

ACT vs. SAT

	ACT	SAT
Format	4 sections (English, Math, Reading, Science)	10 Sections (Critical Reading, Math, Writing)
Time	2 hrs 55 minutes, and optional 30 minute essay	3 hrs 45 minutes, including a required 25 minute essay
Wrong Answers	Not penalized	Penalized
Score Reporting	Choose scores to be sent	Choose scores to be sent
Points	Each section is scored on a scale of 1-36 and averaged for a total score	Each section is scored on a scale of 200-800 and added together for a total score
No. of Questions	215, all multiple choice	140 multiple choice, and a free response math section
English	Focuses on grammar and punctuation	Focuses on vocabulary
Math	More straightforward problems — includes Trig and a science reasoning section	More word problems and includes Geometry and Algebra II
Website	www.act.org	www.collegeboard.com
Upcoming Test Dates	Sept 11, Oct 23, Dec 11, Feb 12, Apr 9, June 11	Oct 9, Nov 6, Dec 4, Jan 22, Mar 12, May 7, June 4

In many cases, a student's ultimate high school success depends on passing a state exit exam, ACT or SAT exams. Often, tackling the test can be an overwhelming and frustrating task.

We do not teach to the test; we teach your students to master the concepts they will have to tackle on the exam. In addition, students gain test-taking confidence through a series of practice activities imbedded in their personalized courses.

These differences set us apart from the rest to provide your students with the best opportunities for success.

SAT / ACT Test Preparation content can be delivered in two ways: full course or adaptive assessment mode. Most educators choose the assessment mode because it provides them with a snapshot of a student's knowledge and allows the student to work on individualized courses, tailored to meet their specific educational needs.

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Assessment Mode. First, student skill levels are assessed through a SAT / ACT Test Preparation assessment, which identifies topics that students have already mastered.

Based on the initial assessment, a personalized curriculum is generated for each student that targets weaknesses in their fundamental knowledge base or skills.

Students work with their teacher to complete each lesson and assignment in their personalized courses, take practice exams, and work on activities to give them more confidence in their testing abilities.

After completing their assignments, students take a post-assessment to evaluate the knowledge gained. If a student has not yet mastered some of the concepts, a new course of study is built to ensure he has a thorough understanding of the subject matter.

Comprehensive Math

SAT / ACT Test Preparation is an assessment and remediation program to assist students prepare for and succeed on high stakes exams that may be a requirement for high school graduation. The course comprises the content areas of English, math, and science. Depending upon a state's diploma regulations and your individual needs, students may have taken pre-assessments in any or all of these content areas. A course of study that identifies student's personal areas of need has been generated as a result of student's pre-assessments.

Comprehensive Math begins with a review of the essential concepts of number sense and operations and moves into the more complex mathematical processes found in geometry, algebra, data analysis, and probability. The lessons are divided into two principal sections: Basic Math/Geometry and Algebra/Data Analysis. These are not dependent upon a specific time frame for completion. For each content focus, students will work at their own pace and will be prescribed a number of lessons based on the results of student's pre-assessment. Only the lessons for which students did not show mastery in their pre-assessment will appear in their course of study. Lessons are followed by unit tests covering the specific learning goals of the lesson.

Basic Math/Geometry:

Part A - Number Sense and Operations Concepts

The lessons in this section of Comprehensive Math review the foundations on which other math concepts are based. If assigned to this section, you will gain a greater grasp of such skills as ordering numbers, estimating, employing scientific notation, working with percents and decimals.

Part B - Measurement

This section of Comprehensive Math reinforces your knowledge of measurement, including establishing or determining ratio and proportions and calculating the perimeter and area of objects.

Part C - Geometry and Spatial Sense

The final part of the Basic Math/Geometry section of Comprehensive Math covers key concepts in geometry and teaches the formulas for determining angles and dimensions like the radius or diameter of a circle and the area of circles, triangles and other figures.

Algebra/Data Analysis:

Part D - Algebraic Thinking

The first part of Comprehensive Math's second section provides instruction in algebraic thinking. It reinforces the basic skills of number patterns and guides the student through the processes of working with variables and solving equations. Also included in this section are lessons on graphing as well as determining the slope of a line.

Part E - Data Analysis and Probability

The final set of lessons in Comprehensive Math reviews the concepts of data analysis and probability. These lessons define and demonstrate the tools needed to draw conclusions from mathematical data including how to work determine mean, median, and mode and how to interpret and apply graphs, histograms, and scatter plots.

How to Proceed

As with each of the other subjects taught in SAT / ACT Test Preparation, student's course of study has been determined by their performance on the Comprehensive Math pre-assessment. Students should maintain a notebook to record or summarize the formulas they learn and the processes needed to work out the practice problems in the lessons. Students must read each lesson carefully. Making sure to apply the strategies when they complete the accompanying tests to each lesson. Once students have mastered the individual lessons, they will undertake a final test over the entire content of their individualized course of study.

Comprehensive English

SAT / ACT Test Preparation is an assessment and remediation program to assist students prepare for and succeed on high stakes exams that may be a requirement for high school graduation. The course comprises the content areas of English, math, and science. Depending upon a state's diploma regulations and the student's individual needs, they may have taken pre-assessments in any or all of these content areas. A course of study that identifies their personal areas of need has been generated as a result of the student's pre-assessments.

Comprehensive English reviews the skills and concepts acquired over the first three years of high school language arts. It is divided into three further sections: Reading Comprehension, Language Usage, and Writing. These sections are not dependent upon a specific time frame for completion. For each content focus, students will work at their own pace and will be prescribed a number of lessons based on the results of your pre-assessment. Only the lessons for which they did not show mastery in their pre-assessment will appear in their course of study. Lessons are followed by unit tests covering the specific learning goals of the lesson.

Reading Comprehension:

The Reading Comprehension section of Comprehensive English consists of six lessons in which the student will be taught strategies to increase their ability to understand and retain the information they gather from a variety of types of reading passages. Among the skills developed in this section are

- Improving Your Reading Skills
- Applying Reading Strategies to American Literature
- Reading and Understanding Poetry
- Gathering, Interpreting, and Analyzing Information
- Applications, Forms, and Real World Tasks
- Building Vocabulary

Language Usage:

The Language Usage section of Comprehensive English offers a total of 11 lessons pertaining to the structure of the English language and the rules for effective communication:

- Parts of Speech
- Parts of the Sentence
- Complements
- Subject-Verb Agreement
- Verb Tense
- Pronoun Usage, Verbals, and Appositives
- The Complex Sentence
- The Apostrophe
- The Comma and Quotation Marks
- Capitalization

Writing:

The final section of Comprehensive English guides the student through the process of writing. Students will be taught about the various types of writing authors are called upon to compose, the process or steps to follow in creating organized paragraphs and essays, and the skills required to finalize a draft. Among these are such things as editing and proofreading steps, citing sources, and setting up your essay in good manuscript form.

How to Proceed

Students will need to maintain a notebook to record answers to practice questions, summarize the ideas they are taught, and to develop the writing assignments that may be part of your course if you are assigned to the Writing section of Comprehensive English. To get the most out of any lessons you may be assigned, you should read the lessons and examples provided very carefully. Be sure to apply the strategies when you complete the accompanying tests to each lesson. Once students have mastered the individual lessons, they will undertake a final test over the entire content of their individualized course of study.