

The Best ACT Prep Course Ever

Study & Pacing Guide: 3-month plan (~13 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 3 months to prep.

If you have around three months to prep, we recommend you get a copy of [the Real ACT Prep Guide, 3rd Edition](#) to maximize your resources on the exam, ideally used in very good or excellent condition or otherwise obtain a copy from your local library (because the guide is out of print, we do not include it with the course). 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 and the math Bonus Questions that came with the newer **Official ACT Prep Guide** (FYI: the math in the new book overlaps significantly with the math questions in the old book in a manner that is random and difficult to keep track of).

At three months, this plan is a bit ambitious. We've made some items optional. Each week is budgeted at 4-8 hours of work. If you'd like, you can split up some of these lessons and extend this to a 4 month plan. You can also skip elements that don't address what you need to work on most. Also note that we're assuming you have Test #4, which appears in the 2018-2019 Guide (or newer). If you have the older guide, email us at info@supertutortv.com if you'd like to renew your course (for 3-6 months) and receive a copy of the new book (\$99+). If you don't have that test, you can also swap it out for another (instructions at bottom).

Please note, the first portion 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 the test in the new book. Save them for later).**

Adjustment note:

If you're already scoring high on many sections, you can adjust which videos and packets you do by targeting the problems that are your "problem areas" first. If you have small content "lists," you are welcome to just work through every area of content one at a time. Use our [video reference spreadsheet](#) and do whatever addresses your weaknesses best.

Month 1:

Week 1:

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

Watch Youtube Videos(~20 min)

#1 Secret Tip series (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=0tDJ5DV8lQw>

Take a diagnostic exam from Preparing for the ACT 2017-2018 (~3.5-4 hours)

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

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1OzZLtKpb_pBLu3hoZDE6bOwTN3Qvx80C/view?usp=s
haringhttps://drive.google.com/file/d/1OzZLtKpb_pBLu3hoZDE6bOwTN3Qvx80C/view?usp=sharing

- 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 (marked as "Preparing for the ACT" on our video course), 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 the areas you need to review in terms of content. You can use this spreadsheet to help you track your subjects (you'll need to make a copy or download it): [video reference spreadsheet](#). I will usually 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 and beyond.

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

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

Week 3:

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

Practice Test Sections: Science & Reading (2.5 hours)

Take a full section for each of these untimed, using **Test 1 in RealACT Prep Guide, 3rd Edition**.

Your goal this week is to "get everything right."

ü Fight for the answer.

ü Look back for answers and focus on finding the evidence.

ü Learn how the test works and get to the "aha" moment.

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

Content Work: Math & English (Videos & Practice Exercises) (1.5+ hours)

Review at least 3 content videos related to your study list that you made in Week 2 for each subject.

· If you understand something, don't waste time on it; do only the math questions that challenge you or that you are rusty on.

· 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.

- Please also note we have a list of math errata you can access online here:
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1QdsrUqktF20QZpAi9c4UkbbQXaEvyZ9h7hKvzajtqBY/edit?usp=sharing>
- Do the drills associated with these content videos, grade, and review them. (See [video reference spreadsheet](#) if you're not sure if a worksheet has a video or a video has a worksheet).

Science Content Videos (optional, if you struggle in science):(~40 min)

Standard Chart Reading

In Depth Chart Reading

Outside Information

Super Detailed Questions

Experiment Setup Logic Questions

Extrapolation Questions

Week 4:

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.

Content Work: Math:(1-2 hours)

- Continue to work through your study list from Week 2.
- Complete at least 2 strategy videos and/or related packets.
- Feel free to skip over problems or portions of the videos/packets you understand to focus on what you need.
- Go over all your answers from these.

English Tip Videos: 10 Ways to Raise the Bar (Optional: Careless Error Traps and Pacing Strategies) (20 min-1 hour)

Practice Test:Practice Test #2 in the Real ACT Prep Guide, 3rd 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.

Review(1-3 hours)

Watch video explanations for **Practice test #2 in the Real ACT Prep Guide, 3rd**

Edition (English, Science & Reading).

- Continue this next week if you don't have time this week.
- Update your list of areas to work on in **English**(content) after taking the test, analyzing what you missed.

Content Work: English (optional)

If you have a lot of English areas to improve on, consider working through more **English content** videos and/or associated worksheets.

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

Science Tip Video (optional, if you struggle with time): **Timing Tips** (20 min)

Month 2:

Week 5:

Finish Reviewing Test sections from last week.

Content Work: English

Spend ½-1 hour watching **content videos in English** and then 1+ hours doing more drills in English according to your target list.

Content Work: Math

- Watch more **math content videos**, working through areas (2+) on your study list.
- Spend at least 1 hour doing Math content drills that correspond with the videos you've watched.
- From this point forward, 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. If you missed almost nothing or everything was careless error or pacing related, see OPTIONAL below instead.

Reading Tip Video:**Timing Tips(all)**(33 min)

Practice Test: **Practice test #3 in the Real ACT Prep Guide, 3rdEdition** (2.5-3 hours)

Do 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.

Get a Watch

If you don't have a watch yet, now is the time to get one. It MUST be a wrist watch and CANNOT be a smart watch (Apple Watch, Fitbit, etc.) From here out, practice all your practice exams with a watch, not your phone.

- We recommend a cheap analog watch with arms that has clear minute marks and a second hand (I will reset a watch like this to an even time, such as 8am, at the start of each test section) OR a digital watch that has beeps and lights that can be turned off and a silent stopwatch function.

Optional (1 hour)

Complete 60 questions from the online **Math “Bonus Questions”** that come with your **ACT Official Guide**.

§ If you are running out of math areas to work on via worksheets, or you need extra help on the math, this is a good way to get in more practice.

*****Note to those with 2018-2019 version of ACT Official Guide:** the numbering for the new online system is embedded in a code that looks something like this: “**math.actreview.0026_1802**” The question number that corresponds with the video explanation on our course is typically the number after “actreview.” Questions above #85 however, vary somewhat to our numbering. This document will help you convert the numbers if you're looking for explanations for questions 86+ and have the 2018-2019 version of the online question bank:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/15lVG559ppSL_0nbuzoF7DJO3156dR30J2C7LNvFcInc/edit?usp=sharing

If you have the 2017-2018 version or earlier, the numbering should correspond with your PDF packet.

Alternatively

Take a math practice exam from another ACT (not from the **Real ACT Prep Guide, 3rd Edition**, or the Official Guide; If you don't have a recent test from a relative or friend that ordered a copy of their real exam, etc., see bottom of this document for links to additional practice tests).

- If time is your biggest issue, this is a better idea than using the bonus questions, as they are not ordered according to difficulty.

Science Content Videos:50/50 Questions, Comprehension Questions (~20 min)

Week 7:

Review (~1-4 hours)

- Watch explanation videos for **Practice test #3 in the Real ACT Prep Guide 3rd Edition**, (English, science, and reading only)
- Review **Math “Bonus Questions”** from last week (optional)

Essay (30 min-1 hour)

If you're planning to do the essay, watch our video on the Essay.

Practice Test:Practice Test #1 in the Official ACT Prep Guide (~4 hours)

- Take this week to do a full test in close to testing conditions.
- Use your watch to time yourself.
- Print or tear out the bubble sheet and take test #1 in your new book.
- Do the essay if you've signed up for it as part of the test.
- Star everything you're unsure about, even if you get it right.
- Grade it.

This is a great “check in” week to see where your overall score is.

Week 8:

Review (2-4 hours)

Watch video explanations for **Practice Test #1 in the (NEW BOOK) Official ACT Prep Guide**.

- Update your study list for English and Math.
- Make notes on what you want to focus on with Reading/Science strategies based on the video explanations.

Essay (30 min)

§ Review the essay you wrote last week.

§ Try to revise it [based on the examples available online at](#) ACT.org. (30 min)

Content Work: Math & English (1-2 hours)

Review content videos related to your study list you updated and do corresponding drills.

§ Go over your wrong answers.

§ Learn from your mistakes.

Practice Test (excluding Math):(~2.5 hours); you can give yourself a little extra time if you're still not up to speed pacing wise. Still, keep track of your pacing.

Practice Test #5 in the Real ACT Prep Guide, 3rd Edition, Science and Reading ONLY

Practice Test #4 in the Real ACT Prep Guide, 3rd Edition, English ONLY

Write another Essay

Use one of our prompts available for download in the ESSAY portion of the online course

Optional(1 hour)

Complete 40-60 questions from the **online Math “Bonus Questions”**– access for this come with your**(New Book) Official ACT Prep Guide**.

§ If you are running out of math areas to work on via worksheets, or you need extra help on the math, this is a good way to get in more practice.

§ If you struggle mostly with time, alternatively do a full practice section from one of the tests at the end of this document; these do not have answer explanations.

*****Note to those with 2018-2019 version of ACT Official Guide:**the numbering for the new online system is embedded in a code that looks something like this

“**math.actreview.0026_1802**” The question number that corresponds with the video explanation on our course is typically the number after “actreview,” not the number from your randomly generated “drill.” Questions above #85 however, vary somewhat to our numbering. This document will help you convert the numbers if you're looking for explanations for questions 86+ and have the 2018-2019 version of the online question bank:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/15lVG559ppSL_0nbuzoF7DJO3156dR30J2C7LNvFcInc/edit?usp=sharing

If you have the 2017-2018 version or earlier, the numbering should correspond with your PDF packet.

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

Month 3:

Week 9:

Review(1-3 hours)

Go over all test sections and bonus questions from last week (**Test #5 Science/Reading, Test #4 English** in old book; **Bonus Questions in Math**) that you starred or missed using online videos.

Update your study list for English and Math.

§ Make notes on what you want to focus on with reading/science strategies based on the video explanations.

If you missed any **strategy videos** over the course of your prep, and those issues are surfacing now, make that work up this week.

§ At this point, we've assigned ALL AVAILABLE STRATEGY VIDEOS.

Essay(30 min)

- Review the essay you wrote last week.
- Try to revise it [based on the examples available online at ACT.org](#).

Content Work: Math & English(2 hours)

Review content videos related to your study list you updated and do corresponding drills.

§ Go over your wrong answers.

§ Learn from your mistakes.

§ If you've worked through all your problem areas, choose chapters that you know you are rusty on or you find most challenging.

Content Work: Science & Reading (1.5 hours)

If you're still struggling in these sections, particularly with pacing, try to do more timed drills.

- Use the practice tests at the end of this document for your drills. We don't have video explanations for these, so you will need to review on your own and figure out why you missed questions on your own at this point for these drills.

Math Tip Videos: Avoiding Careless Errors and Timing Tips

Week 10:

Practice Test:Practice Test #2 in your new Official ACT Prep Guide+ Essay (if applicable) (~4 hours)

- If you need to ease up on time some this week to improve accuracy, that's ok, but after this test you should be doing the test fully timed.
- Decide in advance what strategy you will take this week.
- Write an essay if you are signed up for it, as part of the test.

Review

- Watch video explanations for **Practice Test #2 in the Official ACT Prep Guide**
- Update your "to work on" list.

Essay

- Review your essay based on the [ACT Rubric](#).
- Consider how you can improve.

Week 11:

Content Work: Math & English(1-2 hours)

Review content videos related to your study list you updated and do corresponding drills.

§ Go over your wrong answers.

§ Learn from your mistakes.

§ If you've worked through all your problem areas, choose chapters that you know you are rusty on or you find most challenging.

Content Work (optional): Science & Reading (1-1.5 hours)

- If you're still struggling in these sections, particularly with pacing, try to do more timed drills.
- Use the practice tests at the end of this document for your drills. We don't have video explanations available for these.

Practice Test:Practice Test #3 in the Official ACT Prep Guide + Essay (if applicable) (~4 hours)

- Print or tear out the bubble sheet and take test #1 in your new book.
- Time yourself.
- Do the essay if you've signed up for it as part of the test.
- Star everything you're unsure on, even if you get it right.
- Try to simulate real testing conditions if you can.

Review

- Review Practice Test #3 in your book.
- Review videos that target areas you're still missing.
- Do worksheets that deal with these areas if you haven't already (English/Math).

Week 12:

Review

Watch video explanations for **Practice Test #3 in the Official ACT Prep Guide**.

Big Review

Take this week to review ALL the practice tests you've done.

§ Look for patterns and remind yourself of how to correct the errors you've made.

§ Take notes and make your own "cheat sheet" of what to remember on test day.

§ Remember why reading and science questions were right or wrong.

§ Remember where you should have looked.

§ Review any ideas you still need to brush up on.

Pack and prepare for the test day:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CXXkIA_aqVE

§ Get everything you need ready to go so you're not scrambling for calculator batteries or pencils the day before!

Week 13:

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

Review (1-4 hours)

- Watch video explanations for Practice Test #4.
- Any last-minute areas you need to review, check out content or strategy videos as appropriate.

Review my **ACT Cheat Sheet**(in Downloads of Practice Tests) 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.

Optional: If you're an over-achiever, take another practice test or two and review on your own.

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 links.

GOOD LUCK!

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 it'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 2014-2015

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

Official ACT 2008-2009

http://cdn2.hubspot.net/hub/360031/file-2227156982-pdf/Documents/ACT_Test_2008-09.pdf?t=1441120972903

Official ACT 2005-2006

http://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>