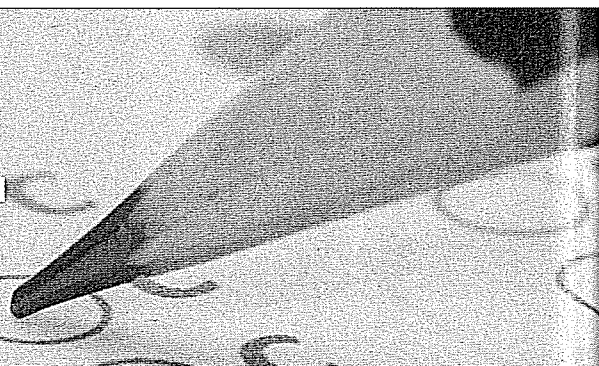


ACT & SAT



What is the difference between the ACT & SAT?

While the ACT is an achievement test, measuring what you've learned in school, the SAT is more of an aptitude test, testing your reasons and verbal abilities. The ACT questions tend to be more straightforward. The SAT has a stronger emphasis on vocabulary.

What does the ACT consist of?

The ACT (No Writing) consists of four multiple-choice tests: English, Mathematics, Reading, and Science. The ACT Plus Writing includes the four multiple-choice tests and a writing test.

What about the writing portion of the ACT test?

Do I have to take it?

The ACT offers an optional 30-minute writing test that complements the English test. The combined information from both tests tells postsecondary institutions about students' understanding of the conventions of standard written English and their ability to produce a direct sample of writing. Be sure to check with the school(s) you are considering on their requirement for the writing test.

If you choose to take the writing test, do some planning before writing the essay; you will be instructed to do your prewriting in your writing test booklet. You can refer to these notes as you write the essay on the lined pages in your answer folder.

When should I take the SAT?

The SAT and other College Board tests are offered several times a year. Most students take the SAT for the first

time during the spring of their junior year and a second time during the fall of their senior year.

What is the SAT and how is it different than the ACT?

The SAT and SAT Subject Tests are designed to assess academic readiness for college.

The SAT tests the skills you're learning in school: reading, writing and math. Your strength in these subjects is important for success in college and throughout your life.

The reading section includes reading passages and sentence completions.

The writing section includes a short essay and multiple-choice questions on identifying errors and improving grammar and usage.

The math section includes questions on arithmetic operations, algebra, geometry, statistics and probability.

What are the SAT Subject Tests?

The SAT Subject Tests offer you an additional opportunity to show colleges what you know and what you know you can do.

Many colleges use the SAT Subject Tests for admission, for course placement, and to advise students about course selection. Some colleges specify the SAT Subject Tests that they require for admission or placement; others allow applicants to choose which tests to take.

What is the preferred exam for Oklahoma colleges?

The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education have made the ACT

our state's preferred exam. That means all colleges and universities in Oklahoma accept ACT scores as part of your application for admission.

But if you're thinking about applying to out-of-state colleges, you'll probably want to learn about their requirements. In some states, SAT scores are preferred.

What if I don't think I am going to college? Should I still take the tests?

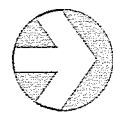
While you may think these exams are only necessary if you're heading to college, think again. Both could help you realize your strengths and weaknesses, likes and dislikes and your potential for career success.

Are there certain things I should keep in mind when taking the ACT?

First and foremost, carefully read the instructions on the cover of the test booklet and read the directions for each test carefully. Pace yourself – don't spend too much time on a single passage or question. Answer the easy questions first, then go back and answer the more difficult ones if you have time remaining on that test.

On difficult questions, eliminate as many incorrect answers as you can, then make an educated guess among those remaining.

Answer every question. Your scores on the multiple-choice tests are based on the number of questions you answer correctly. There is no penalty for guessing.



In addition, practice tests and tips are available online at:
www.princetonreview.com, www.collegeboard.org & www.actstudent.org