

Mountain Ridge High School ACT / SAT & PSAT Info





Objective for Today

- * TSW understand the difference between the PSAT and the SAT
- * TSW explain the difference between the ACT and SAT
- * TSW will examine resources that prepare student for post-secondary entrance exams.



PSAT

- PSAT/NMSQT stands for Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test.
- It's a standardized test that provides firsthand practice for the SAT Test.
- Juniors who take the PSAT are automatically screened for the National Merit Scholarship
- The PSAT/NMSQT measures:
 - critical reading skills
 - math problem-solving skills
 - writing skills




PSAT


- The PSAT is held on MRHS campus on October 15th
- To sign up and Register, for the PSAT, I must go to the MRHS Bookstore.
- Registration begins on Sep 9th and ends on Oct 7th
- PSAT costs \$20.00

College Entrance Exams





There are two major
college entrance
examinations administered
in the United States today:
The SAT and ACT.



The SAT and ACT are
designed to judge all students
by a common measurement.
They serve as a reliable
predictor of how you will
perform academically in your
freshman year of college.



Why Take the SAT or the ACT?

- The SAT and ACT exams also help colleges find you. By taking the exams, you make yourself visible to colleges and scholarship opportunities.
- The higher you score on your SAT or ACT the more opportunities are available to you. Colleges are generally looking for SAT score of 1120 (Critical Reading & Math combined) or higher and ACT score of 28 or higher.

SAT or ACT : What's the Difference?





ACT vs SAT

- Group activity

SAT	V.S.	ACT
Basic Registration: USD 26 Basic Reg+Reports: USD 52.50	Cost	Basic Registration: USD 38 Basic Reg+Reports: USD 54.50
Jan 23, Mar 5, May 7, Jun 4	Test Dates 2016-2017	Feb 6, Apr 9, Jun 11, Sept 10, Oct 22, Dec 10, Feb 11, Apr 8, Jun 10
Evidence based Reading & Writing, Math, Essay (optional)	Subjects	English, Math, Reading, Science, Essay (optional)
Originally designed as an aptitude test	Test Style	Achievement test
3 hours + 50 minutes for optional essay	Test Length	175 minutes + 30 minutes for optional essay
35 minutes for 44 problems 65 minutes for 52 problems 80 minutes for 58 problems	Time per Problem	45 minutes for 75 problems 60 problems for 60 minutes 35 minutes for 40 problems
Composite Score of 400-1600	Scoring	Composite Score of 1-36
No distinct science section though science-related passages appear in Reading & Writing Test	Science Content	Basic questions about biology, chemistry, physics and earth science – but it is more focused on student's critical reasoning skill
Heart of Algebra (i.e. linear equations, functions, etc.) Problem-Solving & Data Analysis (aka Social Science math) Passport to Advanced Math (complex equations, i.e. quadratics) Additional Topics in Math (mostly plane geometry)	Math Content	Pre-Algebra/Elementary Algebra Intermediate Algebra/ Coordinate Geometry Plane Geometry/ Trigonometry
www.collegeboard.com	More Information	www.act.org

Adapted from: <https://myteacherstogo.wordpress.com/2016/05/11/sat-vs-act-breaking-down-the-difference/>

OLD SAT vs NEW SAT??



Mag^osh presents:

OLD SAT VS. NEW SAT TOP 10 CHANGES

How will the College Board's changes to the SAT in 2016 affect you?

The College Board's changes to the SAT amount to more than just a new look. Mainstays of the test—obscure vocabulary, tricky math questions, and the 25-minute written essay—are soon to be things of the past. Come 2016, students will be facing a completely new test. Here's a look at what to expect:

1.



A perfect score will be 1600, not 2400.

How exactly this will happen (the allocation of points per section) has not yet been announced.

6.



More advanced math

There will be a new section called "Passport to Advanced Math" with pre-calculus & trigonometry.

2.



The essay will be optional.

Students will now have to write an analysis of a paragraph (no more canned examples).

7.



No calculator allowed on parts of the math section.

For 25 out of 80 minutes, students will have to rely on mental math.

3.



No obscure vocabulary words.

Vocabulary-based exercises will test words students can expect to see in college courses.

8.



Paragraphs containing grammatical errors

No more hunting for mistakes in short sentences.

4.



No more guessing penalty

Currently, students lose $\frac{1}{4}$ of a point for every wrong answer. On the new test, there will be no penalty for wrong answers.

9.



More charts and graphs

Students will have to integrate multiple sources of information.

5.



Fewer random reading passages

Passages will be more focused on historical and scientific topics.

10.



Computer-optional, at select locations

Currently, the test is only available on paper.

Score higher on the SAT. Learn more at sat.magoosh.com



How to Register

Register directly on the ACT website at: <http://www.act.org/>
& for SAT at: <https://www.collegeboard.org/>

Find the link on MRHS website (MRHS.DVUSD.org)

Click on Student Services / Counseling

College Planning

Look for the SAT and ACT link to their website
where you can take practice tests and register.





Test Fee Waiver

- If you currently qualify for free or reduced lunch, you may qualify for a fee waiver or reduction in fee to take the SAT and or the ACT. Please see your counselor for more information.



How Do I Prepare For the Test?

- Take the official ACT and SAT practice tests for free
- Order the SAT or ACT study guide
- Visit [College Board.org](http://CollegeBoard.org) or ACTstudent.org and answer the official question of the day
- Increase vocabulary – [dictionary .com](http://dictionary.com)



How Do I Get My Scores?

- You can view your scores online free of charge. Please check the ACT / SAT websites for date of available online viewing of scores.
- If you take the ACT plus writing, allow an additional two weeks for your scores to be posted.



How Do Colleges Get My Scores?

- The first four colleges are free. Each additional college score request is \$10.00. Make sure you know the colleges you would like to see your score, prior to taking the test.
- If you choose to send your scores after you have taken the test, there is a \$10.00 fee per report.
- Allow at least two weeks for your request to be processed.
- Remember, Mountain Ridge cannot send your test scores for you.



Counseling Department

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