



# ACT vs SAT

## Which is Best For You?

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***ALL COLLEGES  
ACCEPT BOTH  
THE ACT AND  
THE SAT***

## SAT (3 hours plus 50 min essay)

- Reading 52 Q/ 65 Min
  - 5 Passages
- Writing & Language 44 Q / 35 Min
  - 4 Passages
- Math (no calculator) 20 Q / 25 Min
  - 5 grid-ins
- Math (calculator) 38 Q /55 Min
- Essay (optional) 1 prompt / 50 Min
  - Analyze an argument

Breaks – 10 mins after Reading; 5 mins after Math (no calc); 2 mins before Essay

## ACT (2 hours 55 min plus 40 min essay)

- English 75 Q/ 45 Min
  - 5 passages
- Math (calculator) 60 Q / 60 Min
- Reading 40 Q / 35 Min
  - 4 passages
- Science 40 Q /35 Min
- Essay (optional) 1 prompt / 40 Min
  - Consider 3 perspectives of an issue

Breaks – 10 mins after Math; 10 mins before Essay

# SAT – ACT STRUCTURE

## SAT

- 154 questions / 3 hours (plus 50 min essay)
- Top Score = 1600 (sum of 2 sections)
- 1 min 10 seconds per question
- Reading – 5 passages; emphasis on vocab; charts & graphs
- Writing & Language – 4 passages; almost same content as ACT; ~50% grammar
- Math – non-calculator & calculator sections; grid-ins
- No Science section
- Essay – analyze an argument
- No guessing penalty

## ACT

- 215 questions / 3 hours (plus 50 min essay)
- Top Score = 36 (average of 4 sections)
- 49 seconds per question
- Reading – 4 passages; generally easier to read; no charts/graphs
- Writing & Language – 5 passages; almost same content as SAT; ~50% grammar
- Math – calculator allowed
- Science section – 6 passages; analyze studies/experiments
- Essay – consider an issue & 3 perspectives
- No guessing penalty

# SAT – ACT COMPARISON

# *WHICH TEST SHOULD YOU TAKE? – IT DEPENDS*



# Which Test Fits Best For You?

## Consider the SAT if:

- You read a lot and enjoy it
- You can read and understand complex texts
- You have a good vocabulary
- You do NOT rely heavily on the use of a calculator when doing math
- You have difficulty understanding scientific terms and methods
- You get stressed out with tight time limits
- You are an analytical thinker and work well with multi-step problems

## Consider the ACT if:

- You have difficulty reading and understanding complex or historic texts
- You need a calculator to solve most math problems
- You enjoy science and are comfortable with scientific terms and processes
- You are very comfortable reading and interpreting charts & graphs
- You work well under time pressure
- You have a good command of standard English conventions – e.g. grammar, punctuation, sentence structure

# HOW IS THE SAT SCORED?

Example:

Reading Test  $30 \times 10 = 300$

Writing and Language Test  $27 \times 10 = \underline{270}$

**Evidenced Based Reading & Writing Score 570**

**Math Test  $25 \times 20 = \underline{500}$**

**TOTAL SCORE**

**1070**

# HOW IS THE ACT SCORED?

Example:

English Test	25
Math Test	23
Reading Test	27
Science Test	22
<b>Composite Score</b>	<b>24*</b>

\* Composite Score is average of all 4 scores (rounded up at .5)



# WHAT'S A GOOD SCORE?

	<u>SAT</u>	<u>ACT</u>
<b>Outstanding</b>	<b>1500/750+</b>	<b>33+</b>
<b>Excellent</b>	<b>1400/700</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Very Good</b>	<b>1300/650</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Good</b>	<b>1200/600</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Average</b>	<b>1100/550</b>	<b>22</b>

# CAN I JUST SEND MY “BEST” SCORES FROM EACH TEST?

- Most colleges “Superscore” by SAT test section
- Fewer colleges Superscore the sections of the ACT because they use the composite score – most do Superscore composite scores
- Check each school’s website for most current policy on Superscoring – if it’s not on their website call admissions
- To get the best Superscore most students take the ACT or SAT 2 to 3 times
- Colleges are ranked based on the average ACT/SAT scores of their entering class

# THE STARTING POINT

## *Prepare For The Test Based On Your Score Goals*

- What schools am I interested in?
  - Particular major, size , geography, other
- What are the ACT/SAT score ranges for those schools?
  - Your score goal should be between the 50th and the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile for that school
- Are you looking for merit aid?
  - Target schools where you are in the top 25% provides opportunities for merit aid
- What is a realistic score for you?
  - Average test prep increases are 4 points on the ACT and 150 points on the SAT



## WANT SOME HELP?

CLUB Z IN HOME TEST PREP HAS A VARIETY OF SERVICES INCLUDING

- FREE ACT AND SAT DIAGNOSTIC TO HELP YOU DECIDE
- FREE INFORMATION ABOUT ALL ASPECTS OF THE PROCESS
- FREE TEST PREP SCORE IMPROVEMENT KEYS
- ONE ON ONE IN HOME AND ONLINE TEST PREP

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT CLUB Z OR TO GET ACCESS TO THE FREE RESOURCES CALL BILL YOUNG at 708-774-0822 or EMAIL at [wyoung@clubztutoring.com](mailto:wyoung@clubztutoring.com) or visit the site at [clubztutoring.com/elmhurst/elmhurst-test-prep/](http://clubztutoring.com/elmhurst/elmhurst-test-prep/)



# LTHS BOOSTERS PROGRAM

**THIS FREE INFORMATION IS BEING MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE LTHS BOOSTERS AND CLUB Z IN HOME TUTORING**

**THIS PARTNERSHIP ALSO PROVIDES THE FOLLOWING FINANCIAL BENEFITS TO THE BOOSTERS ORGANIZATION AND ITS MEMBERS**

- **10%** OFF REGULAR RATES ON ALL TEST PREP OR TUTORING SERVICES FOR LTHS BOOSTER MEMBERS
- **10%** OF ANY TUTORING OR TEST PREP CONTRIBUTED TO THE LTHS BOOSTER SCHOLARSHIP FUND

## **WHAT MAKES CLUB Z'S TEST PREP DIFFERENT**

- Unlike Standard Practice Tests Club Z's Free Diagnostic Test Not Only Shows You What Subject Matter Your Student Should Work On, But Also How Comfortable Your Student Is with The Test Skills Critical to Doing Well.
- Using This Custom Look at Your Student's Test Club Z Develops A Customized Proposal That Addresses the Specific Areas Your Student Needs. No One Size Fits All. This Allows Your Student To Focus Their Time Where They Will Get the Biggest Bang.
- Club Z Also Provides Their Expertise Free to You to Help with The College Selection Process.
- The Result of This Unique Process Is That CLUB Z's Costs Are Often Substantially Less Than Other Programs With The Same or Better Results

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