

PreACT / PSAT

Sophomores

What?

- Preliminary college entrance exams
- Standardized test to gauge where you are academically and what areas you need to strengthen
- Bring pencils and calculator (must be not contain algebra system functionality like TI-89 or TI-92)
- No books/food/drinks, etc.

When?

- PreACT and PSAT during 10th grade
- PSAT during 11th grade - National Merit Qualifying Test
- October
- Results will be available usually in January
- ACT in April

Where?

- PreACT and PSAT are administered at SWCS from 1st - 5th hour
- Register at ACT.ORG - national test locations
 - One ACT will be administered at school for 10th/11th/12th graders - No registration needed.
- Register at SAT.ORG - national test locations
- Taken at schools that administer tests
- ACT has more locations than SAT so you must register for SAT earlier
- Both cost around \$50 per exam

How are they different?

ACT

SAT

Total Time	2 hrs 55 mins without Writing 3 hrs 35 mins with Writing	3 hrs without Essay 3 hrs 50 mins with Essay
Order of Sections	1. English 2. Math 3. Reading 4. Science 5. Writing (optional)	1. Reading 2. Writing and Language 3. Math No Calculator 4. Math Calculator 5. Essay (optional)
Time Per Section	English: 45 mins Math: 60 mins Reading: 35 mins Science: 35 mins Writing (optional): 40 mins	Reading: 65 mins Writing and Language: 35 mins Math No Calculator: 25 mins Math Calculator: 55 mins Essay (optional): 50 mins
# of Questions	English: 75 questions Math: 60 questions Reading: 40 questions Science: 40 questions Writing (optional): 1 essay	Reading: 52 questions Writing and Language: 44 questions Math No Calculator: 20 questions Math Calculator: 38 questions Essay (optional): 1 essay
Scoring	<u>Total score range: 1-36</u> Each section uses a scale of 1-36. Your total score is the average of your four section scores. The optional Writing section uses <u>a scale of 2-12</u> and does not count toward your final score.	<u>Total score range: 400-1600</u> The Evidence-Based Reading and Writing (EBRW) and Math sections each use a scale of 200-800 and are combined for a total score. The optional Essay uses <u>three separate scales of 1-8</u> and does not count toward your final score.



	ACT	SAT
Reading	53 sec/question	75 sec/question
ACT English/SAT Writing	36 sec/question	48 sec/question
Math	60 sec/question	No Calculator: 75 sec/question Calculator: 87 sec/question
Science	53 sec/question	N/A
Science	Contains separate section	In the Reading
Math	*One section only *Counts as ¼ of composite score *All multiple choice *MC: 5 choices *Emphasis on algebra, but more geometry and trig	*2 sections - One w/calc *Counts as half of composite score *Some short answers *MC: 4 choices *Geometry Reference guide
Reading	No chronological order	Questions are chronological to reading

How to Prepare?

ACT

- PreACT will give direction for study
- Begin taking end of 10th grade
- [Academy.act.org](https://www.academy.act.org) - Enter results to personalize practice
- ACT workshops - First one in Jan/Feb

SAT

- PSAT will give direction for study
- [Satpractice.org](https://satpractice.org) - Enter results of PSAT to personalize practice