

SAT vs ACT

How are the tests different?



SAT

ACT

	SAT	ACT
SECTIONS	Consists of Math + Writing + Critical Reading sections.	Consists of Math + English + Reading + Science sections.
SCORING	Sections scored from 200-800 and then added together. The highest score is 2400.	Sections scored from 1-36 and then averaged together. The highest score is 36
ESSAY	Required essay (scored out of 12 points).	Optional essay (scored out of 12 points). Note that many colleges require it.
MATH	Math = Arithmetic, Algebra, and Geometry.	Math = Arithmetic, Algebra, Geometry, and Trigonometry.
MULTIPLE CHOICE	Multiple choice questions have 5 answer choices.	Multiple choice questions have 4 answer choices.
GRID-INS	Math "Grid-Ins" require you write in answers.	No math "Grid-Ins."
GUESSING	Better to skip than guess—you lose points for wrong answers.	Guess away—you don't lose points for wrong answers.
SCHEDULE	Administered 7 times each year.	Administered 6 times each year.