

## 9 Key Differences Between the SAT and ACT

- *Time per question* is shorter for ACT compared to the SAT
- Science section included on ACT
- No calculator subsection for SAT
- Math focus
  - Both tests include algebra, however,
     ACT has a larger geometry focus
- Math formulas
  - ACT: does not provide diagram of math formulas
  - SAT: provides diagram of math formulas
- Math and final score
  - ACT: 1/4 of your final score is math
  - SAT: 1/2 of your final score is math
- Multiple choice math
  - ACT: only multiple choice math questions
  - SAT: combination of multiple choice and short answer
- Evidence support reading
  - SAT will require you to indicate a specific passage to support your answer. This is absent on the ACT.
- Essay
  - The ACT has an optional essay, whereas the SAT recently removed their optional essay.

# Quiz: Should you take the ACT or SAT?

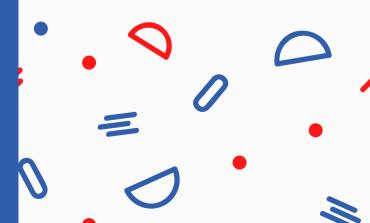
| Question   | Yes | No |
|--|-----|----|
| Do you perform well under time pressure?                       |     |    |
| Are you okay with not answering every question on a test?      |     |    |
| Do you struggle to explain why you think an answer is correct? |     |    |
| Do you have a hard time with high level vocab words?           |     |    |
| Can you spot details in a passage without reading it closely?  |     |    |
| Do you dread doing math without a calculator?                  |     |    |
| Do you excel in geometry?                                      |     |    |
| Do you prefer each topic be tested separately?                 |     |    |
| Do you understand experimental design?                         |     |    |
| Do you like science?   |     |    |

Scroll to the bottom of the QR code to find your answer!





Which test is right for you?



## SAT

**Testing time:** 3 hrs (no essay)

# of Questions: 154

Time per question: 80 seconds

**Score range:** 400 - 1600

#### **Test components:**

Reading: 65 mins

52 questions

Math: 80 mins

58 questions

Writing and Language:

35 mins

44 questions

# What are the SAT and ACT?

The SAT and ACT are standardized tests that colleges use for admissions and meritbased scholarships.

All colleges and universities in the U.S. accept **BOTH** tests and do not distinguish between the two.

Both tests attempt to measure college readiness and future academic success.

## **ACT**

**Testing time:** 2 hrs 55 mins + 40 min essay (optional)

# of Questions: 215

Time per question: 49 seconds

**Score range:** 1 - **36** 

#### **Test components:**

Reading: 35 mins

40 questions

Math: 60 mins

60 questions

English: 45 mins

75 questions

Science: 35 mins

40 questions