

# SAT vs. ACT

	SAT	ACT
Who takes it?	More common on the East and West Coast	Popular in the Mid-West and South
What is the top score/national average?	2400 is perfect; 1500 is the national average	36 is perfect; 21 is the national average
What if you miss a question?	You lose points for incorrect answers	There is no penalty for getting a question wrong
What does it test?	Reasoning and Logic	Based closer on curriculum learned in high school
What topics are tested?	Math (Up to Algebra II)/ Reading/Writing/Grammar	Math (up to Trig.)/Reading/ Grammar/Science
What is the best way to prepare?	Learn strategies and practice reasoning skills	Memorize facts and formulas
Overall	This test is tricky and requires you to utilize analytical thinking and logic. It is more "coachable" and easier to prepare for as you can learn the reasoning skills needed to succeed on this test.	This test is more straightforward, but it does have Science and Trig. You can prepare by practicing the questions and learning what is tested.