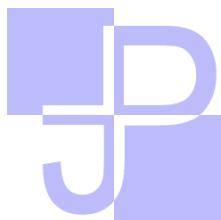


Understanding the PSAT (& SAT, & ACT...)



presented by Paul Jury &

PJ Test Prep

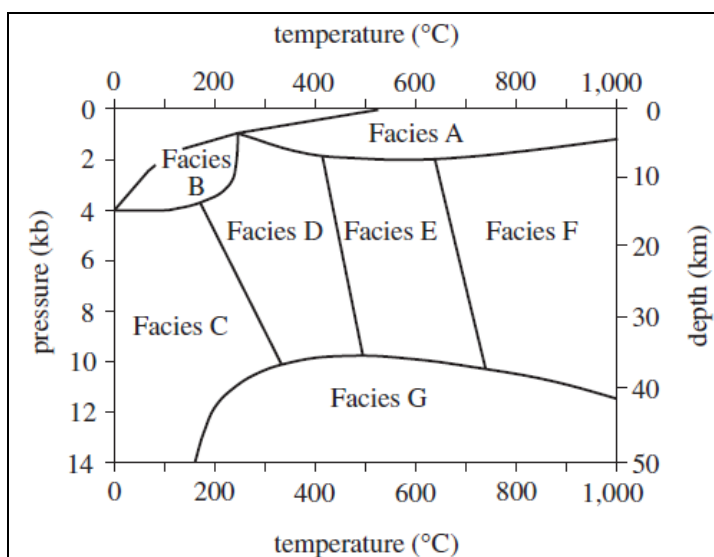
SAT/ACT Prep Classes, and Test/Academic Tutoring

www.pjtestprep.com, 310-529-7285 or paul@pjtestprep.com

Intro: Know the test(s)!

2. According to Figure 1, a Facies G rock will most likely form under which of the following pressure and temperature conditions?

	Pressure	Temperature
F.	3 kb	800°C
G.	5 kb	400°C
H.	8 kb	1,000°C
J.	11 kb	600°C



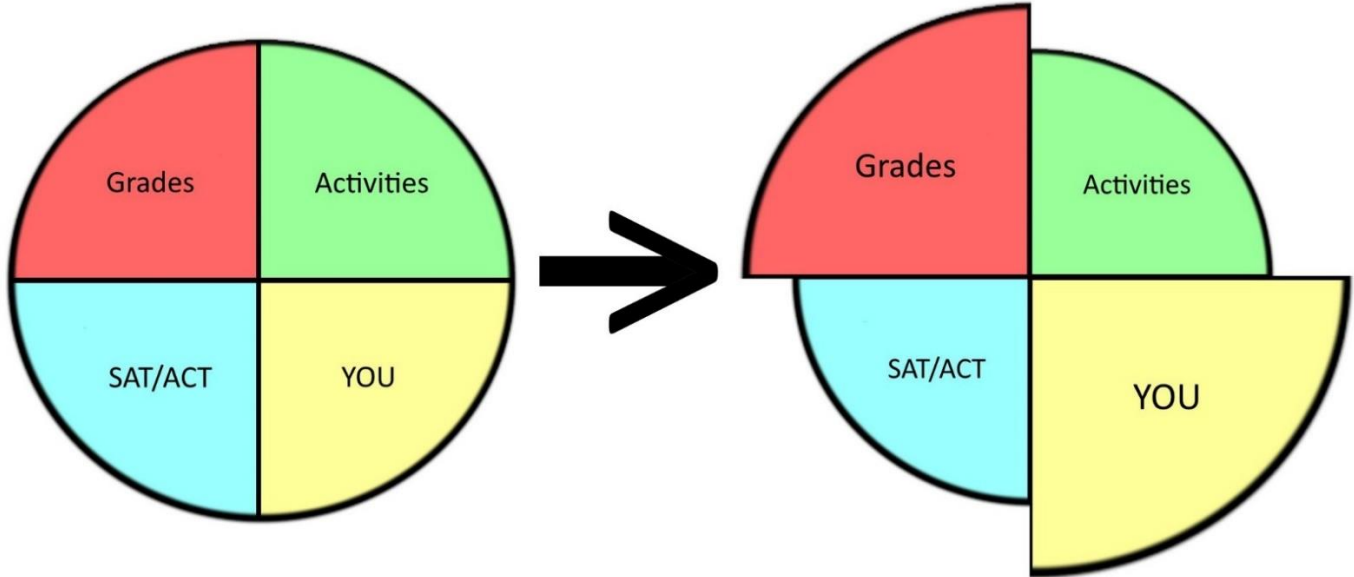
Part 1: College Admissions Basics

Part 2: What do my PSAT Scores Mean?

Part 3: SAT/ACT Logistics: Should I take one? Which? When?

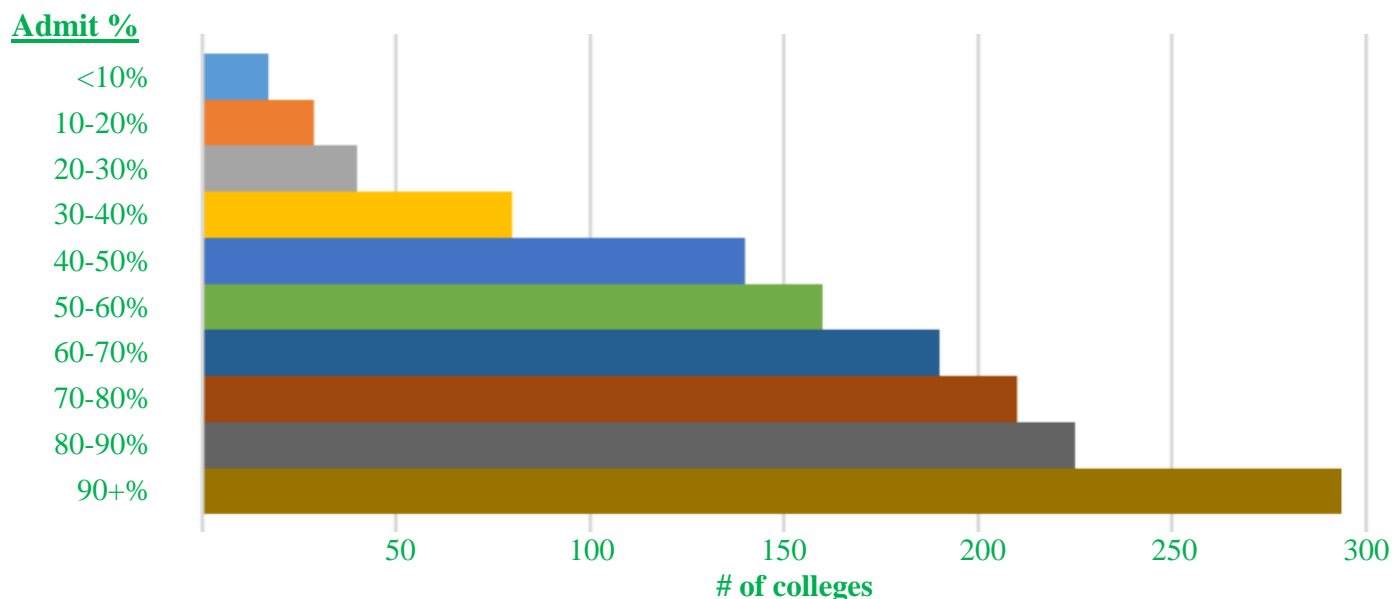
Part 4: Raising Scores: Tips & Hacks

Part 1: College Admissions Basics



YOU ARE GOING TO COLLEGE
(if you want)

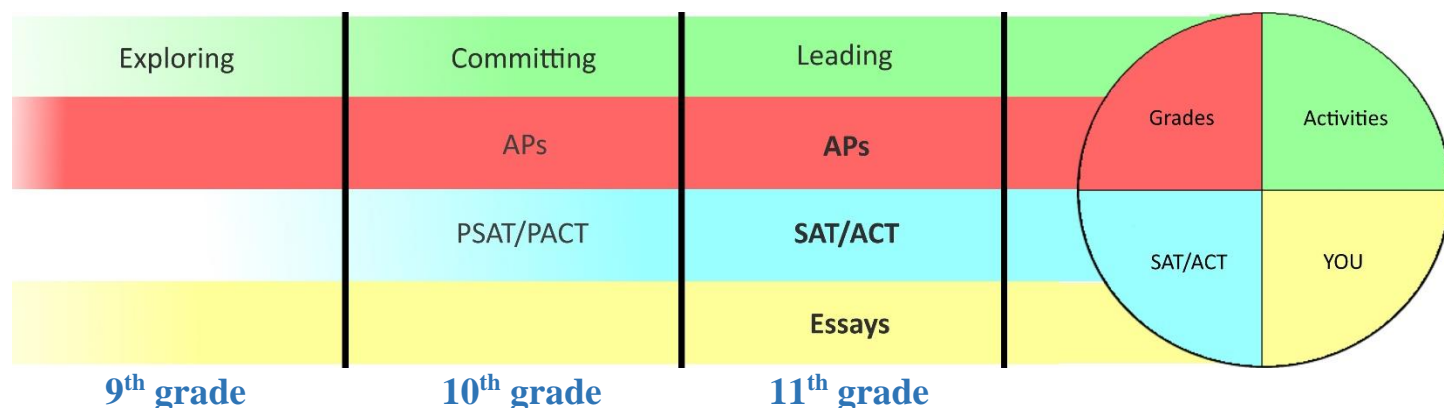
- **There are ~1,400 colleges, half of which admit 67%+ of their applicants.**
Arizona/Arizona State, Gonzaga, Oregon, UC Boulder, Texas Tech, Michigan State, St. John's, Miami, Kansas, etc.
- **There are only ~50 schools (3.5%) that accept < 20%.**
Ivies, Stanford, Duke, Northwestern, USC, UCLA, Berkeley (5 out of 9 UCs are now < 30%), etc.
- **While college sticker prices have gone way up, the actual amount families are paying hasn't increased that much more than inflation.**
<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/09/14/podcasts/the-daily/college-student-debt.html>



Senior year fall, what will colleges want to see?

- **Grades (Transcript)**
- **Activities List**
- **Test Scores (Maybe)**
- **You (Essays, Recs, Your “story”, etc)**

That’s a lot. What should I focus on, when?



Part 2: What do my PSAT Scores Mean?

PSAT/NMSQT™

CollegeBoard

NATIONAL MERIT
SCHOLARSHIP CORPORATION

Name: Ryann Ellis

Grade: 11

Test administration: PSAT/NMSQT Fall 2023

Tested on: Oct 10, 2023

Record Locator: P000725367

School Code (AI/CEEB): 394660

Your Score Report

PSAT/NMSQT Scores

TOTAL SCORE

1210 | 320-1520 | 84th*

Score Range: 1170-1220
Average Score (all test-takers): 978

SECTION SCORES

Reading and Writing

560 | 160-780 | 66th*

Your Score Range: 530-590
Average Score (all test-takers): 494

Math

650 | 160-780 | 93rd*

Your Score Range: 620-680
Average Score (all test-takers): 484

* Percentiles represent the percent of 11th grade test-takers from the past 2 years who scored the same as or below you.

Score range: This is the range of scores you could possibly get if you took the PSAT/NMSQT multiple times on different days.

Knowledge and Skills

View your performance across the 8 content domains measured on the PSAT/NMSQT.

Reading and Writing

Information and Ideas

(26% of section, 12-14 questions)



Craft and Structure

(28% of section, 13-15 questions)



Expression of Ideas

(20% of section, 8-12 questions)



Standard English Conventions

(26% of section, 11-15 questions)



Math

Algebra

(35% of section, 13-15 questions)



Advanced Math

(32.5% of section, 12-14 questions)



Problem-Solving and Data Analysis

(20% of section, 7-9 questions)



Geometry and Trigonometry

(12.5% of section, 4-6 questions)



NATIONAL MERIT
SCHOLARSHIP CORPORATION

NMSC SELECTION INDEX SCORE

177 | 48-228

You meet entry requirements for the National Merit Scholarship Program. Look on page 2 of this report for more information.

$$\frac{2(560) + 650}{10} = 177$$

Snapshot of Growing Careers in Pennsylvania

The PSAT/NMSQT can help you think about different paths to take after high school. Exploring this **sample of growing careers in your state** is one way to start. For personalized career options that match your interests and skills, including what's measured on the PSAT/NMSQT, go to satsuite.org/whatsnext.

INTEREST AREA*	CAREER EXAMPLES	MEDIAN YEARLY INCOME IN PA	NUMBER OF JOBS	JOB GROWTH IN PA**	MOST COMMON EDUCATION LEVEL
Doers	Maintenance and Repair Workers	\$46,000	66,400	+4%	Certificate
Helpers	Acute Care Nurses	\$79,000	145,000	+3%	Associate degree
Creators	Graphic Designers	\$51,000	11,200	+4%	Bachelor's degree
Thinkers	Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists	\$61,000	34,900	+14%	Bachelor's degree
Organizers	Accountants and Auditors	\$74,000	64,700	+5%	Bachelor's degree
Persuaders	Lawyers	\$116,000	32,800	+5%	Master's or professional degree

*For more information about career insights, including interest areas, visit satsuite.org/whatsnext.

**Number of reflects the expected number of new job openings in 2027. Percentage reflects the expected growth in new job openings between 2022 and 2027.

Data source: Lightcast.io

**Build your future,
your way with free
personalized tools**

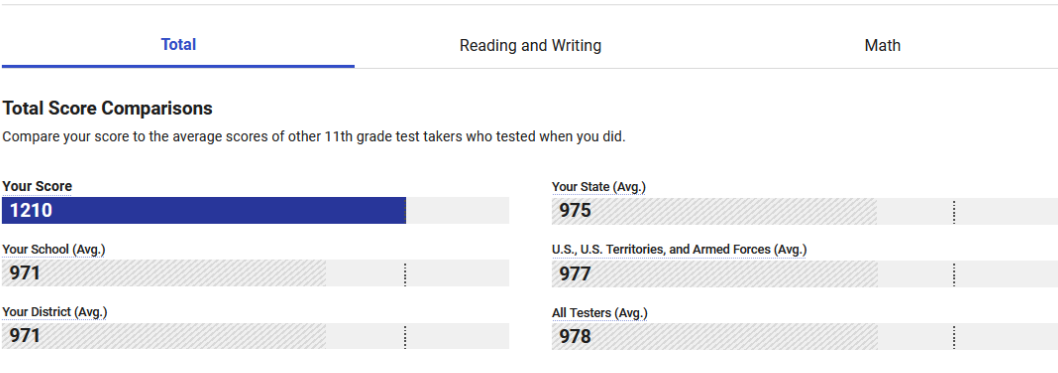
- Career quiz, 1,000 career profiles, and career recommendations based on your interests
- Profiles of 4,000+ colleges in the U.S. and worldwide
- \$4 billion in scholarship opportunities
- Key SAT skills practice on Khan Academy



satsuite.org/whatsnext

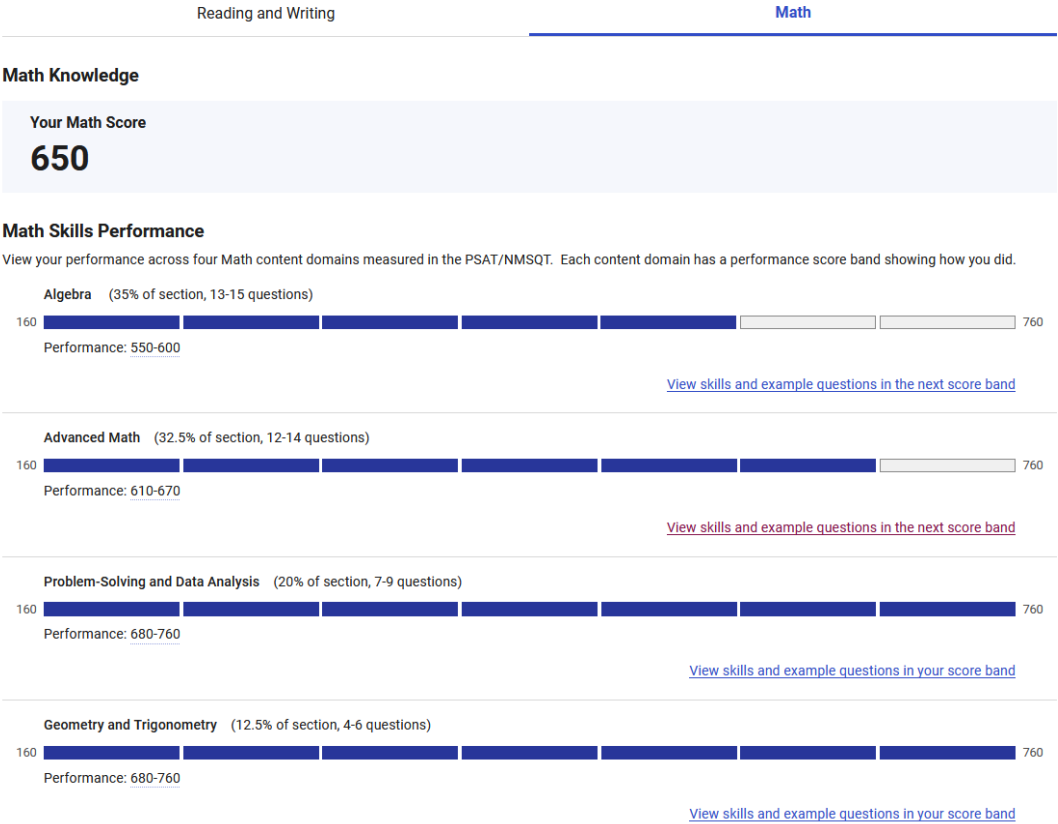
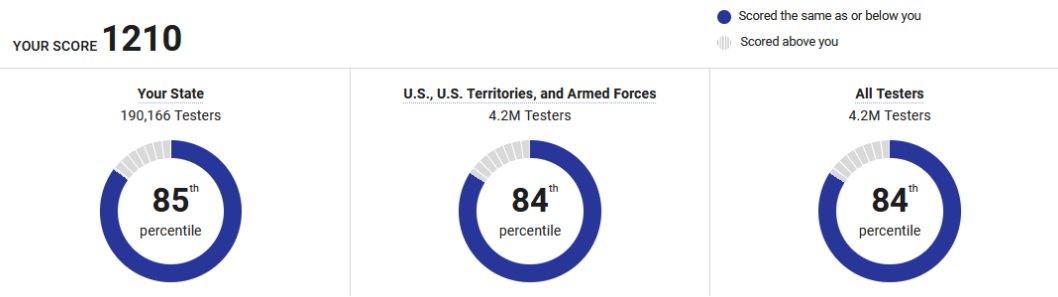
Score Comparisons

Learn how you scored compared to other test takers. [Some comparisons may not be available.](#)



Total Score Percentile Comparisons

Compare your score percentile among the following groups of 11th grade test takers from the past three years. [Find practice options to help you improve.](#)

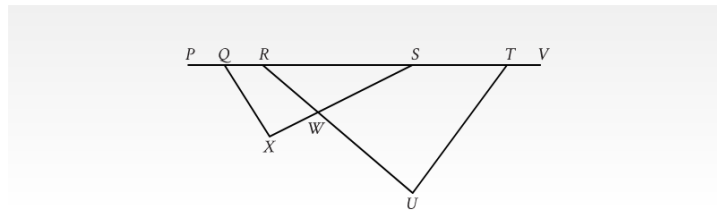


Example Questions

Expand All

Collapse All

Example Question 1



Note: Figure not drawn to scale.

In the figure shown, points Q , R , S , and T lie on line segment PV , and line segment RU intersects line segment SX at point W . The measure of $\angle SQX$ is 48° , the measure of $\angle SXQ$ is 86° , the measure of $\angle SWU$ is 85° , and the measure of $\angle VTU$ is 162° . What is the measure, in degrees, of $\angle TUR$?

Key: 123

Example Questions

Expand All

Collapse All

Example Question 1

In 2018, a team of researchers led by Dr. Caitlin Whalen compiled every available measurement of ocean mixing rates from the past two decades. With this novel data set, the team was able to determine how current-driven mixing varies across _____ and what impact it has on the distribution of heat and nutrients in the ocean.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A. regions,
- B. regions:
- C. regions;
- D. regions

Key: D

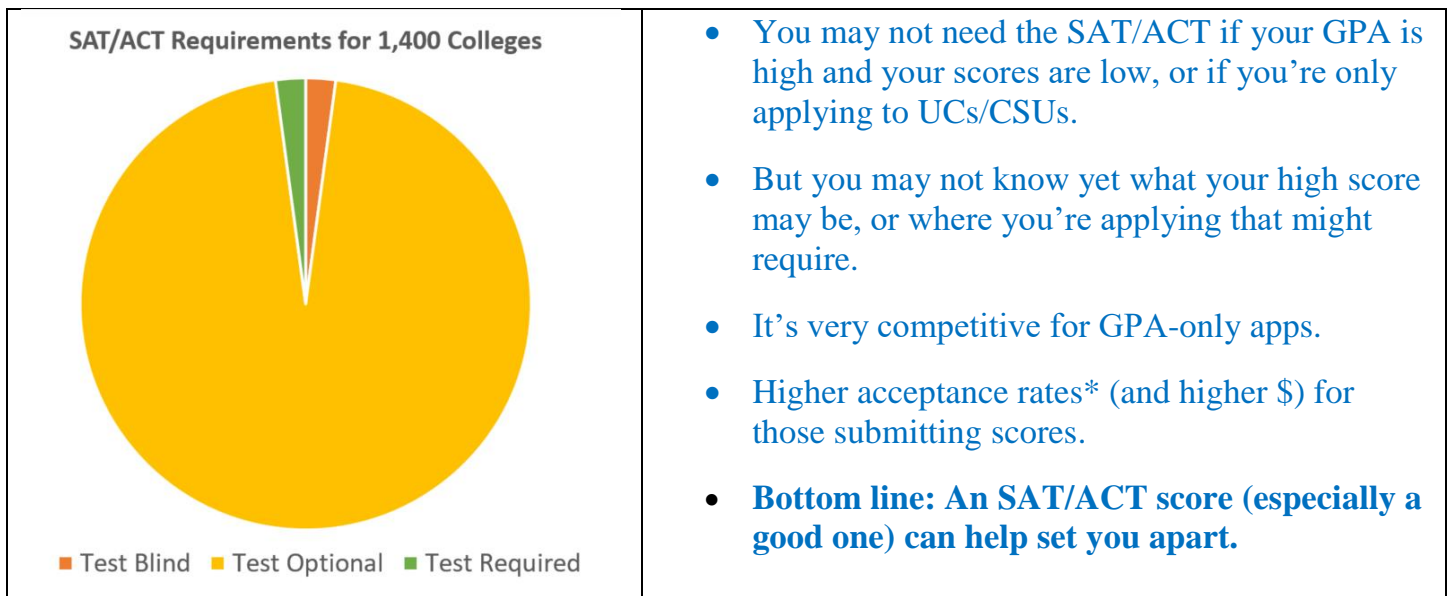
But what do my scores *mean*?

<u>SAT</u> (out of 1600)	<u>ACT</u> (out of 36)		<u>So should I take the test(s) for</u> <u>Test Optional schools?</u>
820	17	Colleges! (NCAA Min.)	Possibly
1060	21	More Colleges! (Nat. Avg.)	Probably
1200	25	Lots of Colleges!	Yes
1350	29	Most Colleges!	Yes!
1500+	33+	All the Colleges!	YES!!

Part 3: SAT/ACT Logistics: Should I take one? Which? When?

Are schools **requiring scores** right now?

Test Requiring	Test Blind	Test Optional
-MIT -Georgetown -Basically every school in Florida	-UCs -CSs -A couple eastern schools	The other 1,340 colleges!



Which test?

Paper ACT (the "Fast but Simple" Test)	Digital SAT (the "Slow but Tricky" test)
215 questions in 2 hours 55 mins (+ optional essay)	98 questions in 2 hours 14 mins
1/4th Math	1/2th Math
Many students try both tests - colleges will use your higher score!	

When to test? Recommended SCHEDULE:

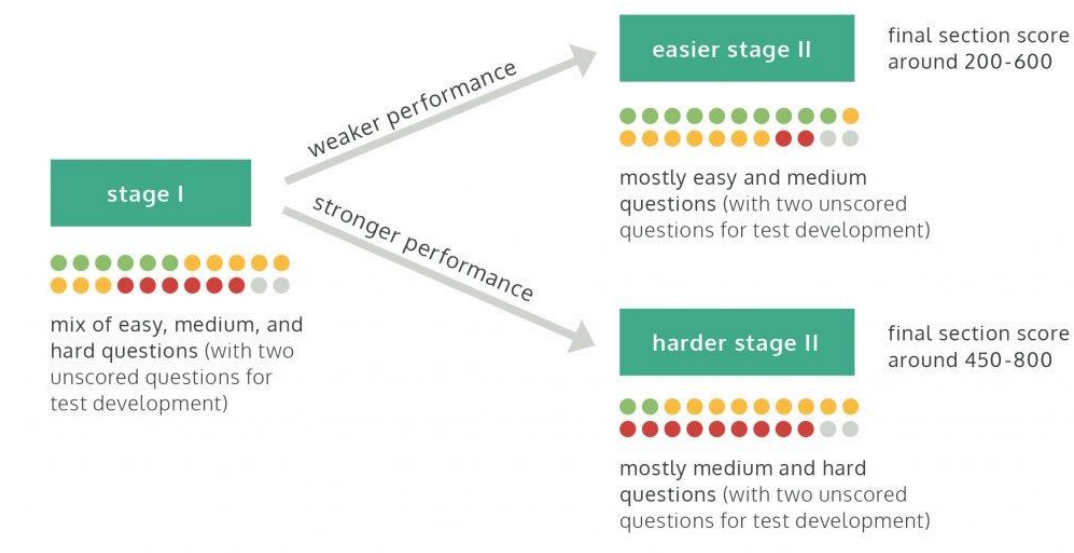
	<u>Fall</u>	<u>Winter</u>	<u>Spring</u>	<u>Summer</u>
Fresh/Soph Years	Take advanced classes when possible, striving for A's and B's 10 th grade, take the PSAT or PACT if possible in the fall, and think about what you're looking for in a college			
Junior Year	Take the PSAT again (offered at your school in Oct.) Take AP classes if possible	Prep for the SAT/ACT	Take the SAT/ACT Start college visits Take AP Tests	Summer college visits Write your College Essays Further Test Prep if needed
Senior Year	College visits SAT/ACT retakes, if needed Applications due	Applications due	<i>Make your choice!</i> Take AP exams	Relax... you've worked hard to get where you're going!

Part 4: Raising Scores: Tips & Hacks

The Digital PSAT/SAT

<u>Section</u>	<u>Module</u>	<u>Minutes</u>	<u>Questions</u> <i>(each worth ~10-15 points)</i>	<u># correct Qs for harder Module 2</u>
Verbal	Module 1	32	27	~18
	Module 2	32	27	-
Math	Module 1	35	22	~15
	Module 2	35	22	-
TOTAL		2 hrs 14 minutes	98	

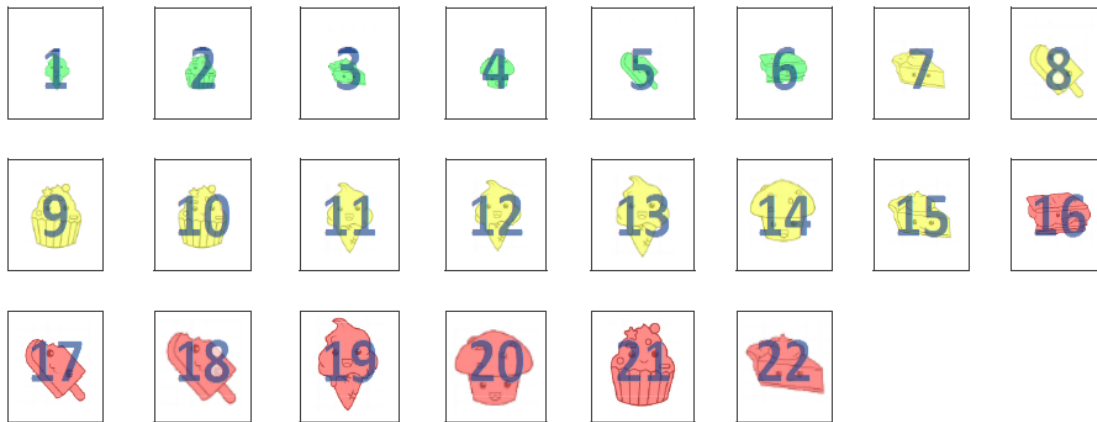
How does “adaptive” work?



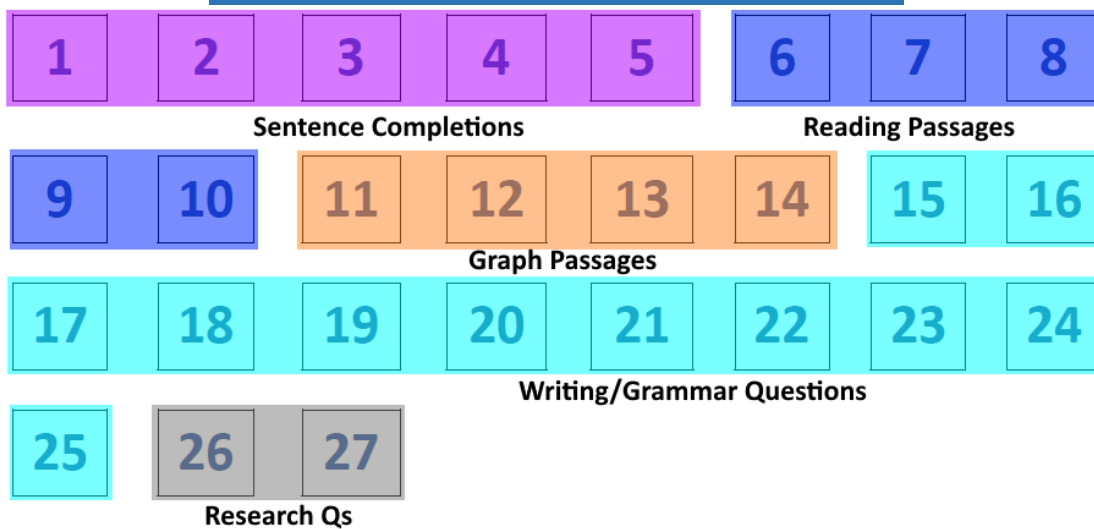
Is there any new content?

Not much – just some vocab, and shorter reading passages.

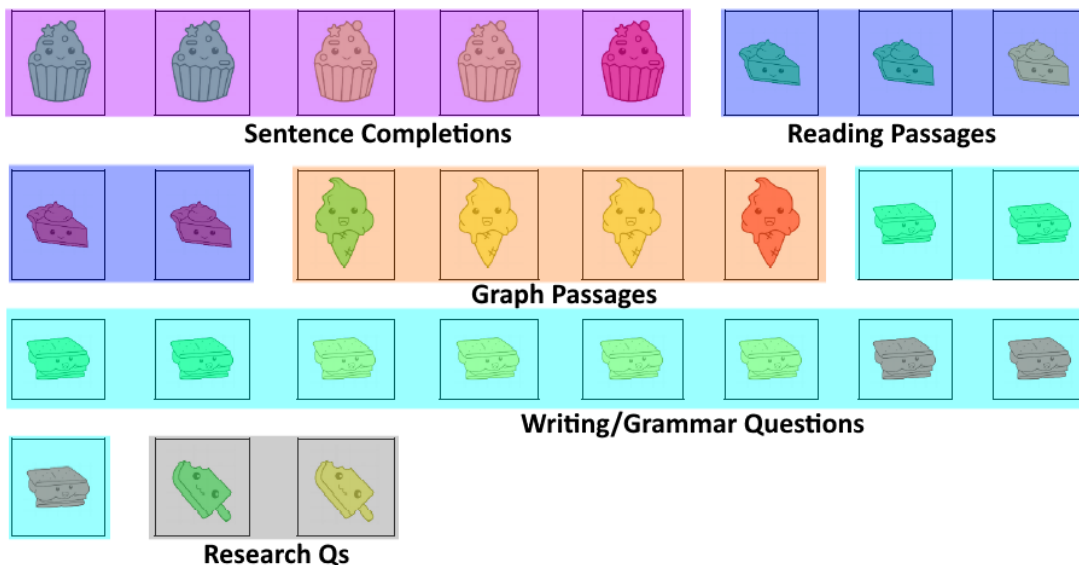
Navigating the MATH modules



Navigating the VERBAL modules



or...



SCORE RAISING TIPS & TRICKS

- 1) **GUESS ON EVERY QUESTION...** but skip some (guess quickly), and skip around!
- 2) Know how they write things: There's **one RIGHT answer**, and **three WRONG answers**. Eliminate.
- 3) Improvement has three parts: **A) DO PRACTICE QUESTIONS. B) REVIEW YOUR MISTAKES.** And **C) LEARN FROM THESE MISTAKES**, whether it's a math concept you didn't know, a grammar rule you didn't spot, or a wrong answer type you didn't notice. You'll see these **SAME BASIC QUESTIONS AGAIN** - that's what a **STANDARDIZED** test means.

Verbal: Know how they ask the Questions ... and write the Wrong Answers!!

Questions 35-36 are based on the following passage.

Most of our mental interactions with the world around us are completely mundane. A pencil on a desk is dull and needs sharpening, the face of a friend brings back a warming childhood memory, a hallway smells of cleaning detergent as we walk through it – perceptions and thoughts like these flow through us with incredible ease.

Or so it seems. Given what doctors and psychologists know about the brain and its workings, however, even the ability to perceive a dull pencil on a desk is a mysterious and profound achievement.

36

In the first paragraph, the author implicitly compares our experience of sensory impressions to

- A) a repeated image.
- B) a longing reminiscence.
- C) an unobstructed stream.
- D) a mysterious achievement.

Sentence Completion Tips: There are always **CLUES** (**Content** and **Transition**), and know **WORD ROOTS**.

2

Rydra Wong, the protagonist of Samuel R. Delany's 1966 novel *Babel-17*, is a poet, an occupation which, in Delany's work, is not _____: nearly a dozen of the characters that populate his novels are poets or writers.

Which choice completes the text with the most logical and precise word or phrase?

- A) infallible
- B) atypical
- C) lucrative
- D) tedious

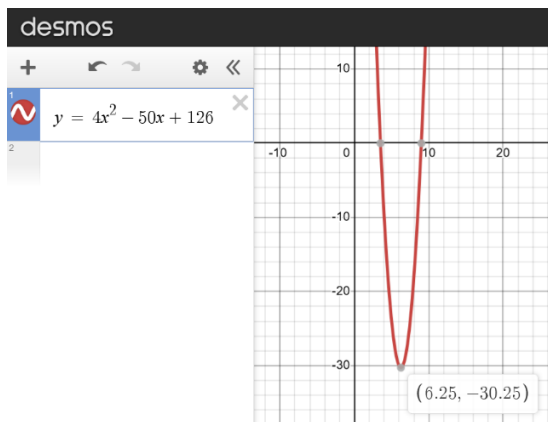
← The **3 WRONG ANSWER TYPES**: **Never Said That**, **Too Extreme** (“all”, “never”, etc.), & **Wrong Scope**

Math: Know the Concepts ... or know the Tricks!

18

$$f(x) = 4x^2 - 50x + 126$$

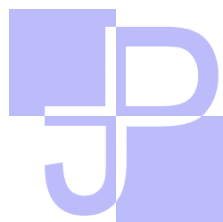
The given equation defines the function f .
For what value of x does $f(x)$ reach its minimum?



15

The expression $\frac{5x-2}{x+3}$ is equivalent to which of the following?

- A) $\frac{5-2}{3}$
- B) $5 - \frac{2}{3}$
- C) $5 - \frac{2}{x+3}$
- D) $5 - \frac{17}{x+3}$



PJ Test Prep

SAT/ACT Prep & Test/Academic Tutoring

www.pjtestprep.com, 310-529-7285 or paul@pjtestprep.com

SAT/ACT Prep

PJ Test Prep offers classes and **individual/small-group tutoring** for all SAT & ACT subjects, as well as prep for SAT 2 Subject Tests, PSAT/PLAN tests, and A.P. exams.

SAT/ACT FULL COURSES

- Seven 2.5-hour sessions plus three scored practice tests, covering everything you need to know to ace the **SAT** or **ACT**.
- Thorough, time-tested material that can raise a student's score **huge amounts**.

\$495

(P)SAT/ACT CRASH COURSES

- Two 2.5 hour sessions plus one full-length practice test.
- A quick and cheap way to get a great review for the **SAT** or **ACT**, or get a taste of the **PSAT**.

\$195

SAT/ACT Practice Test + Results Seminar!

Students take a morning ACT or SAT **Practice test**...

...and students and/or parents then return after a short break for a **Seminar** to get their **results**, learn test **strategies**, and find out how to **maximize scores**!



Presented by PJ Test Prep

Upcoming Dates:

9am Test + 12:30pm Seminar

Saturday, Jan 6 – Zoom^o or in-person*!

Sunday, Jan 28 – Zoom^o or in-person*!

Saturday, Feb 17 – Zoom^o or in-person*!

***In-person seats** are \$10 and held at the Holiday Inn Express Hermosa – 125 PCH, HB
^oZoom seats are free!

RSVP at www.pjtestprep.com/rsvp

Questions? pj@pjtestprep.com or 310-529-7285

Academic Tutoring

PJ Test Prep offers high-quality private tutoring in nearly every academic subject:

MATH (Grade school math through A.P. Calculus)

SCIENCE (Natural science through A.P. Chemistry and Physics)

**ENGLISH/COLLEGE
ESSAY COACHING**

READING Comprehension/Critical Reading

General Academic Help & Organizational/**STUDY SKILLS**

Rates and references available upon request

Ask about small-group rates!



PJ Test Prep

Schedule for Winter '23-'24

SAT & ACT Classes

Schedule subject to change: see the most recent version and sign up at www.pjtestprep.com.

All times are Pacific Time.

LOCATIONS:

Hermosa = **Holiday Inn Express Hermosa** (125 Pac. Coast Hwy, Hermosa Beach)

ZOOM = Classes are conducted via Zoom, though we also try to provide in-person options when available, especially for Practice Tests.

Courses for the February 10th ACT

Feb ACT In-Person Blitz Course <u>2402ACT-BlitzHermosa - \$295</u> <i>Location: Hermosa - Instructor: Paul Jury</i>			Feb ACT Zoom Blitz Course <u>2402ACT-BlitzZoom - \$295</u> <i>Location: Zoom - Instructor: Paul Jury</i>		
Class 1	Sun, Jan 28	Noon-2:30pm	Class 1	Sun, Jan 28	11:30am-2pm
Class 2	Tues, Jan 30	6:30-9pm	Class 2	Tues, Jan 30	6:30-9pm
Practice Test	Sat, Feb 3	9am-1pm	Practice Test	Sat, Feb 3	10am-2pm
Class 3	Sun, Feb 4	Noon-2:30pm	Class 3	Sun, Feb 4	11:30am-2pm

Courses for the March 9th digital SAT

March SAT In-Person Full Course <u>2303SAT-FullHermosa-1 - \$495</u> <i>Location: Hermosa - Instructor: Paul Jury</i>			March SAT Zoom Full Course <u>2303SAT-FullHermosa - \$495</u> <i>Location: Zoom - Instructor: Paul Jury</i>		
Practice Test 1	Sat, Jan 13	9-11:30am	Practice Test 1	Sat, Jan 13	9-11:30am
Class 1	Sun, Jan 21	3-5:30pm	Class 1	Sun, Jan 21	3-5:30pm
Class 2	Sun, Jan 28	3-5:30pm	Class 2	Sun, Jan 28	3-5:30pm
Practice Test 2	Sat, Feb 3	10am-12:30	Practice Test 2	Sat, Feb 3	9-11:30am
Class 3	Sun, Feb 4	3-5:30pm	Class 3	Sun, Feb 4	3-5:30pm
Class 4	Sat, Feb 10*	3-5:30pm	Class 4	Sat, Feb 10*	3-5:30pm
Class 5	Sun, Feb 18	3-5:30pm	Class 5	Sun, Feb 18	3-5:30pm
Practice Test 3	Sat, Feb 24	9-11:30am	Practice Test 3	Sat, Feb 24	9-11:30am
Class 6	Sun, Feb 25	3-5:30pm	Class 6	Sun, Feb 25	3-5:30pm
Class 7	Sun, Mar 3	3-5:30pm	Class 7	Sun, Mar 3	3-5:30pm

**Feb 11th (Superbowl weekend) Class meets Saturday*

**Feb 11th (Superbowl weekend) Class meets Saturday*

www.pjtestprep.com to sign up!

Contact: Director Paul Jury - paul@pjtestprep.com - (310) 529-7285

You must sign up for the actual SAT/ACT separately, at www.collegeboard.com & www.actstudent.org



PJ Test Prep

Schedule for Winter '23-'24

SAT & ACT Classes

Schedule subject to change: see the most recent version and sign up at www.pjtestprep.com.

All times are Pacific Time.

LOCATIONS:

Hermosa = Holiday Inn Express Hermosa (125 Pac. Coast Hwy, Hermosa Beach)

ZOOM = Classes are conducted via Zoom, though we also try to provide in-person options when available, especially for Practice Tests.

More courses for the March 9th digital SAT

March SAT In-Person Mid Course 2403SAT-MidHermosa - \$345 <i>Location: Hermosa - Instructor: Paul Jury</i>			March SAT Zoom Mid Course 2403SAT-MidHermosa - \$345 <i>Location: Zoom - Instructor: Paul Jury</i>		
Class 1	Sun, Feb 10	6-8:30pm	Class 1	Sun, Feb 10	6-8:30pm
Practice Test 1	Sat, Feb 17	9-11:30am	Practice Test 1	Sat, Feb 17	9-11:30am
Class 2	Sun, Feb 18	6-8:30pm	Class 2	Sun, Feb 18	6-8:30pm
Class 3	Sun, Feb 25	6-8:30pm	Class 3	Sun, Feb 25	6-8:30pm
Practice Test 2	Sat, Mar 2	9-11:30am	Practice Test 2	Sat, Mar 2	9-11:30am
Class 4	Sun, Mar 3	6-8:30pm	Class 4	Sun, Mar 3	6-8:30pm

March SAT In-Person Crash Course 2403SAT-CrashHermosa - \$195 <i>Location: Hermosa - Instructor: Paul Jury</i>			March SAT Zoom Crash Course 2403SAT-CrashHermosa - \$195 <i>Location: Zoom - Instructor: Paul Jury</i>		
Class 1	Sat, Feb 24	9-11:30am	Class 1	Sat, Feb 24	9-11:30am
Practice Test	Sun, Feb 25	9-11:30am	Practice Test	Sun, Feb 25	9-11:30am
Class 2	Sun, Mar 3	9-11:30am	Class 2	Sun, Mar 3	9-11:30am

www.pjtestprep.com to sign up!

Contact: Director Paul Jury - paul@pjtestprep.com - (310) 529-7285

You must sign up for the actual SAT/ACT separately, at www.collegeboard.com & www.actstudent.org



PJ Test Prep

Schedule for Winter '23-'24

SAT & ACT Classes

Schedule subject to change: see the most recent version and sign up at www.pjtestprep.com.

All times are Pacific Time.

LOCATIONS:

Hermosa = **Holiday Inn Express Hermosa** (125 Pac. Coast Hwy, Hermosa Beach)

ZOOM = Classes are conducted via Zoom, though we also try to provide in-person options when available, especially for Practice Tests.

Courses for the April 13th ACT

April ACT In-Person Full Course <u>2304ACT-FullHermosa - \$495</u> <i>Location: Hermosa - Instructor: Paul Jury</i>			April ACT Zoom Full Course <u>2304ACT-FullZoom - \$495</u> <i>Location: Zoom - Instructor: Paul Jury</i>		
Practice Test 1	Sat, Feb 24	10am-2pm	Practice Test 1	Sat, Feb 24	10am-2pm
Class 1	Sun, Feb 25	Noon-2:30	Class 1	Sun, Feb 25	Noon-2:30
Class 2	Sun, Mar 3	Noon-2:30	Class 2	Sun, Mar 3	Noon-2:30
Class 3	Sun, Mar 10	Noon-2:30	Practice Test 2	Sun, Mar 10	Noon-2:30
Practice Test 2	Sat, Mar 16	10am-2pm	Class 3	Sat, Mar 16	10am-2pm
Class 4	Sun, Mar 17	Noon-2:30	Class 4	Sun, Mar 17	Noon-2:30
Class 5	Sun, Mar 24	Noon-2:30	Class 5	Sun, Mar 24	Noon-2:30
Class 6	Sat, March 30*	Noon-2:30	Class 6	Sat, March 30*	Noon-2:30
Practice Test 3	Sat, Apr 6	10am-2pm	Practice Test 3	Sat, Apr 6	10am-2pm
Class 7	Sun, Apr 7	Noon-2:30	Class 7	Sun, Apr 7	Noon-2:30
<i>*Easter (March 31st) Weekend</i>			<i>*Easter (March 31st) Weekend</i>		

*May/June/Summer 2024 and beyond
schedule online soon!*

www.pjtestprep.com to sign up!

Contact: Director Paul Jury - paul@pjtestprep.com - (310) 529-7285

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