

SAT vs ACT: The Two Tests Compared

	SAT	ACT
Sections:	Reading (65 mins) Writing and Language (35 mins) Math Calculator (55 mins) Math No Calculator (25 mins) Essay (55 mins)	English (45 mins) Math (60 mins) Reading (35 mins) Science (35 mins) Essay (40 mins)
Total time:	3 hours (without Essay) 3 hours 55 minutes (with Essay)	2 hours 55 minutes (without Essay) 3 hours 35 minutes (with Essay)
Scoring:	The Reading/Writing section and Math section each have a total score of 800. Together they make up a combined total of 1600.	Each section of the ACT uses a score between 1 and 36. A student's total score is the average of their four section scores.
Cost:	\$47.50 (without Essay) \$64.50 (with Essay)	\$49.50 (without Essay) \$51 (for international students) \$58.50 (with Essay)
Calculator Policy:	Calculator not allowed in one section of the test.	Students allowed to use a calculator on all portions of the test.

SAT vs ACT: Which Test Is Right For You?

Do You...	YES	NO
Hate math problems where you can't use a calculator?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Want to take a Science-based degree at university?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Perform well under tight time constraints?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Like writing essays where you have to explain your opinion?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Find it easy to recall mathematical formulas?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Enjoy trigonometry based math questions?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Prefer tests with multiple choice questions?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

So which test should I take?

If you mostly answered **Yes** to the questions above, **then the ACT is the right test for you.**

If you mostly answered **No** to the questions above, **then the SAT might be your best option.**