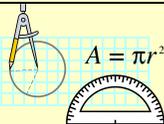


SAT

vs.

ACT

CONTENT

<p>CRITICAL READING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vocabulary skills emphasized in word analogy & sentence completion style questions Includes READING section that you answer questions about. 	<p>50%</p>		<p>ENGLISH</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grammar skills emphasized in identifying correct or incorrect use in sentences. 	<p>25%</p>
<p>MATH</p> <p>Includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arithmetic Algebra Geometry Probability & Logic <p>(Graphing, 4-function & scientific calculators allowed)</p>	<p>50%</p>	 	<p>MATH</p> <p>Includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pre-Algebra Plane & Coordinate Geometry Trigonometry <p>(Graphing, 4-function, & scientific calculators allowed)</p>	<p>25%</p>
			<p>SCIENCE</p>	<p>25%</p>

METHOD OF SCORING

<p>200-800 points (per section)</p> <p>Score = Total of Critical Reading & Math</p> <p>*1/4 of a point subtracted for wrong answers</p> <p>(Writing score is NOT included as a part of scores publicized for automatic admissions by colleges)</p>		<p>1-36 points (per section)</p> <p>Composite Score = Average of 4 sections</p> <p>* No penalty for wrong answers</p>
<p>WRITING (REQUIRED)</p> <p>Measures students ability to develop a point of view on an issue presented in an excerpt by s</p>		<p>WRITING (OPTIONAL)</p>

More Comparisons

*The SAT is traditionally thought of as a test that measures a student's reasoning or critical thinking skills & is better suited to the student with strong deductive reasoning capabilities

SAT	/	ACT
1600	=	36
1300	=	29
1200	=	27
1180	=	25
1080	=	23
1000	=	21
960	=	20
870	=	18

*The ACT is considered a curriculum-based test, meaning it tests a student's knowledge of subject matter covered in high school.

Differences At-A-Glance

SAT

- o No science section
- o No trigonometry questions
- o Vocabulary emphasized
- o Non multiple-choice questions asked
- o Guessing penalty
- o No English grammar
- o Math accounts for 50% of your score
- o Questions go from easy to difficult

ACT

- o Science reasoning section
- o math includes trigonometry
- o vocabulary less important
- o entirely multiple-choice
- o no guessing penalty
- o English grammar tested
- o math accounts for 25% of your score
- o questions are mixed up

VERBAL SECTIONS

SAT- The SAT verbal sections include: Analogies, Sentence Completion's, and Critical Reading. You'll need to work around tough vocabulary in both analogies and sentence completion's.

- In the critical reading section, you'll get four passages from different subject areas.
- To answer the questions, you'll have to grasp the author's overall argument quickly, and draw relationships between the details of the passage and its main idea.

ACT- The ACT English section gives you a series of sentences and paragraphs and asks you to identify and correct any grammatical or punctuation errors, garbled or redundant prose, or stylistic flubs. Don't be alarmed though. These questions do not test special grammar rules, but rather your basic grammar skills, logic and common sense.

- In the ACT Reading section, you'll be given four reading passages followed by questions mostly asking you to locate facts and verify information.
- **OTHER "HELPS"**- The SAT Critical Reading is like analyzing a debate, while ACT reading is more like researching a term paper. If you're good at interpretation, you'll do well on the SAT. If you're more of a quantitative thinker, you might be more comfortable with the ACT.

MATH SECTIONS

SAT- The SAT Math sections contain approximately equal proportions of arithmetic, algebra, and geometry questions, along with some other question types that require skills like probability and logical reasoning. The SAT is interested in testing your ability to manipulate information like key facts and formulas, rather than just memorizing them.

The questions are a mix of Regular Math (multiple choice), Grid-ins (regular math problems where you have to fill in the answer) and Quantitative Comparisons 9 multiple choice questions where you'll have to compare quantities in two columns.

ACT- The ACT Math section requires you to know pre-algebra, geometry, and coordinate and plane geometric. Unlike the SAT, you'll also see trigonometry, the quadratic formula and graphs and equations of circles, ellipses and parabolas.

The questions are multiple-choice. Regular Math questions. They are straightforward, requiring you to know a particular concept or formula - so you'll need to have this information memorized. 34

If you enjoy questions that call upon logical reasoning and visualization, you might prefer the SAT. BUT if you're more comfortable with straightforward, academically rigorous questions, the ACT might be for you.