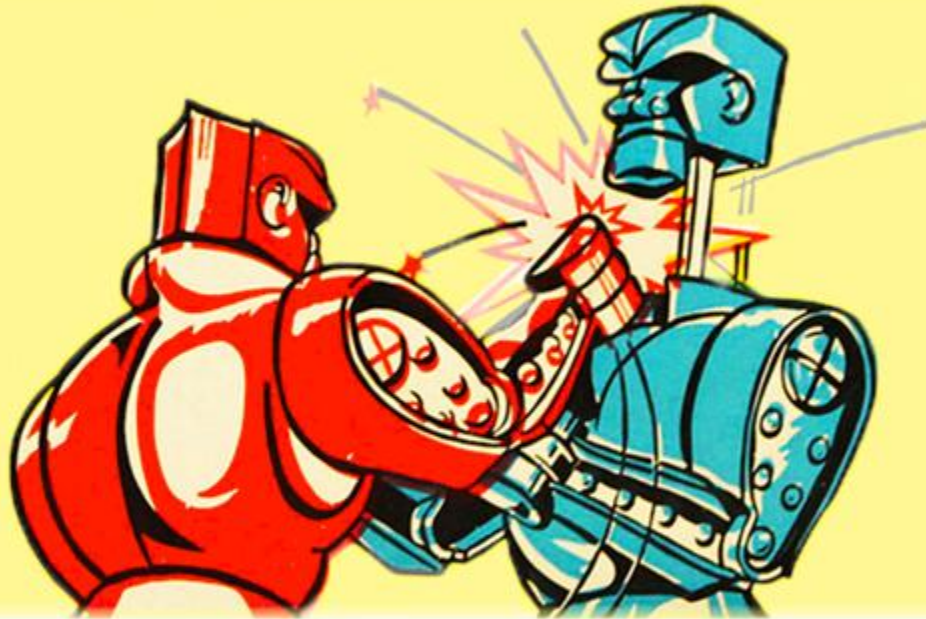


ACT vs SAT



**Which Test is Right
for YOU?**

CHARIOT  LEARNING™



585-466-4022



<http://chariotlearning.com>

WHO IS MIKE BERGIN?

President of Chariot Learning

- SAT/ACT tutoring and classes, academic coaching, subject tutoring, and proctored practice tests

Publisher of Roots2Words & College Eagle

- Fun yet powerful vocabulary building resource (free WOTD)
- Essential news about college and admissions action steps

Co-host of Tests and the Rest podcast

- 700+ episodes about testing, admissions, and learning



WHO IS MIKE BERGIN?

President Emeritus of NTPA

- Founder of National Test Prep Association, the non-profit industry association for test preparation organizations

ACT Certified Educator & Trainer

- Training high school teachers across the U.S. to support College and Career Readiness Standards

Founder of TestBright

- Testing and curriculum resource for parents and educators



ACT vs SAT

The SAT & ACT are both standardized college entrance exams administered throughout the school year. They both test substantially the same skills and content.

Colleges accept both equally, but students may score better on one or the other, despite their similarities.



ACT vs SAT

STRUCTURE

SAT

- Completely digital
- Section adaptive

ACT

- Both paper and digital
- Linear scoring



ACT vs SAT

ENHANCED ACT

	ACT - Legacy		ACT - Enhanced	
	Items	Total Time (Min)	Total Items (EFT)	Total Time (Min)
English	75	45	50 (10 EFT)	35
Math	60	60	45 (4 EFT)	50
Reading	40	35	36 (9 EFT)	40
Science	40	35	40 (6 EFT)	40
Field Test	12-28 (SAFT*)	20	# of EFT items in parenthesis	EFT included in total time
Writing	1	40	1	40
Current ACT Standard Administration**	215	175	171	170
Updated ACT Core Administration***		N/A	131	125

*SAFT refers to stand alone field test, or the 5th test, as opposed to embedded field test (EFT).
 **The current ACT standard administration includes English, math, reading, and science sections.
 ***The updated ACT Core administration includes English, math, and reading.



READING

SAT

- One short passage per question
- Greater emphasis on vocabulary and reasoning

ACT

- One long passage per 9 questions
- Greater emphasis on speed and comprehension



SCIENCE & GRAPHS

SAT

- No dedicated science section
- Science reasoning and graphs tested in RW

ACT

- VQI + full OPTIONAL Science section
- Emphasis on graphical literacy



GRAMMAR

SAT

- One short passage per question
- Focus on a smaller pool of mechanics

ACT

- One long passage per 5-10 questions
- Broader range of writing skills

ACT vs SAT

MATH

SAT

- Greater emphasis on algebra skills
- More need for problem solving strategies
- Embedded Desmos calculator

ACT

- Broader range of math skills tested
- More word problems and less graphing
- Desmos available on digital test



SCORING

SAT

- 200-800 RW + 200-800M = 400-1600 Total
- Section adaptive
- Tougher questions count for more than easier ones

ACT

- 1-36 each section averaged EMR for 1-36 Composite
- Linear scoring
- All questions carry the same weight

ACT vs SAT

PERCENTILES

ACT	SAT	Percentile
36	1600	99+
34	1530	99
28	1350	90
23	1190	75
18	1020	50
15	890	30



WHAT ABOUT TEST OPTIONAL?

1. TEST OPTIONAL \neq TEST BLIND.
2. NOT ALL SCHOOLS ARE SELECTIVE.
3. CONSIDER INSTITUTIONAL PRIORITIES.
4. ALL FACTORS ARE NOW UNDER SCRUTINY.
5. ALWAYS CHECK THE CURRENT POLICY.



SCORE POLICIES

ALL SCORES REQUIRED FOR REVIEW

SCORE CHOICE

- Only send the SAT or ACT scores you want schools to see. Send by test date, not by section.

SUPERSCORE

ACT : Best E + M + R (+ S)

SAT : Best RW + M



OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

SAT

- Bluebook app has strong testing features
- No need for a graphing calculator

ACT

- Paper still an option
- ACT My Answer Key (MAK) 3x a year



HOW DO YOU CHOOSE?

SAT

- More emphasis on critical reasoning, algebra and problem solving (plus tougher vocabulary)
- Math contributes 50% to total score.

ACT

- More emphasis on long passage speed; more content at less depth
- Reading contributes 66% to total score.



ACT vs SAT

PSAT & PRACT

WHAT ARE THESE TESTS?

- Shorter versions of related entrance exams
- Good—but not perfect—predictors
- No impact on college admissions
- The 11th grade PSAT is important for high scorers



ACT vs SAT

WHY DO THE SAT & ACT MATTER?



ACT vs SAT



- College admissions
- Submitter advantage
- College scholarship
- College readiness



ACT vs SAT

PLANNING



ACT vs SAT

QUESTIONS

