

# ACT® or SAT® Exam: What's the Difference?

	ACT Exam	SAT Exam
Time (Without Optional Essay)	2 hours 55 minutes	3 hours
Average Time per Non-Essay Question	About 44 seconds	About 1 minute 10 seconds
ACT English / SAT Writing and Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 45 minutes</li> <li>• 75 questions</li> <li>• Covers grammar, vocabulary, and sentence structure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 35 minutes</li> <li>• 44 questions</li> <li>• Covers grammar, vocabulary, and sentence structure</li> </ul>
Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 35 minutes</li> <li>• 40 questions</li> <li>• 4 passages</li> <li>• Tests detail-extraction skills</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 65 minutes</li> <li>• 52 questions</li> <li>• 5 passages</li> <li>• Tests analysis skills</li> </ul>
Math	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 60 minutes</li> <li>• 60 questions</li> <li>• Covers arithmetic, algebra I, algebra II, geometry, trigonometry, probability, and statistics</li> <li>• Formulas are <u>not</u> provided</li> <li>• All multiple choice</li> <li>• Calculator allowed throughout</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 80 minutes</li> <li>• 58 questions</li> <li>• Covers arithmetic, algebra I, algebra II, geometry, trigonometry, and data analysis</li> <li>• Formulas are provided</li> <li>• Mostly multiple choice with some write-in answers</li> <li>• Two sections:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Calculator section                   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 55 minutes</li> <li>- 38 questions</li> </ul> </li> <li>◦ No-calculator section                   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 25 minutes</li> <li>- 20 questions</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 35 minutes</li> <li>• 40 questions</li> <li>• Tests critical thinking and data-analysis skills more than knowledge of science</li> </ul>	No science section
Essay (Optional)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 40 minutes</li> <li>• One question</li> <li>• Tests reading comprehension and analysis skills</li> <li>• Test-takers read about an issue and then choose one of three perspectives on the issue to support in their written response</li> <li>• Scored from 2-8 in three sections: reading, analysis, and writing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Essay section discontinued in 2022</li> <li>• Some states and school districts may still have access and require SAT Essay completion</li> </ul>
Scoring (Not Including Essay)	1 - 36	400 - 1600
Cost	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$66</li> <li>• \$91 with writing section</li> <li>• Fee waivers offered for qualifying students</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$60</li> <li>• Some students may be eligible for a fee waiver</li> </ul>

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