

Comparing the ACT® with the SAT®

ACT

- English
 - Math
 - Reading
 - Science
 - Optional Writing Test
- Composite score: 1-36
 - Section scores for English, Math, Reading and Science: 1-36 each
 - Writing Test: 2-12
- 2 hours, 55 minutes (without Writing Test)
 - 3 hours, 35 minutes (with Writing Test)
- None
- Two sections (English, Reading)
 - Passage-based grammar—including punctuation
 - Four reading passages in 35 minutes that are drawn from Fiction, Social Sciences, Humanities and Natural Sciences
- One 60-minute section
 - Calculator allowed
 - Arithmetic
 - Algebra I & II
 - Geometry
 - Trigonometry
- The Writing Test is optional (40 minutes, timed)
 - Students will need to write about perspectives on an issue relevant to high school students and evaluate and analyze multiple perspectives on that issue; they will be scored on ideas and analysis, development and support, organization, and language use



SECTIONS



SCORING



LENGTH



PENALTY FOR WRONG ANSWERS



READING AND WRITING



MATH



ESSAY

SAT

- Evidence-based Reading and Writing
 - Reading
 - Writing and Language
 - Math
 - Optional Essay
- Total score: 400-1600
 - Section scores for Math and Evidence-based Reading and Writing: 200-800
 - Essay: 2-8
- 3 hours (without essay)
 - 3 hours, 50 minutes (with essay)
- None
- Two sections (Reading Test, Writing and Language Test)
 - No more sentence completions; focus on multiple-meaning words
 - Five reading passages in 65 minutes that are drawn from significant historical or scientific documents—may include informational graphics, such as charts
 - Passage-based grammar—including punctuation
- Two sections totaling 80 minutes
 - Calculators are only allowed on one of the two sections
 - Arithmetic
 - Algebra I & II
 - Geometry
 - Trigonometry
- The essay is optional (50 minutes, timed)
 - Students will be provided with a substantial passage (600-700 words) and asked to analyze how the author built his or her argument; students will need to understand the techniques the author used to write persuasively

Still not sure which test is for you? We can help! Call us at **1-800-2Review (800-273-8439)** or visit **PrincetonReview.com**.