

The  
**Princeton**  
Review®

# SAT®, ACT,® OR BOTH?

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# PSAT®...Now What?

1

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**What is the  
PSAT?**

2

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**The  
Digital SAT  
and the ACT**

3

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**Your Next  
Steps**



# WHAT IS THE PSAT?

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# THE PSAT IS A PRACTICE SAT

## PSAT/NMSQT

### READING & WRITING

- 54 Questions
- 64 Minutes
- 2 Modules
- Multiple-Choice
- 1 Passage per Question

### MATH

- 44 Questions
  - 70 Minutes
  - 2 Modules
  - Multiple-Choice and Student-Produced Response Questions
- \*No Trigonometry*

**SLIGHTLY EASIER**  
**SCORE RANGE 320-1560**

## SAT

### READING & WRITING

- 54 Questions
- 64 Minutes
- 2 Modules
- Multiple-Choice
- 1 Passage per Question

### MATH

- 44 Questions
- 70 Minutes
- 2 Modules
- Multiple-Choice and Student-Produced Response Questions

**SCORE RANGE: 400-1600**



# The PSAT is the National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test\*

\*When taken in junior year

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***But only the top 1% of scorers in  
each state earn scholarships***



1.6 Million  
Junior PSAT Takers

50,000  
Recognized Scholars

16,000 National  
Merit Semifinalists

15,000  
Finalists

**ONCE YOU HAVE YOUR PSAT SCORE,  
YOU HAVE....**

**TAKEN A  
COMPUTER-  
ADAPTIVE  
TEST**

**SEEN SAT-  
STYLE  
QUESTIONS**

**RECEIVED A  
PRACTICE  
SCORE**

# Top Factors for College Freshmen

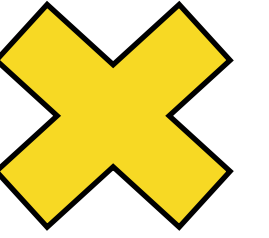
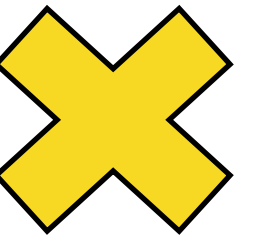
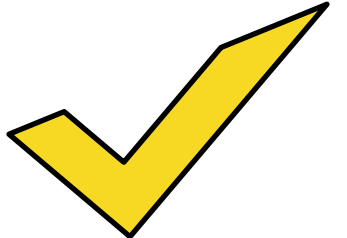
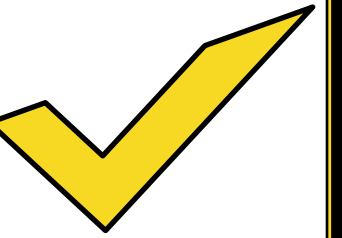
1. Grades

2. High School Curriculum

3. Test Scores



# WHAT DO STANDARDIZED TESTS MEASURE?

Do College Admissions Tests Like the SAT & ACT...	True	False
Measure your intelligence?		
Reflect your high school GPA?		
Test what you've learned in high school?		



# DO SAT & ACT SCORES STILL MATTER?

In *The Best 389 Colleges*:

**93% OF SCHOOLS  
WILL STILL WANT TO SEE  
HIGH TEST SCORES  
IF STUDENTS SUBMIT THEM**

# WHAT ABOUT TEST-OPTIONAL ADMISSIONS?

Test-optional admissions processes do not require SAT or ACT scores for admissions consideration.

Test-optional schools receive more applications and have lower admission rates.

If any school or scholarship you apply to requires SAT or ACT scores, your process is not test-optional..



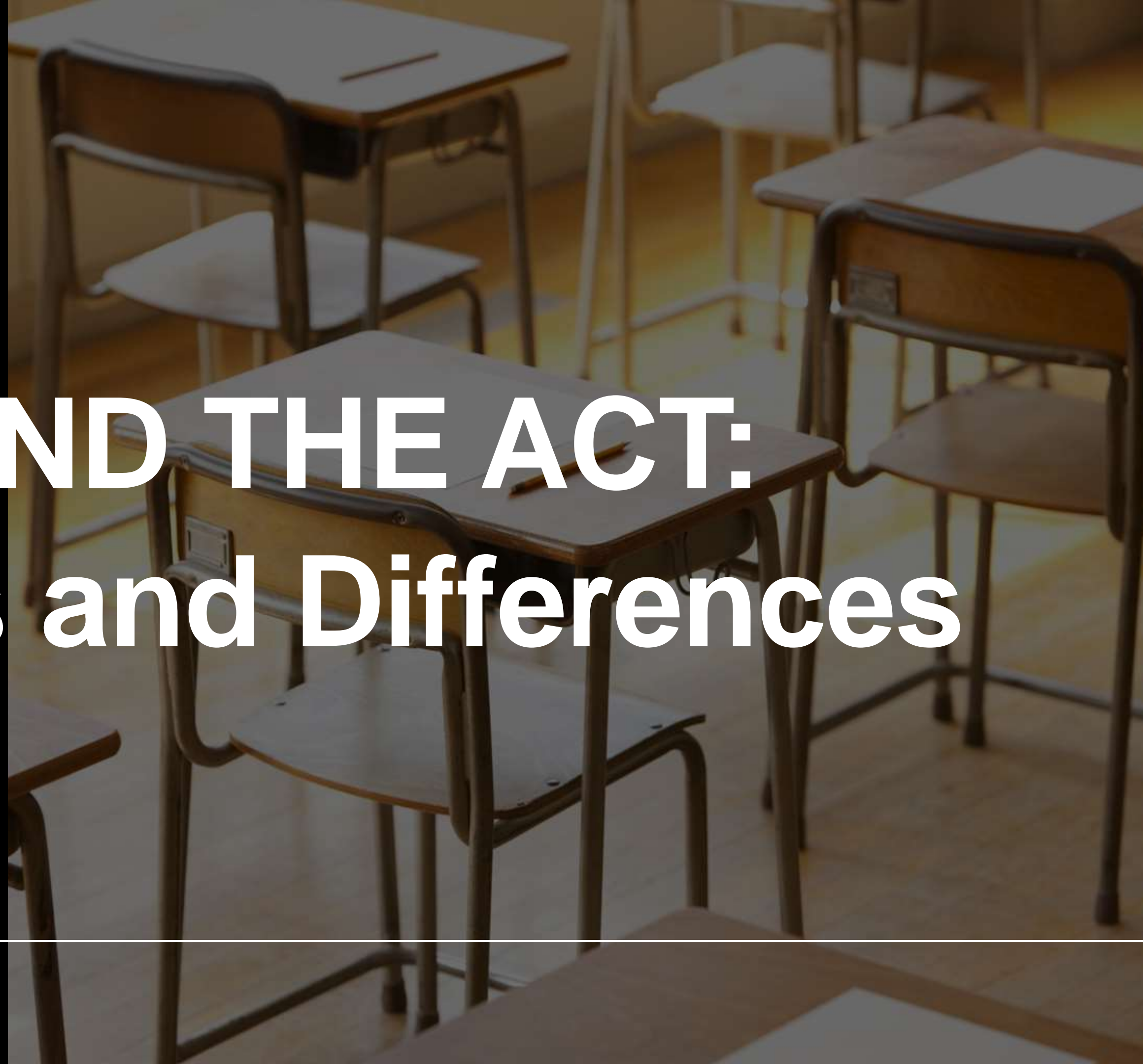
# STANDARDIZED TESTS ARE COMPLETELY DIFFERENT FROM YOUR HIGH SCHOOL TESTS

HIGH SCHOOL TESTS	STANDARDIZED TESTS
Limited Subject Matter	Years of Material
Content Knowledge	Testing Strategy
Plenty of Time	Rigorously Timed
Partial Credit or Extra Credit	Right or Wrong Answers
Human Graded	Machine Graded
One Element of Overall Grade	Only Your Final Score Matters



# THE SAT AND THE ACT: Similarities and Differences

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The SAT and the ACT serve  
the exact same purpose:

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*They are college  
admissions exams*





# **BOTH THE SAT & ACT ARE IN- PERSON TESTS**

- ❖ Taken at a Testing Site
- ❖ Proctored Live

The background of the slide is a photograph of a library. It shows rows of wooden bookshelves filled with books of various colors. The perspective is from a low angle, looking down the length of the shelves, which creates a sense of depth. The lighting is soft and even.

# **BOTH THE SAT AND ACT REQUIRE STUDENTS TO:**

- ❖ **Analyze reading passages**
- ❖ **Edit and revise writing**
- ❖ **Solve high school math**
- ❖ **Analyze scientific data**

# DIGITAL SAT

VS.

# ACT

- Computer Based Test at testing center
- 2 Hours
- Two Sections: Reading & Writing, Math
- No penalty for wrong answers
- No Essay
- Students can use built-in Desmos calculator & their own calculator on all math questions
- Average 2022 score: 1050

- Paper & pencil at testing center
- 3 Hours, 35 mins (with essay), 2 hours, 55mins (without essay)
- Four sections: English, Math, Reading, Science
- No penalty for wrong answers
- Optional Essay
- Students can use their own calculator on all math questions
- Average 2022 score: 20

# SAT & ACT

## SECTION-BY-SECTION

SAT SECTIONS		
Reading and Writing (Module One)	27 Questions	32 Minutes
Reading and Writing (Module Two)	27 Questions	32 Minutes
Math (Module One)	22 Questions	35 Minutes
Math (Module Two)	22 Questions	35 Minutes

ACT SECTIONS		
English	75 questions	45 minutes
Math	60 questions	60 minutes
Reading	40 questions	35 minutes
Science	40 questions	35 minutes

\*Optional 40-minute essay on the ACT

# A REDESIGNED SAT

## READING & WRITING

### 1<sup>ST</sup> MODULE

- ❖ “25 Operational Questions and 2 Pretest Questions”
- ❖ 32 Minutes
- ❖ Multiple-Choice
- ❖ 1 Passage per Question

### 2<sup>ND</sup> MODULE

- ❖ “25 Operational Questions and 2 Pretest Questions”
- ❖ 32 Minutes
- ❖ Multiple-Choice
- ❖ 1 Passage per Question

## MATH

### 1<sup>ST</sup> MODULE

- ❖ “20 Operational Questions and 2 Pretest Questions”
- ❖ 35 Minutes
- ❖ Multiple-Choice and Student-Produced Response

### 2<sup>ND</sup> MODULE

- ❖ “20 Operational Questions and 2 Pretest Questions”
- ❖ 35 Minutes
- ❖ Multiple-Choice and Student-Produced Response

# A COMPUTER-ADAPTIVE SAT

## FIRST MODULE

Same difficulty for all

## SECOND MODULE

More Difficult

**HIGH SCORE**

800

**LOW SCORE**

Floor

## SECOND MODULE

Less Difficult

**HIGH SCORE**

Capped

**LOW SCORE**

200





## REMEMBER:

The College Board has determined  
which questions are  
“Easy,” “Medium,” and “Difficult”

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- Questions weighted differently based on “difficulty”
- Not based on knowledge or intelligence

# THE SAT WILL USE THE SAME SCORING SCALE

- 400-1600 scale
- Questions are weighted differently.
- 200-800 reading & writing score
- 200-800 math score
- Superscoring policies up to each college
- Scores used same as always

# ACT SCORING

## QUESTIONS WEIGHTED EQUALLY

- ❖ ENGLISH 1-36
- ❖ MATH 1-36
- ❖ READING 1-36
- ❖ SCIENCE 1-36

**COMPOSITE  
SCORE  
1-36**    **+**    **ESSAY  
SCORE  
1-12**

\* Essay is optional and scored separate

# WHAT IS A GOOD SCORE?

**A GOOD SCORE**  
**IS THE SCORE THAT**  
**GETS YOU INTO YOUR**  
**DREAM COLLEGE**



# YOUR NEXT STEPS

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# PLANNING YOUR PREP

<b>SAT DATES 2023-2024</b>
August 26, 2023
October 7, 2023
November 4, 2023
December 2, 2023
March 9, 2024 (Digital ONLY)
May 4, 2024 (Digital ONLY)
June 1, 2024 (Digital ONLY)

<b>ACT DATES 2023-2024</b>
September 9, 2023
October 28, 2023
December 9, 2023
February 10, 2024
April 13, 2024
June 8, 2024
July 13, 2024*



# WHERE TO START?

## TAKE A PRACTICE TEST

- **Full score report breakdown of strengths & weaknesses**
- **Digital SAT score report tells if you entered easy or difficult module in module 2**
- **Correct answers for each question**
- **Test lives in your portal for 4 months**
- **Take practice test with your accommodations**
- **ACT practice test also available**



# THERE ARE MANY WAYS TO PREP

- ❖ **Take a Practice Test**
- ❖ **Buy a Prep Book**
- ❖ **Self-Prep Online**
- ❖ **Take a Course**
- ❖ **Work with a Tutor**

# FREE RESOURCES & BENEFITS

## **FREE PRACTICE DIGITAL PSAT, DIGITAL SAT AND ACT TESTS**

- Online practice tests (with timing options)
- Free score reports identifying strengths, weaknesses and more
- Free score consultations to help you decide which test is best for you

## **COLLEGE SEARCH TOOLS**

- Explore colleges to find your best-fit schools
- Check out our popular [rankings and ratings](#)
- Research average test scores to set your unique goals

## **COURSE & TUTORING DISCOUNTS**

- 25% off courses with code **GREATNECK25**
- *SAT & ACT Essentials, SAT 1400+ , ACT 31+ & AP 4, AP Cram*
- 10% off tutoring with code **LITUT10**
- *SAT | ACT | AP such as SAT 1500+, ACT 34+, AP 4 & 5, & Academic Subjects*



# Questions?

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