos: 50/50 Questions, Comprehension Questions** (20 min)

### **Week 7:**

### **Science Tip Videos: Experiment Setup Logic Questions and Extrapolation Questions** (16 min)

### **Content Work: Math**

- Watch more **math content videos**, working through areas (2+) on your list.
- Spend at least 1 hour doing Math content drills that correspond with the videos you've watched.
- If you're confident in a particular area, skip the math video and head straight to the drill.
- Review all your work and correct errors.

### **Reading Tip Videos: Timing Tips (all)** (33 min)

### **Practice Test: Practice test #3 in the Real ACT Prep Guide, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition.**

Take the English, Science, and Reading sections only.

- Time the English section, but do the Science and Reading with extra time, but less extra time than last time. If timing is a real issue, consider breaking these into segments and running timing drills as per our timing tip videos.

### **Content Work: Math & English**

- Spend ½-1 hour watching content videos in **English**.
- Then take 1-2 hours doing more drills in English according to your content list.

### **Science Content Videos:** (~25 min)

**Standard Chart Reading**

**In Depth Chart Reading**

**Outside Information**

**Super Detailed Questions**

### **Week 8:**

### **Review:** (2-3 hours)

- Watch Explanation Videos for **Practice Test #3 in the Real ACT Prep Guide, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition** (English, Science, and Reading sections only)

- **Update** your **English** skills to learn list/spreadsheet, if applicable.

**Science Content Videos:** **Synthesis** and **Text Based Experiment Questions** (20 min)

**Essay:** (1 hour)

If you're planning to do the essay, watch our video on the Essay, and **write a practice essay**.

**Content Work: Math & English**

- Spend 1 hour watching content videos in **Math and English**.
- Take 1-2 hours doing more drills in **English** according to your content list.
- More drills in **math** according to your list.
- Focus on what you need the most work on.

## **Month 3:**

### **Week 9:**

**Practice Test:** (3.5 hours)

- **Practice Test #5 in the Real ACT Prep Guide, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition**(Science and Reading sections ONLY)
- **Practice test #4 in the Real ACT Prep Guide, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition** (English ONLY)
- Complete 60 questions from the **Math “Bonus Questions”** that come with your **Official ACT Prep Guide**.
- Grade all tests and bonus questions.

**Content Work: Math** (2 hours)

- Work on **Math** packets and watch **videos** if you need them.
- If you've worked through all your problem areas, choose chapters that you know you are rusty on or that you find most challenging.

**Essay** (30 min)

- ★ Review the essay you wrote last week.
- ★ Try to revise it based on the examples available online at ACT.org.

### **Week 10:**

**Review** (2-4 hours)

Watch video explanations for **Practice test #4 and 5 in the Real ACT Prep Guide** (English, Science & Reading) & for **60 questions from the Math “Bonus Questions.”**

- ★ For science and reading, make a log of the mistakes you made and figure out what techniques would help you correct those errors.
- ★ Create a list of target strategies for each section based on the video explanations.
- ★ Add to your math & English lists of questions to target based on the results.

### **Content Work: Math & English** (2 hours)

- Print and complete at least 1 hours' worth of more**Math** content
- Print and complete 1 hour of **English** content.
- For both, watch videos if the areas are trouble spots.
- If you have no new content trouble spots, continue to work through videos and worksheets that you find most challenging and have not yet completed.

## **Week 11:**

**Take a week off to focus** on what you need the most work on.

- ★ Is that English?
  - If so, take the **Official Test #1 in Real ACT Guide, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition**, timed.
  - Then go over all answers and watch any relevant content videos you haven't seen yet.
- ★ Is that Math?
  - You've got lots of packets left you probably haven't done.
  - Explore some of the math content videos.
  - Catch up on your math packets.
  - You can also take a complete timed math section from another practice test (not in your books—links below).
  - You can also do the last 44 or so bonus questions from online that come with your official guide.
  - We have video explanations for all of these.
- ★ Is it Science or Reading?
  - If so, more practice is in order.
  - We don't have explanations for these tests, but by now, you should be versed in this test enough that you can figure out the answers if you go over them on your own. Try a complete, timed reading or science section from a free older test at one of these links:

[http://cdn2.hubspot.net/hub/360031/file-2226679255-pdf/Documents/ACT\\_Test\\_2014-15.pdf?t=1441120972903](http://cdn2.hubspot.net/hub/360031/file-2226679255-pdf/Documents/ACT_Test_2014-15.pdf?t=1441120972903)

[http://cdn2.hubspot.net/hub/360031/file-2227156987-pdf/Documents/ACT\\_Test\\_2011-12.pdf?t=1441120972903](http://cdn2.hubspot.net/hub/360031/file-2227156987-pdf/Documents/ACT_Test_2011-12.pdf?t=1441120972903)

[http://cdn2.hubspot.net/hub/360031/file-2227156982-pdf/Documents/ACT\\_Test\\_2008-09.pdf?t=1441120972903](http://cdn2.hubspot.net/hub/360031/file-2227156982-pdf/Documents/ACT_Test_2008-09.pdf?t=1441120972903)

[https://cdn2.hubspot.net/hub/360031/file-2227156992-pdf/Documents/ACT\\_Test\\_2005-06.pdf?t=1529339009506](https://cdn2.hubspot.net/hub/360031/file-2227156992-pdf/Documents/ACT_Test_2005-06.pdf?t=1529339009506)

## **Math Tip Videos: Avoiding Careless Errors and Timing Tips**

### **Week 12:**

**This is about the halfway point.**

**It's time to get out the Official ACT Prep Guide (newest edition).**

**Practice Test: Practice Test #1 in your Official ACT Prep Guide + Essay** (if applicable) (4 hours)

- Take this week to do a full test in close to testing conditions.
- Print a bubble sheet, and take test in your book.
- Time yourself.
- Do the essay if you've signed up for it.
- Star everything you're iffy on, even if you get it right.
- Grade it.

### **Month 4:**

#### **Week 13:**

**Review** (~2-4 hours depending on score)

- Go over everything you've starred or missed on the **Practice Exam #1 in your new Official ACT Prep Guide** using the video explanations.
- Revise and update your list of areas to target in **Math and English**.
- Figure out what is still tough for you in **Science and Reading**.

**From here forward, continue to hone what you want to work on by what you need to work on most.**

- ★ If you missed any strategy videos, make that work up this week.
- ★ Work on any outstanding areas in **Math and English** using the videos and associated worksheets as you can.

#### **Week 14:**

**Content Work: English & Math**



- Continue to work through content videos and worksheets.
- If you've covered everything you struggle with:
  - Repeat chapters you keep missing / re-watch videos for areas you struggle with
  - Move on to areas you're better at and focus on the toughest problems, as well as ways to speed up your process.
  - In **Math**, if you've gone through all worksheets, try using the Bonus Questions if you haven't yet finished those.

### **Content Work: Science & Reading**

- Repeat passages you've already done or see Week 11/21 for links to other practice tests you can use.
- Continue to work through these question types.
- If you really need more work on these sections, consider getting another book that drills these problem types.

### **Week 15:**

**Practice Test: Practice Test #2 in your Official ACT Prep Guide + Essay** (if applicable)

- If you need to ease up on timing training this week to improve your accuracy, that's okay, but after this test you should be doing the test within real testing time conditions.
- Decide, in advance, what strategy you will take.

### **Week 16:**

#### **Review**

- Go over **Practice Test #2 in your Official ACT Prep Guide** with our online video explanations.
- Update your "to work on" list.

### **Month 5:**

#### **Week 17 – Week 18:**

- ★ Finish any outstanding videos or worksheets you haven't completed in the course.
- ★ Review any problems in areas you need the most work in.
- ★ Also see advice in Week 14.
- ★ Rinse & Repeat.
- ★ Also, review all your practice tests you've taken and take stock of what you've missed. This is your chance to double down on any types of problems you see you keep missing over time.

## Week 19:

**Practice Test:** Practice Test #3 in your Official ACT Prep Guide.

- Try to simulate real testing conditions if you can.

## Week 20:

### **Review:**

For **Practice Test #3** in your **Official ACT Prep Guide**, review videos that target areas you're still missing.

- Do worksheets that deal with these areas if you haven't already (**English/Math**).
- If you need more Science/Reading drill practice, try the free practice questions at ACT.org here:

<https://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/the-act/test-preparation/reading-practice-test-questions.html?page=0&chapter=0>

## Month 6:

### Week 21:

**Again, let's take a week to focus** on your weaknesses.

- See instructions on Week 11.
- If you can't identify a single one, try taking a complete practice test and reviewing it.
- This is a great week to take an old test if you've got an older brother or sister who ordered their test booklet, and that's sitting around the house somewhere. You might also find a friend with an old one. These older tests can sometimes be found online, but we can't vouch for the legality of such tests being posted (on Reddit, etc.) and we don't advocate piracy. You can also get access to the [ACT Online Official Prep](#) system which includes 2 official (albeit online only) tests for around \$40. If you don't have access to any other tests (newer tests are ideal), you can take one of the tests below. Do note, the science sections are 7 passages not 6, and the reading does not have a paired passage. Also, the math has slightly different balance (fewer arrangements and statistics-oriented problems).

[http://cdn2.hubspot.net/hub/360031/file-2226679255-pdf/Documents/ACT\\_Test\\_2014-15.pdf?t=1441120972903](http://cdn2.hubspot.net/hub/360031/file-2226679255-pdf/Documents/ACT_Test_2014-15.pdf?t=1441120972903)

[http://cdn2.hubspot.net/hub/360031/file-2227156987-pdf/Documents/ACT\\_Test\\_2011-12.pdf?t=1441120972903](http://cdn2.hubspot.net/hub/360031/file-2227156987-pdf/Documents/ACT_Test_2011-12.pdf?t=1441120972903)

[http://cdn2.hubspot.net/hub/360031/file-2227156982-pdf/Documents/ACT\\_Test\\_2008-09.pdf?t=1441120972903](http://cdn2.hubspot.net/hub/360031/file-2227156982-pdf/Documents/ACT_Test_2008-09.pdf?t=1441120972903)

[https://cdn2.hubspot.net/hub/360031/file-2227156992-pdf/Documents/ACT\\_Test\\_2005-06.pdf?t=1529339009506](https://cdn2.hubspot.net/hub/360031/file-2227156992-pdf/Documents/ACT_Test_2005-06.pdf?t=1529339009506)

We don't have explanations for these, so you'll need to review on your own, fight for the answers as you review, and try to figure things out the best you can without explanation videos. Always review your work, though. This is how you learn!

## **Week 22:**

**Practice Test:** **Practice Test #4 in your Official ACT Prep Guide\*** (2019 guide only; for other books, see end of this document).

## **Week 23:**

### **Review**

Watch video explanations for **Practice Test #4 in your Official ACT Prep Guide**.

- Any last-minute areas you need to review, check out content or strategy videos as appropriate.

## **Week 24:**

### **Take another practice test**

- ★ You won't have explanations for this one, but at this point you should be able to review anything you don't understand on your own.
- ★ See end of this document for ideas/links in obtaining another practice test.

**Pack and prepare** for the test day:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CXXkIA\\_aqVE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CXXkIA_aqVE)

## **Week 25:**

### **Review**

- Go over the **Practice Test** you took last week.
- Brush up using any videos or worksheets that target your last few liabilities.
- Review my ACT Cheat Sheet to remember tricks and strategies.
- Redo test sections if you feel you need more practice or take another practice test if you can find one you haven't done yet.

**How to get more practice tests: (NOTE: we do NOT offer explanations for these tests)**

If you've got an older brother or sister who ordered their test booklet, and that's sitting around the house somewhere, use that. It's probably recent, and recent tests are best.

You might also find a friend with an old one. These older tests can sometimes be found online, but we can't vouch for the legality of such tests being posted (on Reddit, etc.) and we don't advocate piracy. If you don't have access to any other tests (newer tests are ideal), take one of the tests below. Do note, the science sections are 7 passages not 6, and the reading does not have a paired passage. Also, the math has slightly different balance (fewer arrangements and statistics-oriented problems). You can also get access to the [ACT Online Official Prep](#) system which includes 2 official (albeit online only) tests for around \$40.

Official ACT 2018-2019 (We plan to do explanations for this by fall 2018, release TBD)  
<https://www.act.org/content/dam/act/unsecured/documents/Preparing-for-the-ACT.pdf>

Official ACT 2014-2015  
[http://cdn2.hubspot.net/hub/360031/file-2226679255-pdf/Documents/ACT\\_Test\\_2014-15.pdf?t=1441120972903](http://cdn2.hubspot.net/hub/360031/file-2226679255-pdf/Documents/ACT_Test_2014-15.pdf?t=1441120972903)

Official ACT 2011-2012  
[http://cdn2.hubspot.net/hub/360031/file-2227156987-pdf/Documents/ACT\\_Test\\_2011-12.pdf?t=1441120972903](http://cdn2.hubspot.net/hub/360031/file-2227156987-pdf/Documents/ACT_Test_2011-12.pdf?t=1441120972903)

Official ACT 2008-2009  
[http://cdn2.hubspot.net/hub/360031/file-2227156982-pdf/Documents/ACT\\_Test\\_2008-09.pdf?t=1441120972903](http://cdn2.hubspot.net/hub/360031/file-2227156982-pdf/Documents/ACT_Test_2008-09.pdf?t=1441120972903)

Official ACT 2005-2006  
[https://cdn2.hubspot.net/hub/360031/file-2227156992-pdf/Documents/ACT\\_Test\\_2005-06.pdf?t=1529339009506](https://cdn2.hubspot.net/hub/360031/file-2227156992-pdf/Documents/ACT_Test_2005-06.pdf?t=1529339009506)

You can also get a full test's worth of questions for free online at ACT.org here:  
<https://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/the-act/test-preparation/reading-practice-test-questions.html?page=0&chapter=0>

ACT Online Computer System Practice Test (For international test takers or those out of paper exams) Form 71C  
<http://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/act-international-programs.html>