

SAT[®] or ACT[®]

Which one is right for you?

| TEST | ACT | SAT |
|--|--|--|
| TIMING | • 3 hours and 35 minutes with Essay | • 3 hours and 50 minutes with Essay |
| STRUCTURE | • 4 sections: English, Math, Reading, Science • Optional Essay | • 4 sections: Evidence-Based Reading, Evidence-Based Writing & Language, Math-Calculator, Math-No Calculator • Optional Essay |
| QUESTION TYPES | • Multiple choice and essay | • Multiple choice, grid-ins, and essay |
| SCORE | • Highest composite score is 36, which is the average of the 4 test scores | • Highest composite score is 1600, which is the sum of the 2 section scores |
| CONTENT | | |
| READING | • 35 min—40 questions • 3 stand-alone and 1 paired passage: Natural Science, Humanities, Literature, and Social Science | • 65 min—52 questions • 4 stand-alone passages and 1 paired passage: Science, Literature, Social Science, Primary Sources, and Careers |
| MATH | • 60 min—60 questions • Multiple choice questions with 5 answer choices: Preparing for Higher Mathematics, Integrating Essential Skills, and Modeling | • 55 min (with calculator)—38 questions • 25 min (without calculator)—20 questions • Multiple choice and grid-in questions: Heart of Algebra, Problem Solving and Data Analysis, and Passport to Advanced Math |
| SCIENCE | • 35 min—40 questions • Separate science section: Data Representation, Research Summaries, and Conflicting Viewpoints | • Science passages throughout the test • Students receive an Analysis in Science Cross Test Score |
| WRITING & LANGUAGE/ ENGLISH | • 45 min—75 questions • 5 passages: Production of Writing, Knowledge of Language, and Conventions of Standard English | • 35 min—44 questions • 4 passages: Command of Evidence, Words in Context, Analysis in History/Social Studies and in Science, and Expression of Ideas, and Standard English Conventions |
| ESSAY (OPTIONAL) | • 40 min • Students analyze 3 perspectives and give their own point of view • 4 scores, each on a scale of 2-12: Ideas and Analysis, Development and Support, Organization, and Language Use and Conventions | • 50 min • Students analyze a 650-750 word document and explain how the author builds an argument • 3 scores, each on a scale of 2-8: Reading, Analysis, and Writing |
| NOTABLE DIFFERENCES | | |
| TIMING | • Less time per question | • More time per question |
| MATH | • More geometry | • More data analysis/problem solving • Math-No Calculator section |
| SCORING | • English, Math, Reading, and Science each make up 25% of score | • Evidence-Based Reading and Writing and Math each make up 50% of score |
| READING TOPICS | • More focus on science reading | • More focus on history/social studies reading |
| TEST PROVIDER | ACT | SAT |
| | www.ACT.org | www.collegeboard.org |

Learn more about the test differences at kaptest.com/compare | 1-800-KAP-TEST