



The
Princeton
Review®

YOU HAVE YOUR PSAT & PACT SCORES, NOW
WHAT?

YOU HAVE YOUR PSAT & PACT SCORES, NOW WHAT?

AGENDA

- 1 Truths and Misconceptions about the Tests
- 2 Going from the PSAT & PACT to the SAT and ACT
- 3 Creating a Testing Timeline

PRESENTED BY:

Kailey Hewitt
SAT and ACT Tutor

A high-angle, top-down photograph of a student's workspace. The student, whose face is not visible, is seated at a light-colored wooden desk. Their hands are positioned on a silver laptop, with the left hand on the trackpad and the right hand near the keyboard. The student is wearing several bracelets on their left wrist and a ring on their right hand. To the right of the laptop, there is a stack of books. The top book has a teal cover, and the book below it is titled 'AP European History'. A silver pen lies on the desk between the laptop and the books. In the top left corner, a white smartphone is partially visible. The background shows a light-colored wooden floor. A black rectangular box with white text is overlaid in the center of the image.

TRUTHS AND MISCONCEPTIONS

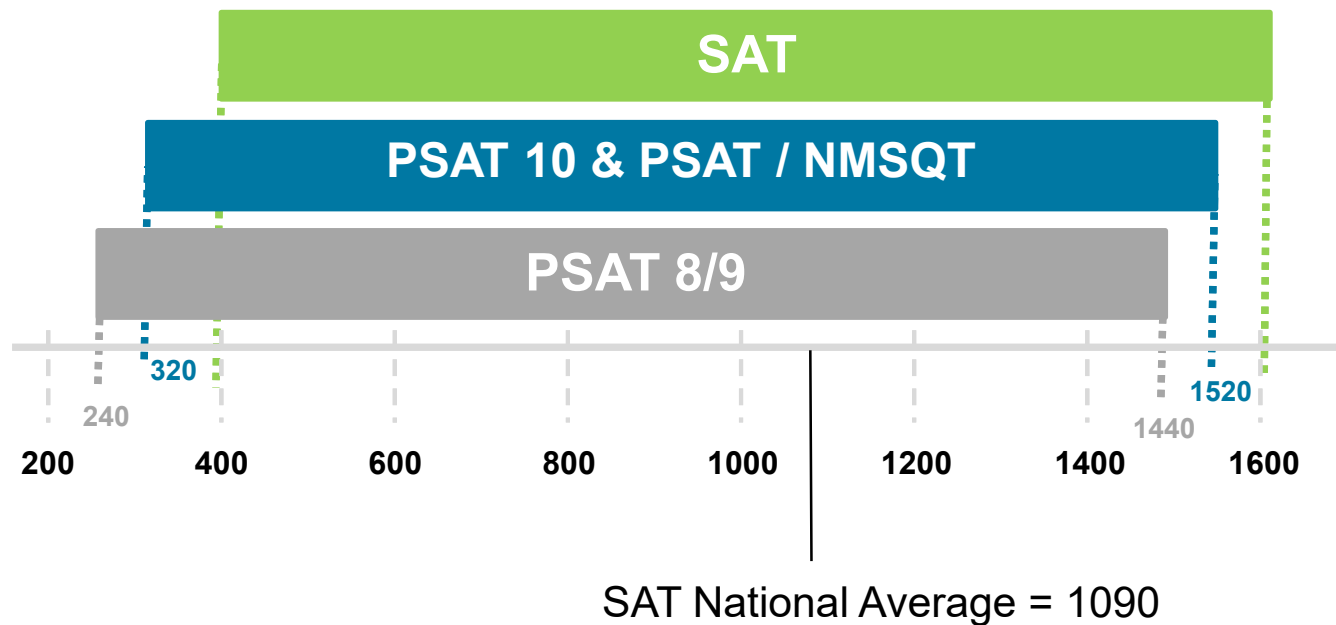
WHAT DO THESE TESTS MEASURE?

Admission tests..	True	False
... measure intelligence?		✓
... can be used to award aid?	✓	
... reflect your GPA in high school?		✓
... predict your college GPA?		✓
... can be prepared for?	✓	
... should be prepared for?	✓	
... test what you've learned in HS?	?	?

STUDENTS OFTEN STRUGGLE WITH STANDARDIZED TESTS

	STANDARDIZED TESTS	HIGH SCHOOL EXAMS
TIMING/NUMBER OF QUESTIONS	Race against the clock	Done in plenty of time!
CONTENT	Covers years	Covers chapters
TESTS	Stress test alert!	What have you learned recently
ESSAY	Limited time	Hours & Weeks
READING	OMG! 1 minute left already!	Take your time
WRITING/ENGLISH	Grammar rules	Grammar has much less emphasis
MATH	Tricky and comprised of 4+ years; all or nothing	Straight forward and generally focused on 1 year; do your best
GRADING	Machine	Human

PSAT AND SAT SCORING



PSAT IS ALMOST IDENTICAL TO SAT®

Section	SAT Questions	Time per Section	PSAT Questions	Time per Section
Reading	52	65 minutes	47	60 minutes
Writing and Language	44	35 minutes	44	35 minutes
Math – no calculator	20	25 minutes	17	25 minutes
Math – calculator	38	55 minutes	31	45 minutes
Essay (optional)	1	50 minutes	N/A	N/A

SAT is a registered trademark of the College Board, which is not affiliated with The Princeton Review



1,500,000 JUNIORS WILL
TAKE THE PSAT

50,000 RECOGNIZED

16,000 SEMI-
FINALISTS

15,000
FINALISTS

7,500

OUT OF 1.5 MILLION
STUDENTS WHO
TAKE THE PSAT,
7,500 ARE AWARDED
SCHOLARSHIPS

YOUR COLLEGE BOARD PSAT SCORE REPORT...

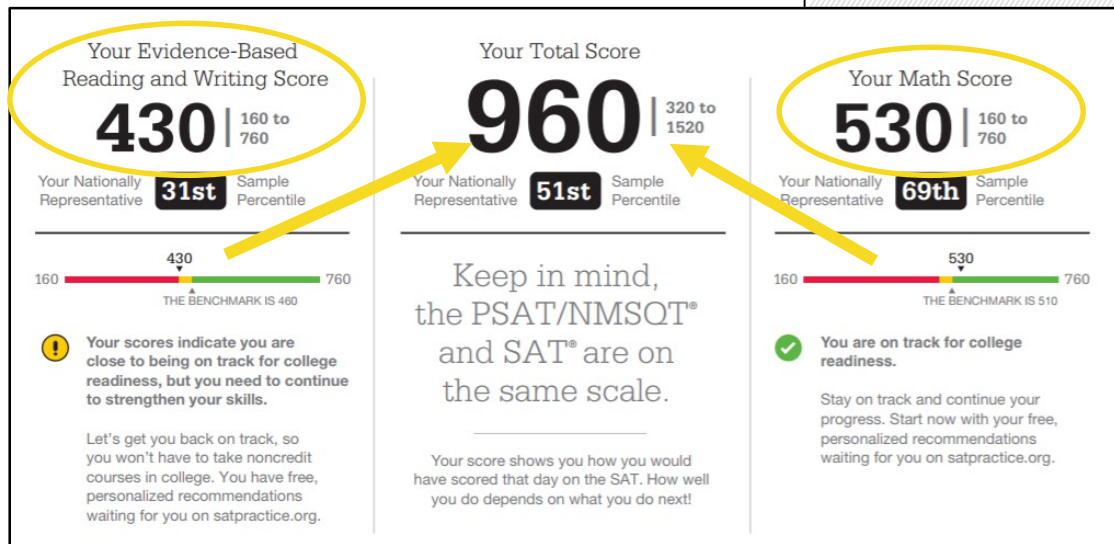
EACH SECTION IS SCORED
160-760 AND THEN THEY ARE
ADDED TOGETHER TO GET
THE TOTAL SCORE.

CollegeBoard / NATIONAL MERIT
SCHOLARSHIP CORPORATION

PSAT/NMSQT®

Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test

Your Score Report



Report online
collegeboard.org

access code **A02670146P**



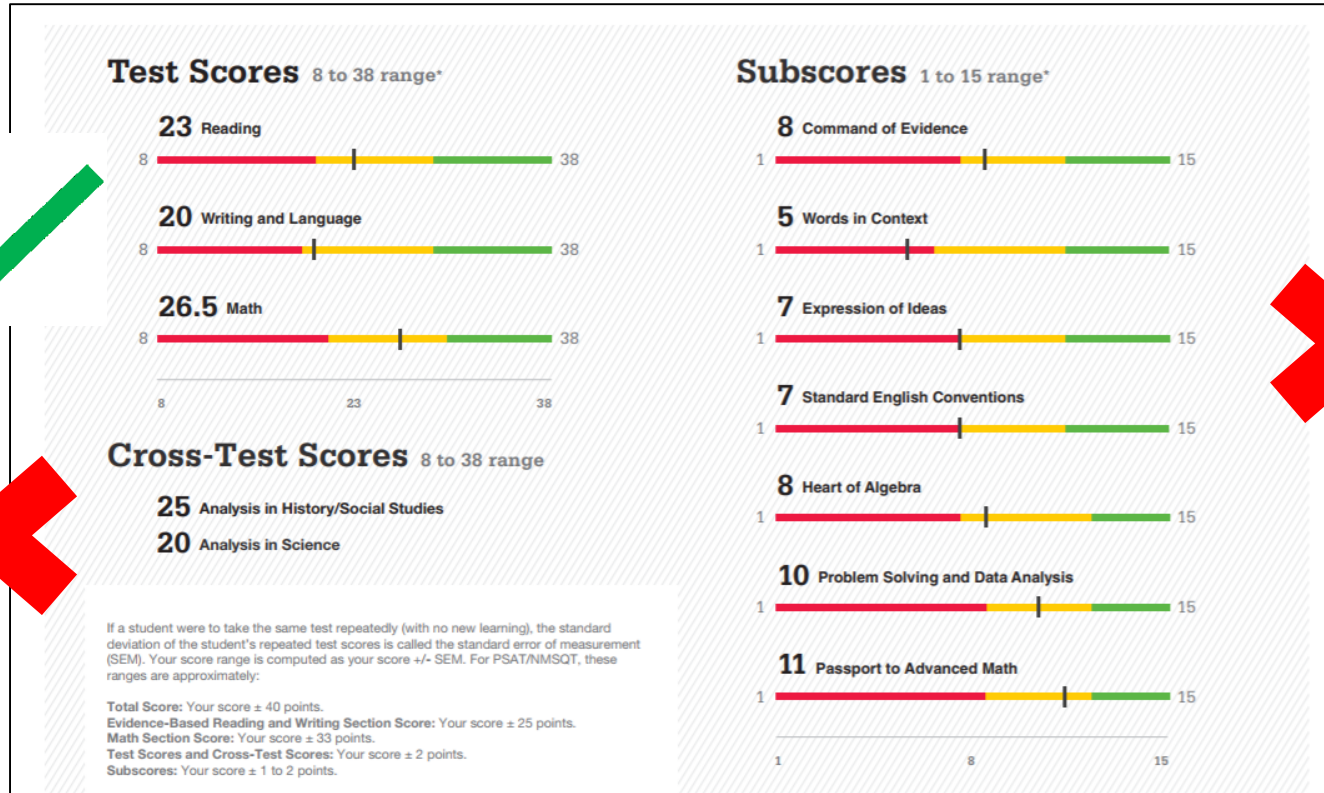
AP® and Course Work
See which AP courses may be a good match for you



Register for the SAT
Select an SAT test date and register for it now

**HIGHEST
POSSIBLE TOTAL
IS 1520.**

YOUR COLLEGE BOARD PSAT SCORE REPORT...



YOUR COLLEGE BOARD SCORE REPORT...

AREAS OF STRENGTH

AREAS OF FOCUS

Your Scores: Next Steps

Additional skills and improvement suggestions can be found in your online score report.

Your score indicates that you are already likely able to:

- Revise text as needed to improve the exactness or content appropriateness of word choices within somewhat challenging texts
- Retain or add information or ideas to a piece of a text to support claims or points in somewhat challenging text
- Revise somewhat challenging text to ensure that information is presented in the most logical order

Reading Test



Improve your skills by focusing on the following suggestions:

- Retain or add information or ideas to a piece of text to support claims or points in challenging text
- Use a variety of sentence structures to accomplish a rhetorical purpose such as persuading an audience
- Revise text as needed to improve the exactness or content appropriateness of word choices within challenging texts

Writing and Language Test

- Draw reasonable conclusions from somewhat challenging texts
- Describe the overall structure of a somewhat challenging text
- Identify claims and counterclaims explicitly stated in a somewhat challenging passage



- Draw reasonable inferences and logical conclusions from challenging texts
- Analyze information presented quantitatively in such forms as graphs, tables, and charts and relate that information to information presented in somewhat challenging text
- Determine how the selection of specific words shapes meaning and tone in a challenging passage

Your NMSC Selection Index

139

NMSC uses a Selection Index based on PSAT/NMSQT scores as an initial screen of students who enter its scholarship programs. To calculate your Selection Index, double the sum of your Reading, Writing and Language, and Math Test scores.

Eligibility Information

If your Selection Index places you among the 50,000 high scorers who qualify for National Merit Scholarship Program recognition, you will be notified next September.

NMSC SELECTION INDEX

CA happens to be one of the highest scoring states in the country.

Must score within top 3 percent of juniors in your state in order to be selected.

Anything over
211 is
competitive.

A high-angle, top-down photograph of a student with long, reddish-brown hair styled in two pigtails. The student is wearing a light blue button-down shirt and is seated at a wooden desk. The desk is cluttered with several white papers, some of which are open and show text. A silver laptop is open to the right of the student, displaying a blue screen. A black smartphone lies on the desk near the center. A clear glass of water is visible on the left side of the desk. Several yellow and orange sticky notes are scattered around the papers. The lighting is warm and natural, suggesting an indoor setting with a window nearby.

Going from the PSAT & PACT to the SAT and ACT

TESTS AT-A GLANCE



BOTH THE ACT AND SAT HAVE:

- Over 3 hours of testing time
- Limited time per question
- Answer choices (mostly)
- Math, Reading, and Grammar questions

ACT is a registered trademark of ACT, Inc., which is not affiliated with The Princeton Review.



WHAT ABOUT THE ESSAY?

- Fewer than 20 schools require the essay
- The University of California system contains nine of those schools.
- We recommend you take the essay, *but don't sweat it!*

TEST WRITERS EXPECT YOU TO RESPOND IN A PREDICTABLE WAY

If a store raises the price of an item by 20%, then decreases the new price by 15%, what was the percent change in the price of the item?

The trap answer is a 5 percent change! The real answer is 2% (go through the math....item is \$100 and it's raised 20% which is \$20. New price = \$120. Then \$120 is decreased 15% which is \$18. $\$120 - \$18 = \$102$. Which is 2% increase)

WHAT ARE SOME COMMON MISTAKES?

- ✓ Answering questions too quickly
- ✓ Careless answers
- ✓ Doing work in your head
- ✓ Misreading the problem
- ✓ Don't understand what to do

1460 28 1180 1560 29

32 **WHAT IS A GOOD SCORE?** 1210

1370

34

31

1400

33

A good score is the score that gets you
into your dream college.

21

24

20

35

1540

1350

1490

1250

36

26

23

22

27

1420

1300

1510

1140

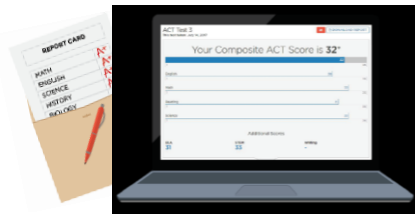
A close-up photograph of a wooden desk. On the left, a silver laptop is open, showing its black keyboard. On the right, a hand is holding a black pen and writing on a white, lined notebook. The background is the natural wood grain of the desk.

CREATING A TEST PREP PLAN

ADMISSION FACTORS

Considerably important:

- High School Transcript
- Test scores



Moderately important:

- Essay/writing samples
- Teacher & counselor recommendations
- Class rank



Smaller institutions are more likely to rank subject tests, portfolios, interviews, and work experience as considerably or moderately important.



DID YOU KNOW:

Colleges have no preference whether you take the ACT or SAT, but tests are used to grant scholarships - *almost 200 merit scholarships are tied to ACT and SAT scores!*

BIG QUESTION:
SAT or ACT?

REAL QUESTION:
Why not both?



BUT DON'T TAKE OUR WORD FOR IT!

- Princeton University's Dean of Admissions summed it up this way:
 - “For us, more information is always better. If students choose one or the other, that’s fine, because both tests have value. But if they submit both, that generally gives us a little more information.”
- Guidance Counselor at Richwoods HS in IL:
 - “The mantra from college admissions counselors has increasingly been to advise students to take both.”

CREATING YOUR PREP PLAN

Step One: Take a Practice Test

Learn What You Need to Do

Step Two: Prep For Your First Test

Buy a Book Self-Prep Online Take a Class Work With a Tutor

Step Three: Take Your First Test

Get an Official Score

Step Four: Prep For Your Second Test

Take a Different Test or the Same Test Readjust Your Plan

Step Five: Take Your Second Test



Upcoming SAT® Ultimate Courses: South Bay

You can get the score you want. We can help. For more than 30 years, The Princeton Review has helped students get better scores on their college entrance exams. Our expert-led SAT classroom course combines powerful analytics and focused classroom time to supercharge your prep.

The Princeton Review, Palos Verdes

727 Deep Valley Dr.
Palos Verdes, CA

February 2–March 2

Saturday, Sunday
1:00 PM–4:00 PM

February 16–March 7

Tuesday, Thursday
6:00 PM–9:00 PM

Regus Torrance

21515 Hawthorne Blvd. Suite 200
Torrance, CA

January 27–March 6

Wednesday
6:00 PM–9:00 PM

February 2–March 2

Saturday, Sunday
9:00 AM–12:00 PM

Official Exam: March 9th

Sign up for an In Person course local to you !

Use the website

www.princetonreview.com/SouthHS

for special discounts

Contact: Jasmine Tavakoli at 310 651
0186 or

jasmine.Tavakoli@review.com for
more information.



Upcoming ACT® Ultimate Courses: South Bay

You can get the score you want. We can help. For more than 30 years, The Princeton Review has helped students get better scores on their college entrance exams. Our expert-led ACT classroom course combines powerful analytics and focused classroom time to supercharge your prep.

The Princeton Review, Palos Verdes

727 Deep Valley Dr.
Palos Verdes, CA

January 6–February 3

Saturday, Sunday
9:00 AM–12:00 PM

February 3–April 7

Sunday
5:00 PM–8:00 PM

March 16–April 10

Monday, Wednesday
6:00 PM–9:00 PM

Mira Costa High School

701 S. Peck Ave.
Manhattan Beach, CA

January 12–February 6

Monday, Wednesday
5:00 PM–8:00 PM

Regus Torrance

21515 Hawthorne Blvd. Suite 200
Torrance, CA

January 27–April 7

Sunday
2:00 PM–5:00 PM

Official Exam: February 9th, April 13th

Sign up for an In Person course local to you !

Use the website

www.princetonreview.com/SouthHS

for special discounts

Contact: Jasmine Tavakoli at 310 651
0186 or

jasmine.Tavakoli@review.com for
more information.

QUESTIONS?

princetonreview.com

800-2REVIEW



/ThePrincetonReview2



@ThePrincetonRev



ThePrincetonReview

SAT and AP are trademarks registered and owned by the College Board, which is not affiliated with and does not endorse this product. PSAT/NMSQT is a registered trademark of the College Board and the National Merit Scholarship Corporation which were not involved in the production of, and do not endorse, this product. All other tests are registered trademarks of their respective owners. None of the trademark holders are affiliated with The Princeton Review or these products. The Princeton Review is not affiliated with Princeton University.