

What Are The Differences Between The COLLEGE ADMISSIONS TESTS?

ACT

The ACT is made up of 4 sections: English, Math, Reading, and Science, plus an optional Essay. The section lengths range from 35 minutes (Reading and Science) to 60 minutes (Math). The content of Math, Science, and English is similar to what Junior students are learning in school.

SAT

The newly redesigned SAT has returned to the 1600 grading scale; Reading and Writing will combine for one section score. The Math will focus more on the content students are learning during their Junior year. Also, the Essay will be optional and not factored into the Reading/Writing score.

QUICK LOOK

ACT	VS.	SAT
2 Hours 55 Minutes	TIMING	3 Hours
36	PERFECT SCORE	1600
No formulas given; Calculators permitted for ALL sections (Topics covered: Geometry, Arithmetic, Algebra, Trigonometry)	MATH SECTION	Lots of formulas given; Calculators permitted for ONE section (Topics covered: Some Geometry and Arithmetic, Advanced Algebra, Some Trigonometry, Interpretation of Data)
8% Vocabulary	READING SECTION	(Combined with Writing) 17% Vocabulary (Reading Questions) 7% Vocabulary (Writing Questions) Questions based on Graphs and Charts
3% Vocabulary	ENGLISH/WRITING SECTION	
Interpretation of Data Graphs and Charts	SCIENCE SECTION	No Science Section
www.actstudent.org	CONTACT INFORMATION	www.collegeboard.org