



presents

**SAT/ACT Prep
Workshop**

5500 Chamblee Dunwoody Rd, Suite 5A
Dunwoody, GA 30338
(770) 394.2626
<http://www.huntingtonhelps.com>



What Are Students Up Against?

Student population is growing

- An estimated 3.2 million students graduated from American high schools in 2014.¹

Enrollment is growing

- The percent of students enrolling directly to degree-granting institutions continues to rise. In 2016, projected enrollment in degree-granting institutions will exceed 21 million students.²

Today, 25% of students submit 7 applications or more.³

Seats remain stagnant

- The number of available seats has not kept up with the increase in enrollees.

1. LA Times
<http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/lanow/2013/01/college-admission-may-get-easier-as-the-ranks-of-high-school-graduates-drop.html>
2. US Department of Education. National Center for Education Statistics
3. NACAC: 2011 State of College Admissions

A College Degree is Important

Better jobs mean better pay

“Median lifetime earnings rise steadily for workers with increasing educational attainment.”⁴

- On average college graduates earn approximately 42% more in hourly wages and annual earning over high school graduates*.

| | No High School Education | With a High School Diploma | With a Bachelor's Degree |
|------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Average Hourly Wage | \$11.70 | \$15.67 | \$27.26 |
| Median Annual Earnings | \$24,000 | \$32,600 | 56,700 |

*Over a 40 year career based on 2009 data.



Admissions: Just How Competitive Is It?

RANKINGS

RANKINGS DATA

| U.S. News rank | School | Tuition | Total enrollment | Fall 2011 acceptance rate | Average freshman retention rate | 6-year graduation rate |
|----------------|--|----------|------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| #1 | Harvard University Cambridge, MA | \$40,866 | 19,872 | 6.3% | 98% | 97 |
| #1 | Princeton University Princeton, NJ | \$38,650 | 7,859 | 8.5% | 98% | 96 |
| #3 | Yale University New Haven, CT | \$42,300 | 11,875 | 7.7% | 99% | 97 |
| #4 | Columbia University New York, NY | \$47,246 | 22,885 | 7.0% | 99% | 96 |
| #4 | University of Chicago Chicago, IL | \$44,574 | 12,316 | 16.3% | 98% | 92 |
| #6 | Massachusetts Institute of Technology Cambridge, MA | \$42,050 | 10,894 | 9.7% | 98% | 93 |

Look on college websites for acceptance rates for colleges you are interested in.

6. US News and World Report Best Colleges 2013



How Do They Choose?

Factors influencing college admissions

- **Grade point average**
- **SAT/ACT scores**
- **Courses taken**
- **Extra-curricular activities/community service**
- **Essay/personal statement**
- **Recommendations**
- **Interview**



How are the SAT and ACT Scores Used?

- Compare students with a common yardstick
- Determine how well a student will handle college-level work
- Select the best candidates from thousands of college applicants
- Determine eligibility to participate in NCAA sports
- Determine financial aid and scholarships
- Admissions decisions
- Determine acceptance to college programs (Honors program, acceptance in major)
- Course placement

College is a BIG Investment

- **Average Tuition, Fees, Room and Board (2014-2015)⁷**
 - Four-year public college: \$18,943 per year (in state)
 - Four-year public college: \$32,762 per year (out of state)
 - Four year, private college: \$42,419 per year
- **Better performance on the ACT SAT can bring these costs down**



7. College Board: Trends in College Pricing 2011

A Closer Look at the New SAT and ACT



The NEW SAT as of March 2016

OLD VERSION

CURRENT VERSION

| | | |
|------------------------|--|--|
| Scaled scores | 600-2400 <i>Critical Reading: 200-800</i> <i>Math: 200-800</i> <i>Writing: 200-800</i> <i>(Essay score scaled to Writing multiple choice)</i> | 400-1600 <i>Evidence-based Reading and Writing: 200-800</i> <i>Math: 200-800</i> <i>Essay (optional): scored separately</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 separate scores (Reading, Analysis, Writing) |
| Total test time | 3 hours 45 minutes | 3 hours (plus 50 minutes with optional essay) |
| Subsections | Critical Reading: Two 25-minute sections One 20-minute section Math: Two 25-minute sections One 20-minute section Writing: One 25-minute section One 10-minute section One 25-minute essay | Evidence-based Reading and Writing: Reading Test - One 65 minute section - (52 questions) Writing and Language Test - One 35-minute section (44 questions) Math: - One 55-minute section (37 questions) – with calculator - One 25-minute section (20 questions) – no calculator Essay: (optional) - 50 minutes |
| Scoring | Gain 1 point for correct answers Lose $\frac{1}{4}$ point for incorrect answers No gain or loss for omitted answers | “Rights only” scoring - No penalty for incorrect answers |

- Charts and graphs throughout the test

| | SAT | ACT |
|---------------------------|---|---|
| Type of Test | Assessment | Achievement |
| Focus | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Critical thinking • Mathematics conceptualization • Reading ability | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading ability • Knowledge of high school core curriculum |
| Highest Mathematics Level | Algebra II (graphing functions) | Trigonometry |
| Vocabulary | Important | Unimportant |
| Science Knowledge | Unimportant | Important |
| Essay | <i>Now Optional</i> | Optional |
| Difficulty | Predictable order of difficulty | Random order of difficulty |
| Traps | Many | Few |
| Wrong Answers | <i>No Longer Penalized</i> | Not penalized |
| Question Types | Mostly multiple choice | All multiple choice |
| Paths to Success | Reasoning and strategy | Academic knowledge |
| Composite Scale | <i>400-1600</i> | 1-36 |
| Average Score | <i>TBD</i> | 21 |

What You Should Know About the SAT and ACT

- Most colleges will accept either the SAT or ACT.
- It is unclear how schools will incorporate the NEW SAT into the admission process

ACT

Understanding the test...



And, the pressure of time!

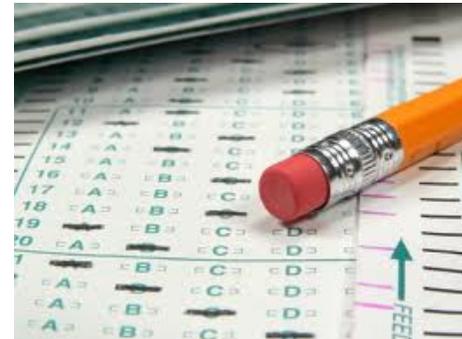
English

- 75 questions/45 minutes
- Largest raw number of questions on the test
 - 75 out of a total 215 questions
- Broken into two categories:
 - Usage/Mechanics
 - Fundamentals of grammar
 - Rhetorical Skills
 - Writing strategy and organization



Mathematics

- 60 questions/60 minutes
- Broken into three categories:
 - Pre-Algebra/Elementary Algebra
 - Number properties, percent, averages
 - Intermediate Algebra/Coordinate Geometry
 - Linear equations, exponents, polynomials
 - Plane Geometry/Trigonometry
 - Lines, angles, quadrilaterals, sine, tangents



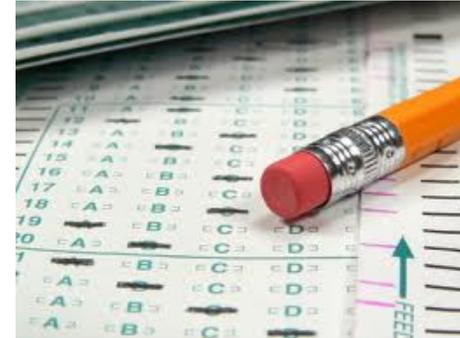
Critical Reading

- 40 questions/35 minutes
- Broken into four passages:
 - Prose Fiction and Humanities
 - Social Studies and Natural Science
 - Meant to be read
 - Questions challenge a student's ability to:
 - Understand main idea
 - Infer
 - Determine author's point of view
 - Demonstrate college level vocabulary
 - Get the facts



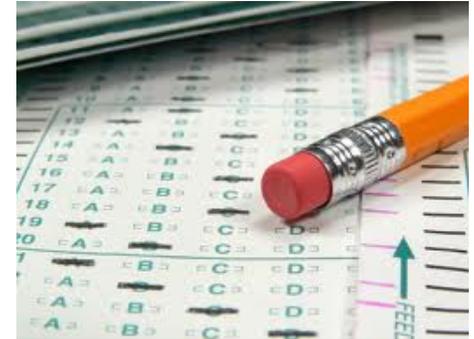
Science

- 40 questions/35 minutes
- Questions are based on:
 - Biology, chemistry, earth/space science, physics
- Measures students ability to read, digest and analyze scientific data
 - Contains charts, tables, graphs and scientific hypotheses



Writing (Optional)

- Scale of 1-36 and four writing domain scores (Ideas and Analysis, Development and Support, Organization, and Language Use and Conventions), each scored on a scale of 2-12.
- Your essay will be evaluated based on the evidence that it provides of your ability to:
 - analyze and evaluate multiple perspectives on a complex issue
 - state and develop your own perspective on the issue
 - explain and support your ideas with logical reasoning and detailed examples
 - clearly and logically organize your ideas in an essay



How Do You Get a Leg Up?

Strategies to improve your score

- **Strategic guessing**
- **Omitting**
- **Analyze the question**
- **Time management**

Test Code: ACTPT1 Test Date: 09/17/2005

Table 3:

English Test Analysis

| | <u>Expression</u> | <u>Agreement</u> | <u>Eloquence</u> | <u>Execution</u> |
|---|-------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Number of questions answered correctly | 14 | 5 | 10 | 13 |
| Number of questions answered incorrectly | 4 | 3 | 8 | 18 |
| Number of questions omitted | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total number of questions | 18 | 8 | 18 | 31 |
| Percentage of answers correct vs. total number of questions | 77% | 62% | 55% | 41% |

Table 4:

Math Test Analysis

| | <u>Arithmetic</u> | <u>Algebra</u> | <u>Coordinate Geometry</u> | <u>Plane Geometry</u> | <u>Trigonometry</u> |
|---|-------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|
| Number of questions answered correctly | 12 | 7 | 3 | 6 | 1 |
| Number of questions answered incorrectly | 4 | 10 | 3 | 11 | 3 |
| Number of questions omitted | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total number of questions | 16 | 17 | 6 | 17 | 4 |
| Percentage of answers correct vs. total number of questions | 75% | 41% | 50% | 35% | 25% |

Know the Test

Know Yourself As a Test Taker

Test Code: ACTPT1 Test Date: 09/17/2005

Table 10:

Math Test

| No. | Selected Answer | Correct Answer | Subscore Group | Question Topic | Question Category |
|-----|-----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1 | E | E | EA | Arithmetic | Percents |
| 2 | H | H | GT | Plane Geometry | Lines/Angles |
| 3 | B | B | AG | Arithmetic | Patterns/Sequences |
| 4 | K | K | EA | Algebra | Ratio/Proportion |
| 5 | C Incorrect | E | GT | Plane Geometry | Lines/Angles |
| 6 | F | F | EA | Arithmetic | Solving Equations |
| 7 | C | C | EA | Algebra | Solving Equations |
| 8 | H | H | EA | Arithmetic | Absolute Value |
| 9 | C | C | EA | Arithmetic | Percents |
| 10 | F | F | AG | Arithmetic | Exponents |
| 11 | B | B | EA | Algebra | Solving Equations |
| 12 | K Incorrect | F | EA | Algebra | Solving Equations |
| 13 | E | E | AG | Coordinate Geometry | Quadrilaterals |
| 14 | J Incorrect | K | EA | Algebra | Factoring/Quadratics |
| 15 | A Incorrect | D | GT | Plane Geometry | Quadrilaterals |
| 16 | G | G | AG | Coordinate Geometry | Slope |

Know the Test

Know Yourself As a Test Taker



Student: 04232005085 -

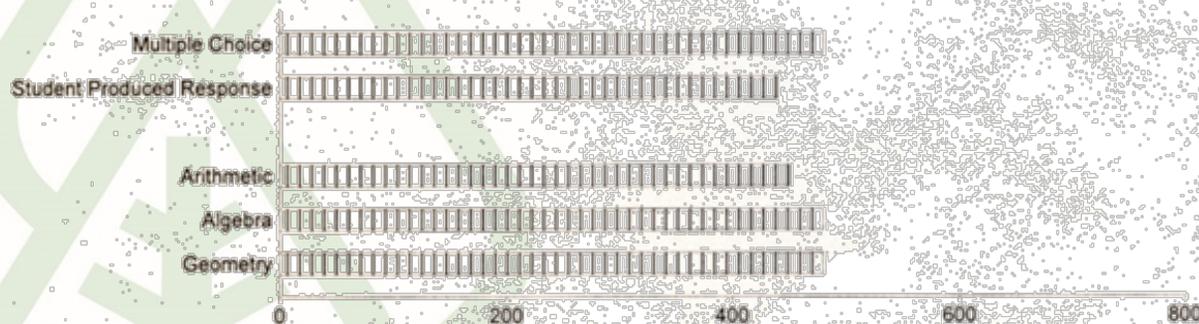
Page 2 of 13

Test Code: SATPT6

Table 3

Math Analysis by Question Type

| | Multiple Choice | Student Produced Response | Arithmetic | Algebra | Geometry |
|---|-----------------|---------------------------|------------|---------|----------|
| Number of questions answered correctly | 22 | 3 | 9 | 8 | 8 |
| Number of questions answered incorrectly | 15 | 2 | 7 | 5 | 5 |
| Number of questions omitted | 7 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| Total number of questions | 44 | 10 | 20 | 17 | 17 |
| Percentage of answers correct vs. total number of questions | 50% | 30% | 45% | 47% | 47% |
| Raw score | 18 | 3 | 7 | 7 | 7 |
| Estimated scaled score | 480 | 440 | 450 | 480 | 480 |



Know the Test

Know Yourself As a Test Taker



Student: 04232005085 -
 Test Code: SATPT6

Page 6 of 13

Table 6:

Section: 3 Section type: Math

| No. | Student Answer | Correct Answer | Difficulty | Format | Topic | Content |
|-----|----------------|--------------------|------------|---------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1 | D | D | Easy | Multiple Choice | Arithmetic | Fractions |
| 2 | B | B | Easy | Multiple Choice | Coordinate Geometry | Coordinate Plane |
| 3 | A | A | Easy | Multiple Choice | Plane Geometry | Lines/Angles |
| 4 | C | C | Easy | Multiple Choice | Algebra | Solving Equations |
| 5 | D | D | Medium | Multiple Choice | Algebra | Exponents |
| 6 | C | C | Medium | Multiple Choice | Arithmetic | Graphs/Tables |
| 7 | C Incorrect | B | Medium | Multiple Choice | Plane Geometry | Triangles |
| 8 | C Incorrect | A | Hard | Multiple Choice | Algebra | Solving Equations |
| 9 | 12 Incorrect | 120 | Easy | Student Produced Response | Algebra | Ratio/Proportion |
| 10 | .24 | 6/25 or .24 | Easy | Student Produced Response | Arithmetic | Sequences |
| 11 | 11 | 1 or 11 | Medium | Student Produced Response | Plane Geometry | Lines/Angles |
| 12 | 39 | 39 | Medium | Student Produced Response | Arithmetic | Logic |
| 13 | 2600 Incorrect | 6500 | Medium | Student Produced Response | Arithmetic | Percents |
| 14 | Omitted | 5/18, .277 or .278 | Medium | Student Produced Response | Plane Geometry | Circles |
| 15 | Omitted | 2 | Hard | Student Produced Response | Algebra | Quadratic Equations |
| 16 | Omitted | 5 | Medium | Student Produced Response | Plane Geometry | Quadrilaterals |
| 17 | Omitted | 11 | Hard | Student Produced Response | Arithmetic | Defined Operations |
| 18 | Omitted | 3/8 or .375 | Hard | Student Produced Response | Algebra | Averages |

Know the Test

Know Yourself As a Test Taker

How Do You Prepare?

The road to success

- Work hard in school
- Develop the learning skills needed to succeed
- Read regularly
- Prepare with a test prep program

When test day arrives

- Eat a good breakfast
- Wear comfortable clothing
- Bring the correct kind of calculator
- Bring several sharpened pencils
- Stay calm

The College Admission Timeline

If you are a JUNIOR

• September

- Continue PSAT prep
- Register for the PSAT
- Study and get good grades
- Sign up for Advanced Placement courses
- Stay involved in community and school activities
- Apply for leadership roles in school activities
- Meet with your guidance counselor

• October/November

- Take the PSAT
- Determine whether you will take the SAT or the ACT

• December

- Begin test preparation

• Spring

- Ask teachers to write recommendations
- Take the SAT or ACT exam
- Visit colleges
- Plan to take the SAT Subject Tests
- Research scholarship opportunities
- Attend college fairs

• Summer after junior year

- Begin writing college essays
- If you are not satisfied with your score, prepare to retake the exam
- Complete applications for early admission
- Volunteer, work or take a course



The College Admission Timeline

If you are a SENIOR

- **September**

- Continue to visit colleges
- Narrow list of college selections
- Continue test prep if you will be taking the exam again
- Determine which, if any, SAT Subject Tests you will take
- Study and get good grades
- Take leadership positions in school activities
- Meet with your guidance counselor
- Ask teachers to write recommendations

- **November**

- Finalize your essay
- Early action application deadlines

- **December**

- Early decision notification

- **January/March**

- Regular deadlines for college applications
- Financial aid deadline

- **April**

- Acceptances arrive
- Make your college decision

- **Summer after senior year**

- Pack your bags and head off to the college of your choice!

QUESTIONS?

Remember... Prepare. Achieve. Succeed.

This program has been presented by

