

SAT VS. ACT: WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

	SAT®	ACT®
TIME (Without Optional Essay)	3 hours	2 hours 55 minutes
AVERAGE TIME PER NON-ESSAY QUESTION	About 1 minute 10 seconds	About 44 seconds
SAT WRITING AND LANGUAGE / ACT ENGLISH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 35 minutes • 44 questions • Covers grammar, vocabulary and sentence structure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 45 minutes • 75 questions • Covers grammar, vocabulary and sentence structure
READING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 65 minutes • 52 questions • 5 passages • Tests analysis skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 35 minutes • 40 questions • 4 passages • Tests detail-extraction skills
MATH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 80 minutes • 58 questions • Covers arithmetic, algebra I, algebra II, geometry, trigonometry and data analysis • Formulas are provided • Mostly multiple choice with some write-in answers • Two sections: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Calculator section <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 55 minutes - 38 questions ◦ No-calculator section <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 25 minutes - 20 questions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 60 minutes • 60 questions • Covers arithmetic, algebra I, algebra II, geometry, trigonometry, probability and statistics • Formulas are <u>not</u> provided • All multiple choice • Calculator allowed throughout
SCIENCE	No science section	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 35 minutes • 40 questions • Tests critical thinking and data-analysis skills more than knowledge of science
ESSAY (Optional)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50 minutes • One question • Tests reading comprehension and analysis skills • Test-takers read one passage and then explain it in an essay • Scored from 2-12 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 40 minutes • One question • Tests reading comprehension and analysis skills • Test-takers read about an issue and then choose one of three perspectives on the issue to support in their written response • Scored from 2-8 in three sections: reading, analysis and writing
SCORING (Not Including Essay)	400 – 1600	1 – 36
COST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$49.50 • \$64.50 with essay section 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$55.00 • \$70.00 with essay section