

ACT vs. SAT

| | <u>ACT</u> | <u>SAT</u> |
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| Test Length | 2 hours, 55 minutes (including 40 minute optional essay) | 3 hours; 3 hours 50 min. w/optional writing |
| Test Sections | Four-section exam: English, Math, Reading, and Science Reasoning. | 1 Evidence Based Reading & Writing test. 1 Math test; with & w/o calculator. 1 Optional Essay test |
| Science Content | Tests science reasoning (analysis, interpretation, problem solving). | N/A |
| Math Content | Up to trigonometry | Focus on real-world problem-solving & data analysis, w/ informational graphics |
| Reading | Five passages, one each of prose, fiction, social science, humanities, and natural science. Stresses grammar. | Reading & Writing combined into "Evidence Based Reading & Writing". No sentence completions on test. Tests understanding of passages from US & World Literature, History, and Sciences |
| Essay | Last section – 30 minutes (optional); not included in total score. | Essay is optional: 50 minutes to analyze a 650-750 word document and draft an essay. Facts matter, explain how the author builds an argument. Separate score |
| Scoring | 1-36 per subject area averaged for a composite score. Highest Composite Score: 36 | No wrong-answer penalty Score based out of 1600 , 800 math, 800 for Evidence Based Reading & Writing. |
| Test Fee | \$67.00 (<i>with optional Writing Test</i>) No writing \$50.50 | \$49.50 \$64.50 w/ optional essay |
| Are all scores sent to schools? | NO. There is a " score choice " option. Students can choose which schools will receive their scores by test date AND which scores the schools will see. | NO. There is a "score choice" option. Students can choose which schools will receive their scores AND which scores the schools will see. |