

# ACT/SAT

## Key Differences and How to Prepare

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Tutor *me*  
**SOS**  
STRATEGIES OF SUCCESS

# ACT vs. SAT

Address: 123 High Ridge Road, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Phone: 203.724.9200  
Website: [www.tutormesos.com](http://www.tutormesos.com)



- English (45 mins) – 75 questions
- Math (60 mins) – 60 questions
- Reading (35 mins) – 40 questions
- Science (35 mins) – 40 questions

## Optional:

- Essay (40 mins)

Write to any of (3) prompts

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- English & Reading – Module One (32 mins) – 27 questions
- English & Reading – Module Two (32 mins) – 27 questions
- Math – Module One (35 mins) – 22 questions
- Math – Module Two (35 mins) – 22 questions
  - ✓ No essay
  - ✓ You can modify your answers within a module
  - ✓ You cannot modify your answers after completing a module
  - ✓ Module one determines the level of difficulty of module two

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- English (35 mins) – 50 questions (10 unscored)
- Math (50 mins) – 45 questions (4 unscored)
- Reading (40 mins) – 36 questions (9 unscored)

## Optional:

- Science (40 mins) – 40 questions (6 Unscored)

## Optional:

- Essay (40 mins)

Write to any of (3) prompts

# Questions to Ask Yourself

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Am I a reader?

Which math class am I in now?

Do I have good math skills?

Do I have a good experience with chemistry and biology?

Do I like history?

Do I have a hard time finishing exams?

Do I have good grammar skills?

# ACT and SAT History

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The SAT and ACT are the two principal tests used by U.S. colleges to assess student readiness.

Before 2000, the ACT was accepted primarily by institutions in Southern and Western regions of the U.S.

Since 2000, the ACT has gained widespread acceptance in Northeastern states, as well as among selective institutions in all regions.



# Timing & Scoring

Testing usually commences Fall of Junior Year, with any re-testing occurring through December of Senior Year.  
The PSAT is Given in Sophomore/Junior Years.



	SAT	ACT
<b>Usual # Attempts</b>	1-3	1-3
<b>Primary Topics</b>	Reading/ English Math	Reading, English Math, Science
<b>Score Ranges</b>	[200-1600]	[1-36]

*Note: Subject Tests are not required and are often used only by highly-selective schools.*

# What is “Superscoring”?

A superscore is the average of the best scores from each section from multiple test attempts.



Section	Reading/English	Math	Composite
Test 1	500	620	1120
Test 2	690	550	1240
Test 3	700	600	1300
Superscore	700	620	1320

# When & How to Prepare

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## 9 & 10th grade - Math and English Foundations

- Take a baseline test during the spring of 10th grade or use PSAT results to highlight learning gaps
- Work on an intense program during the summer after 10th grade



# Do Colleges Have a Preference?

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Results from either the ACT or SAT are acceptable to colleges.

Some students can perform much better on one test over the other.

Choosing the correct test is a factor in reaching a student's maximum potential.



# How Critical Are Test Scores?

- Not all colleges are test optional
- Most test optional colleges are not test blind
- Students should submit scores that enhance their application
- In general, acceptance rates were higher for students who submitted test scores:
  - Especially to selective schools
  - Business or STEM applicants



# Tutor Me SOS Sample Program

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Programs are customized for each student.

- 4 hours of tutoring each week
- A Full-length practice test each week (timed)
- Reading fluency and comprehension
- Grammar rules
- Math basics
- Summer Boot Camp



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Average Increase on the **ACT: 7 – 10 points**



Average Increase on the **SAT: 300 points**

12 Perfect ACT Scores

10 National Merit Scholar Semi-finalists



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# Resources

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Website: [www.tutormesos.com](http://www.tutormesos.com)

ACT Website

Khan Academy

College Board

Powerscore.com

ACT Academy

IXL.com

New York Times and Wall Street Journal

AcceleReader.com

The Official ACT Prep Guide 2021-2022

Official SAT Study Guide 2020 Edition



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# Questions?

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# An Invitation

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By appointment, parents and students are invited to visit the **Tutor Me SOS Center** for a conference and facility tour.

**Mona Mitri, Director**  
(203) 724-9200

