



Whale Branch Early College High School Testing Program

Assessments



- EOCEP
- ACT
- Pre-ACT
- SAT
- PSAT
- PSAT
- ASVAB
- CATE

The College Prep Process



- Many students and parents begin the college application process by deciding which test to take, ACT or SAT, or both.
- Two of the most common questions they ask are:
 - Is the ACT easier than the SAT?
 - Do colleges prefer scores from the SAT or ACT?
- So, how are they different and what factors might make one or the other a better choice? Here are some general thoughts that you'll want to consider.
- Which Test Is Easier, the ACT or SAT? Questions on the ACT and SAT have very similar levels of average difficulty – so it really comes down to student preference.

What do the ACT and the SAT Tests Measure?



- In general, the ACT and the SAT tests attempt to measure college readiness and predict future academic success. But they do so in very different ways.
- The ACT test measures what a student already knows. It covers material that the student should have learned during high school.
- The SAT test is used more as a predictor of what a student is capable of learning. It deals with material that the student may NOT have learned in high school.
- For this reason, some students do better on the ACT test especially if they tend to struggle with standardized tests and other students do better on the SAT test.
- Most colleges accept either test score, so many students take both exams to improve their chances of being admitted.

What do the ACT and the SAT Tests Measure?



- The ACT is an assessment that tests students on their understanding of their high school curriculum and covers coursework in English, reading, math, and science. The ACT offers an optional essay component that can highlight your writing skills to provide a more well-rounded assessment of your academic abilities.
- The SAT has traditionally been considered more of an aptitude test that includes only English, reading, and math; it does not have a science section.

More Information about the ACT and the SAT?



- ACT – <https://www.act.org/content/act/en/students-and-parents/south-carolina.html>
- SAT - <https://www.collegeboard.org/>

Comparing the ACT and SAT* at a Glance



	ACT	SAT
Accepted at all U.S. colleges and universities	YES	YES
Access to English learner supports at every national test date	YES	NO
The ACT mathematics section is 25% of the test and 25% of score.	YES	NO
Purchase your test answer key to help you prepare for future tests (Test Information Release TIR)	YES	NO
Allows for paper/pencil testing as well as online	YES	NO
No penalty for guessing	YES	YES
Free daily practice questions	YES	YES
Free comprehensive practice test	YES	YES

Comparing the ACT and SAT* at a Glance



	ACT	SAT
Test fees waived for eligible students	YES	YES
Students registering with a fee waiver are eligible for college application fee waivers	YES	YES
Free score reports	YES	YES
All tests 1 hour or less	YES	NO
Measures what you learn in high school	YES	YES
ACT/SAT Superscore	YES	YES
You get a STEM score to provide to colleges	YES	NO
Optional writing test to showcase critical writing and communication skills to colleges and universities	YES	NO

Comparing the ACT and SAT* at a Glance



	ACT	SAT
Testing time	2 hours 55 minutes + Optional 40-minute essay	2 hours 14 minutes
Structure	4 tests + optional writing test	2 tests
Longest test	1 hr	1 hr 10 min
Shortest test	35 minutes	1 hour 4 minutes
Score range	Total Score = 1-36 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. Students can also get an ACT Superscore.	Total Score = 400-1600 The Reading and Writing and Math sections each use a scale of 200-800 and are combined for a total score.

ASVAB

— Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery Test

The Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) is a multiple-aptitude battery that measures developed abilities and helps predict future academic and occupational success in the military.



ASVAB Subtests

The ASVAB subtests are designed to measure aptitudes in four domains: Verbal, Math, Science and Technical, and Spatial. The table below describes the content of the ASVAB subtests. The subtests are presented in the order in which they are administered.

Subtest	Description	Domain
General Science (GS)	Knowledge of physical and biological sciences	Science/ Technical
Arithmetic Reasoning (AR)	Ability to solve Arithmetic word problems	Math
Word Knowledge (WK)	Ability to select the correct meaning of words presented in context and to identify the best synonym for a given word	Verbal
Paragraph Comprehension (PC)	Ability to obtain information from written passages	Verbal
Math Knowledge (MK)	Knowledge of high school mathematics principles	Math
Electronics Information (EI)	Knowledge of electricity and electronics	Science/ Technical
* Auto Information (AI)	Knowledge of automobile technology	Science/ Technical
* Shop Information (SI)	Knowledge of tools and shop terminology and practices	Science/ Technical
Mechanical Comprehension (MC)	Knowledge of mechanical and physical principles	Science/ Technical
Assembling Objects (AO)	Ability to determine how an object will look when its parts are put together	Spatial

** The ASVAB is administered via both paper-and-pencil and computer formats in the Enlistment Testing Program. AI and SI are administered as separate subtests in the computer administration but combined into one single score (labeled AS). AI and SI are combined into one single subtest (AS) in the paper-and-pencil administration. Scores on the combined subtest (AS) are reported for both the computer and paper-and-pencil administration.*

ASVAB – Computer Administration vs. Paper and Pencil Administration



Computer Administration

Subtest	Number of Scored Questions	Number of Possible Tryout Questions	Subtest Time Limit (in minutes) With or Without Tryout Questions	
			Subtest Time Limit Without Tryout Questions	Subtest Time Limit With Tryout Questions
General Science (GS)	15	15	12	25
Arithmetic Reasoning (AR)	15	15	55	113
Word Knowledge (WK)	15	15	9	18
Paragraph Comprehension (PC)	10	15	27	75
Mathematics Knowledge (MK)	15	15	31	65
Electronics Information (EI)	15	15	10	21
Auto Information (AI)	10	15	7	18
Shop Information (SI)	10	15	6	17
Mechanical Comprehension (MC)	15	15	22	42
Assembling Objects (AO)	15	15	18	38

Paper-and-Pencil Administration

Subtest	Number of Questions	Time Limit (in minutes)
General Science (GS)	25	11
Arithmetic Reasoning (AR)	30	36
Word Knowledge (WK)	35	11
Paragraph Comprehension (PC)	15	13
Mathematics Knowledge (MK)	25	24
Electronics Information (EI)	20	9
Auto & Shop Information (AS)	25	11
Mechanical Comprehension	25	19
Assembling Objects (AO)	25	15
Total	225	149



ASVAB Scores Requirements By Military Branch

Military Branch	Score (High School Diploma)	Score (GED)
ASVAB Scores Air Force	31	50
ASVAB Scores Army	31	50
ASVAB Scores Coast Guard	40	50
ASVAB Scores Marine Corps	35	50
ASVAB Scores Navy	35	50

The minimum score is different depending if you have a High School Diploma or GED.

Grading

- Discuss purpose of grades
- Review report card format
- Outline grading process and timetable
- Discuss any other means of evaluation

Parent Conferences

- Review conference schedule
- Distribute sign-up sheet
- Review expectations for parent conferences
- Explain how you can be reached to discuss concerns

Q&A

- Invite questions from parents/students

Summary

- Discuss topics covered
- Reiterate welcome
- Wrap-up