

What is the difference between the ACT and SAT?

The ACT is an achievement test, measuring what a student has learned in school. The SAT is more of an aptitude test, testing reasoning and verbal abilities.

The ACT has up to 5 components: English, Mathematics, Reading, Science, and an *optional* Writing Test. The SAT has only 3 components: Critical Reasoning, Mathematics, and a *required* Writing Test.

The College Board introduced a new version of the SAT in 2005, with a mandatory writing test. ACT continues to offer its well-established test, plus an optional writing test. You take the ACT Writing Test only if required by the college(s) you're applying to. (majority require)

The SAT has a correction for guessing. That is, they take off for wrong answers. The ACT is scored based on the number of correct answers with no penalty for guessing.

The ACT is 2 hours 55 minute test (add 30 minutes for option writing section) for 215 questions. The SAT is 3 hours 5 minute test for 140 questions and essay.

SAT STRUCTURE

Section Type	Section Scoring
Critical Reading	200-800
Math	200-800
Writing	200-800

**Perfect Score = 2400
(800 each section)**

SAT SCORING

Your raw score is calculated by adding the number of questions you got correct and subtracting your wrong answer penalty. Your raw score is then multiplied by a formula to arrive at your SAT scaled score.

How is your raw score figured?
 Correct Answer 1 point
 Blank Answer 0 points
 Incorrect Answer -1/4 point *(on most ?s)

If you can eliminate 1 or more incorrect answer choices, it is in your best interest to guess. Otherwise, leave blank.

ACT STRUCTURE

Section Type	Section Scoring
English	1-36
Math	1-36
Reading	1-36
Science Reasoning	1-36
Composite*	1-36
Writing test subscore	2-12
Combined English/Writing subscore	1-36

*Composite score is an average English, Math, Reading, & Science

Perfect Score = 36

ACT SCORING

For each of the sections, you will receive a raw score. Your four raw scores are then converted to your scaled subject score. These scores are average to derive your composite score.

How is your raw score figured?
 Correct Answer 1 point
 Blank Answer 0 points
 Incorrect Answer 0 points

There is no penalty for guessing.
 Answer every question. Go for it and guess!!