

SAT – Scholastic Aptitude Test

SOURCES: WWW.COLLEGEBOARD.COM AND WWW.PETERSONS.COM

What is the SAT?

- ✓ Colleges use the SAT to measure verbal and mathematical reasoning abilities to assess an applicant's readiness for college.
- ✓ Each edition of the SAT includes a critical reading, math, and writing section, with a specific number of questions related to content.
- ✓ SAT subject tests may also be required for some colleges.
- ✓ It is important to find out each school's SAT admissions requirements.

How is the SAT scored?

The maximum SAT score is 2400, because each section of the SAT is scored on a scale of 200-800. The writing section will contain sub scores.

When can you take the SAT?

The SAT is administered seven times a year in the U.S.

2005-2006 SAT Dates

Test Dates	Registration Deadlines	Late Registration Deadlines (Late Fee Required)
May 7, 2005	March 25, 2005	April 6, 2005
June 4, 2005	April 29, 2005	May 11, 2005
October 8, 2005	-	-
November 5, 2005	-	-
December 3, 2005	-	-
January 28, 2006	-	-
April 1, 2006	-	-
May 6, 2006	-	-
June 3, 2006	-	-

How do you register for the SAT?

- ✓ Mail: Get form from church library or your school's guidance counselor
- ✓ Online: <http://collegeboard.com/student/testing/sat/reg.html>
- ✓ Phone Registration
 - 1-800-SAT-SCORE
 - Must have previously registered
 - Must have touch tone phone and valid credit card
- ✓ Standby Testing
 - Available if you miss the late registration deadline
 - First come first serve basis
 - \$35 additional standby fee

How much does it cost to take the SAT?

- ✓ **\$41.50**

Where do I take the SAT?

- ✓ **Tests are usually administered at high schools.**
- ✓ **Refer to your registration bulletin or the College Board website to determine which test sites are available for the various test dates.**

ACT Assessment

SOURCES: WWW.ACTSTUDENT.ORG AND WWW.PETERSONS.COM

What is the ACT Assessment?

- ✓ A standardized college entrance examination that measures knowledge and skills in English, mathematics, reading, and science reasoning and the application of these skills to future academic tasks.
- ✓ It consists of four multiple-choice tests , covering English, math, reading, and science reasoning.
- ✓ It is important to find out each school's ACT admissions requirements.

How is the ACT scored?

- ✓ You'll earn one score (1 to 36) on each section of the test (English, Math, Reading, and Science), and a composite score, which is an average of these 4 sections.
- ✓ Usually, when people ask about your ACT score, they're referring to your composite score.
- ✓ The composite score falls between 1 and 36. The national average is about 21.

When can you take the ACT?

2005-2006 ACT Dates

Test Dates	Registration Deadlines	Late Registration (Late Fee Required)
April 9, 2005	March 4, 2005	
June 11, 2005	May 6, 2005	
September 24, 2005	August 19, 2005	August 20 – September
October 22, 2005	September 16, 2005	September 17-30, 2005
December 10, 2005	November 4, 2005	November 5 –17, 2005
February 11, 2006	January 6, 2006	January 7-20, 2006
April 8, 2006	March 3, 2006	March 4-17, 2006
June 10, 2006	May 5, 2006	May 6-19, 2006

How do you register for the ACT?

- ✓ Sign up online (www.actstudent.org/regist/) or use a registration packet if you:
 - Plan to test at a national test center
 - Are retaking the test
- ✓ Phone Registration

- Must have registered for a national test center within the last two years
- ✓ Registration Packet (Required if the following applies)
 - Do not have a Visa or Mastercard
 - Need to change your test center
 - Need disability accommodations
 - Are using a state-funded voucher
 - Are enrolled in 6,7,8, or 9
- ✓ Request arranged testing
 - If you are homebound or confined
 - If there is not test center within 50 miles
 - If religious beliefs prohibit Saturday testing

How much does it cost to take the ACT?

\$28.00 for ACT Assessment

\$42.00 for the ACT Plus Writing

Where do I take the ACT?

Refer to your registration bulletin or the ACT website to determine which test sites are available for the various test dates.

STANDARDIZED TESTS II: STRATEGIES & TIPS

SOURCES: KAPLAN'S ALL-STAR SAT & COLLEGEBOARD.COM

1. Answer Easy Questions First
You earn just as many points for easy questions as you do for hard questions. The easier questions are generally at the beginning of the section
2. Trust Your First on Easy Questions
When working on easy questions in the beginning of the set you can generally trust your first impulse-the obvious answer is likely to be right. However, as you get the end of the set, you need to become more suspicious
3. Guess Smart
If you can rule out one or more answer choices for a multiple-choice question as definitely wrong, your chances of guessing the right answer improve. For math questions without answer choices, fill in your best guess; no points are subtracted for wrong answers as they are in all question types.
4. Use your test book for scratch work
You can also cross off choices you know are wrong and mark questions you have omitted so you can go back to them if you have time.
5. Always circle the answers you choose
Circling your answers in the test book makes it easier to check your grid against your book
6. Pace Yourself
Standardized tests give you a lot of questions in a short period of time. To get through a whole section, you can't spend too much time on any one question. Keep moving through the test at a good speed; if you run into a hard question, circle it in your test booklet, skip it and come back to it later if you have any time.
7. Don't Panic-Pray
Staying calm is one of the most important strategies in test-taking. Becoming anxious causes you to make unwise decisions. Phillipians 4:6-7 states:

⁶Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

"Anything" in the text does include standardized tests! Before the test say a prayer asking God to direct you and bring you peace throughout the test. This is the ultimate test strategy!

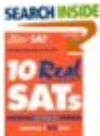
Before the test...

The key to learning and practicing all the above strategies is to start preparing early. There are several courses, books, websites, and other resources that are available to assist you in standardized test preparation. Here are some recommendations:

Books:



[The Official SAT Study Guide: For the New SAT](#) by College Board
(Paperback - October 2004)



[10 Real SATs, Third Edition](#) by The College Board (Paperback)



[Cracking the NEW SAT with Sample Tests on CD-ROM, 2005 Edition](#)
(Cracking the Sat With Sample Tests on CD-Rom) by Adam Robinson,
et al (Paperback)

The Real ACT Prep Guide

The **official** prep book from the makers of the ACT. Includes three practice tests used in previous test administrations—each with an optional Writing Test.

Websites:

www.collegeboard.com

www.powerprep.com/satlabs.htm

<http://www.actstudent.org/testprep/index.html>

Courses:

Kaplan, Inc (www.kaptest.com)

Local high schools/colleges