

Get the facts about the SAT



The SAT[®] offers students another way to stand out in the admission process. We've also leveled the playing field so every student preparing for the SAT gets free, personalized practice on Khan Academy[®].

TEST STRUCTURE AND FORMAT	SAT [®]	ACT [®]
Number of questions	154	215
Time per question	1:10	0:49
Structure	3 tests + optional SAT Essay	4 tests + optional writing test
Score range	Composite 400–1600 (SAT Essay: reported in 3 dimensions, each 2–8)	Composite 1–36 (writing test scores: 2–12)
Test components	<p>Reading Test 65 minutes, 52 questions</p> <p>Writing & Language Test 35 minutes, 44 questions</p> <p>Math Test 80 minutes, 58 questions <i>Use of a calculator permitted on some problems</i></p>	<p>Reading Test 35 minutes, 40 questions</p> <p>English Test 45 minutes, 75 questions</p> <p>Math Test 60 minutes, 60 questions <i>Use of a calculator permitted on all problems</i></p> <p>Science Test 35 minutes, 40 questions</p>
Testing time	3 hours + 50-minute SAT Essay (optional)	2 hours 55 minutes + 40-minute essay (optional)

 TEST FEATURES	SAT®	ACT®
Recently updated to reflect state and district standards	✓	
Optional essay	✓	✓
No guessing penalty	✓	✓
Full test specifications available online	✓	
 FEE WAIVERS		
Test fee waivers for eligible students	✓	✓
Free late registration for fee-waiver students	✓	
Four college application fee waivers sent directly to eligible students	✓	
Four free score sends with registration	✓	✓
Four free additional score sends	✓	
 FREE PRACTICE		
Official, personalized practice on Khan Academy	✓	
Full-length practice tests	8	1
Sample test questions	✓	✓
Practice app with score functionality	✓	
 SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE TESTED		
Focused on the few things evidence shows matter most for college and career, in both math and English Language Arts (ELA)	✓	
Vocabulary focused on words more widely used in college/career	✓	✓
History/social studies and science included throughout all required sections of the test	✓	
Demonstration of command of evidence	✓	
Essay analyzing a source	✓	

For more information, visit sat.org/accepted