ACT or SAT: WHICH IS A BETTER TEST FOR YOU?

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| **ACT**  **SELF-ASSESSMENT OF MY BEST ACADEMIC PERFORMANCES** | | **SAT**  **SELF-ASSESSMENT OF MY BEST ACADEMIC PERFORMANCES** | |
| ***ACT ENGLISH TEST:***  ***I can perform the following ACT standards…*** | | ***SAT CRITICAL READING TEST:***  ***I can perform the following SAT standards…*** | |
| Determine the development of a topic and purpose and focus in texts |  | Read and comprehend long and short reading passages about science, social studies, nonfiction, or humanities |  |
| Recognize organizations structure texts, use of conjunctive adverbs/phrases to make logical relationships among texts; revision techniques to improve or unify texts |  | Respond to questions about vocabulary in context, inferences, tone, main ideas analogous relationships |  |
| Correct wordiness, confusing words; delete redundant ideas or unrelated expressions |  | Synthesize and analyze information, evaluate assumptions |  |
| Create sentence structures and use punctuation and modifiers to revise them |  | Comprehend and compare points of view in two passages by synthesizing and valuating ideas and techniques in the texts |  |
| Apply conventions or grammar such as pronoun/antecedent agreement and comparative superlative adjectives, reflexive pronouns, present and past participles forms of verbs |  | Understand and select vocabulary words in context and their logical connections to the parts of the sentence |  |
| Apply conventions of punctuation such as the use of the comma in parenthetical phrases, apostrophes in possessives, & semi-colons between independent clauses |  |  | |
| ***ACT MATH TEST:***  ***I can perform the following ACT standards…*** | | ***SAT MATH TEST:***  ***I can perform the following SAT standards…*** | |
| Complete basic operations (percent, ratios, proportions) and applications of operations |  | Solve arithmetic word problems (percent, ratios, proportions) |  |
| Determine data value, averages; compute probability of an event; manipulate data from tables and graphs; draw conclusions from data |  | Understand properties of integers (prime numbers, divisibility) |  |
| Recognize and apply elementary number theory (rounding, decimals, primes) |  | Understand the properties of parallel lines |  |
| Identify place value and patterns, geometric sequences and field axioms |  | Understand special properties of isosceles, equilateral & right triangles |  |
| Perform operations with complex number, logarithms, exponents |  | Understand rational numbers, exponents and exponential growth |  |
| Solve linear inequalities and absolute value equations |  | Understand geometric notation, points and lines, slope, angles |  |
| Write and manipulate linear and quadratic equations and inequalities |  | Substitute, simplify and evaluate algebraic expressions |  |
| Graph coordinates in a plane & linear equations and inequalities; graph inequalities |  | Solve quadratic, linear, & rational equations and inequalities |  |
| Use Pythagorean theorem an properties of triangles to solve problems |  | Determine area/perimeter of geometric figures |  |
| Compute area/perimeter of figures; estimate line segments |  | Identify and determine the diameter, radius, arc of circles |  |
| Evaluate polynomial/quadrative functions; apply trigonometric concepts |  | Understand function notation. Models, linear functions, equations/graphs |  |
|  | | Complete multi-step problems and follow directions |  |
| ***ACT READING TEST:***  ***I can perform the following ACT standards…*** |  | ***SAT WRITING TEST:***  ***I can perform the following SAT standards…*** |  |
| Identify the main ideas and supporting details in texts |  | Understand the consistent use of tenses and pronouns |  |
| Identify order of events; evaluate comparative relationships, and understand implied or complex cause-effect relationships |  | Understand and apply coordination and subordination of ideas |  |
| Understand the meanings of words in context; clarify appropriate meanings and effects of language on perceptions; determine use and purpose of figurative/literal language |  | Identify errors in parallelism, noun agreement, and subject agreement |  |
| Synthesize information and make or disprove conclusions of generalizations about characters, ideas, concepts |  | Recognize effective sentences that follow the conventions of English |  |
| ***ACT SCIENCE TEST:***  ***I can perform the following ACT standards…*** | | Develop a point of view on an issue by using a variety of sentence structures and appropriate supporting details |  |
| Interpret data from tables/graphs or combined sources of data |  | Complete essay prompt in 25 minutes |  |
| Understand how to design or modify experiments; form a hypothesis; evaluate data |  |  | |
| Evaluate scientific methods; make inferences about readings & experimental results |  |
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| **ACT Potential Score based on Explore/Plan:** | | **SAT Potential Score based on PSAT:** | |
| **ACT Score I want to make:** | | **SAT Score I want to make:** | |
| **Plans to accomplish my ACT goal:** | | **Plans to accomplish my SAT goal:** | |
| **1.** | | **1.** | |
| **2.** | | **2.** | |
| **3.** | | **3.** | |

*You can pick up a copy of your PLAN/PSAT from your guidance counselor.*

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**As a junior, when should I take the ACT and/or SAT?**

* SAT during the end of your junior year ( May or June).
* ACT anytime during your Spring Semester (January-June).

**There are several free test prep sites that you can visit:**

[www.act.org](http://www.act.org)

[www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)

[www.princetonreview.com](http://www.princetonreview.com)

[www.studyworks.com](http://www.studyworks.com)

[www.fairest.org](http://www.fairest.org)

[www.number2.com](http://www.number2.com)

[www.freesat1prep.com](http://www.freesat1prep.com)

[www.thewritingspecialist.com](http://www.thewritingspecialist.com)

[www.highschoolhub.org/hub/hub.cfm](http://www.highschoolhub.org/hub/hub.cfm)

**If you have questions, please visit the College/Career Center!**