Understanding the 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

What do my scores mean?

SAT	<u>ACT</u>	
(out of 1600)	(out of 36)	
820	17	Colleges! (~NCAA Min.)
1060	21	More Colleges! (Nat. Avg.)
1300	28	Most Colleges!
1500+	33+	All the Colleges!

When to test? Recommended SCHEDULE (in non-Biblical-plague years)

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

What's the deal with Test Optional schools?

Some schools (UCs, CSUs) are currently TEST BLIND. No need for SAT/ACT here. Some schools (mostly East Coast and Southern schools so far) are REQUIRING SAT/ACT again. Most schools remain TEST OPTIONAL. Use the SAT/ACT here if it helps you.

Which test?

ACT (the "Fast but Simple" Test)	Paper SAT (the "Slow but Tricky" Test)	Digital SAT ("Even slower, Even Trickier")
215 questions in 2 hours 55 minutes (+ optional essay)	154 questions in 3 hours 5 minutes	98 questions in 2 hours 14 minutes
1/4th Math	1/2th Math	1/2th Math

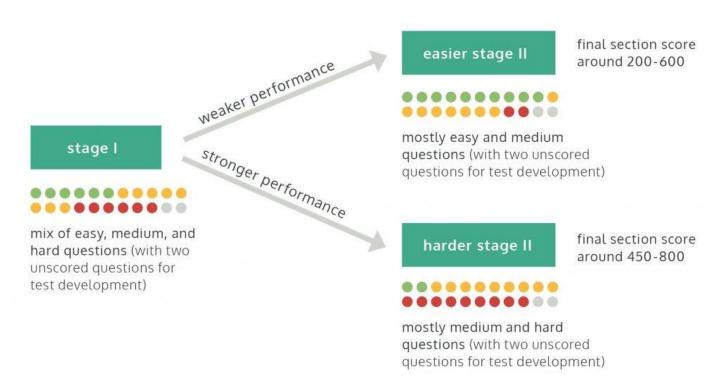
Many students try both tests - colleges will use your higher score!

The new digital SAT/PSAT Structure

Section	Module	<u>Minutes</u>	Questions	# correct Qs for
				harder Module 2
Verbal	Module 1	32	27	~18
V 01 801	Module 2	32	27	-
Math	Module 1	35	22	~15
1714611	Module 2	35	22	-
TOTAL		2 hrs 14 minutes	98	

WHAT'S NEW?

- Shorter reading passages + a few vocab questions (otherwise content is the same as previous versions)
- Fully digital you'll need a laptop, Chromebook or iPad for the test, with the SAT Bluebook App downloaded and a College Board account created. Scratch paper OK.
- Graphing Calculator (Desmos) allowed for all Math questions (+ built right into the App)
- Shorter... and adaptive! Performance on Module 1 stage determines how hard Module 2 stage will be (but also your score range)!



Juniors: Consider trying BOTH the paper (Oct, Nov, Dec) AND digital formats, to see which one you score higher on!

Are schools requiring scores right now?

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46 Test-Blind Schools	~1400 Test-Optional or -Requiring Schools
9 UCs, 23 Cal States, 14	USC, LMU, Stanford, USF, Pepperdine, Santa Clara, Chapman, Arizona, Oregon,
random East Coast Schools	Washington, UNLV, Utah, every Ivy League school, nearly every school in the NCAA
200010010	Basketball Tournament or College Football Top 25 Rankings, etc.
	Dasketban Tournament of Conege Pootban Top 25 Kankings, etc.

REASONS TO TAKE THE SAT/ACT

- You probably don't know where you're applying yet/who will require.
- Your PSAT score is not your final SAT score
- It's a tough world out there for GPA-only apps.
- Do it for the \$\$\$! (scholarships, but also out of state schools competing with UCs for price)
- Higher acceptance rates for those with score.
- No downside (except a Saturday morning) You can always take and NOT submit your scores.

REASONS TO NOT TAKE THE SAT/ACT

- Your GPA is one of the top in the class and your PSAT is very low
- You're only applying to UCs/CSUs

How do I raise my score?

QUICK TIPS

- 1) No penalty for guessing! So **GUESS ON EVERY QUESTION**... but that doesn't mean you actually have to DO every question. Skip (guess quickly on) some to get more right.
- 2) There's no "MOST correct answer"... there's **one RIGHT answer, and three/four WRONG answers**. Sometimes it's better to think less about which ones are right, and more about which ones are wrong.
- 3) Improvement has three parts: **A) DO PRACTICE QUESTIONS**. **B) REVIEW YOUR MISTAKES**. And **C) <u>LEARN</u> 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 WILL SEE THE SAME BASIC QUESTIONS AGAIN that's what a STANDARDIZED test means.

Reading

<u>Understand</u>, and <u>Know How They Ask</u> Ouestions!

Questions 11-12 are based on the following passage.

Daily life is overflowing with mundane mental events. A paper clip gleams amid stacks of documents, a friend's face shines like a beacon out of a crowd, the smell of freshly baked bread evokes childhood memories—

5 thoughts and perceptions such as these flow by with

monotonous ease.

So it seems, anyway. Yet given what scientists know about how brains work, even the ability to perceive a paper clip on a messy desk represents an extraordinary and mysterious achievement.

- 11. In the first paragraph, the author implicitly likens our experience of sensory impressions to
 - (A) an emotional roller coaster
 - (B) an unobstructed stream
 - (C) a repeated image
 - (D) a nostalgic reminiscence
 - (E) a diverting daydream

Writing

Know The Usual Suspects (Connectors, Assignment Os, etc.)

Bilbo Swede, Labor Patriot

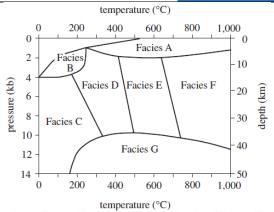
The autobiography of Ben Alan Swede is littered with inaccuracies. Swede even fudges the date of his birth, he incorrectly lists July 4th, Independence Day, and makes himself younger by fifteen years. But these details - however fuzzy - matter little, because the autobiography isn't about the life of Bilbo Swede. Swede became famous for his work.

When Swede got involved in American Labor movement early in the 1930's...

- 1. A. NO CHANGE
 - **B**. birth: he incorrectly lists
 - C. birth; incorrectly listing
 - **D**. birth, incorrectly listing:
- Given that all the choices are true, which one provides the best transition into the rest of the essay?
 - A. NO CHANGE
 - B. Born in Lincoln, Nebraska in 1789, Swede moved to Chicago in his early twenties.
 - C. Rather, it's the story of his public persona, the labor activist and leader, "Bilbo Swede".
 - **D**. Instead, this essay will show you why Swede's role in history is so important.

Science

It's Not Science - It's Just Graph Reading



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

Math

Know the Concepts... or Know the Tricks!

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)
$$5 - \frac{17}{x+3}$$



SAT/ACT Prep & Academic Tutoring (Zoom & In-Person options)

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

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!



Schedule for Winter '23-'24 SAT, ACT, and Essay 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.

September 24th College App Essay Supplement Workshop - \$95

Sunday, Sept 24th	1-3pm	Hermosa Beach Holiday Inn Express (125 PCH) or Zoom	
+ a 30 minute 1:1 Zoom with Instructor Paul Jury later that week (schedule TBA)			

This 2-hour workshop will cover the basics of writing standout supplemental Essays (and cover general College Essay principals as well), and help students crank these essays out before the Oct 1 and later EA/ED deadlines.

Crash Course for the October 7th SAT & PSAT[†]

†The 2023 Fall PSAT is scheduled to be the new, digital format, but the techniques we discuss in class will be applicable to both tests.

In-Person Crash Course		
2310SAT-CrashHermosa - \$195		
Location: Hermosa - Instructor: TBA		
Class 1	Sun, Sept 24	3:30-6pm
Practice Test Sat, Sept 30 10am-1pm		
Class 2	Sun, Oct 1	3:30-6pm

Zoom Crash Course		
2310SAT-CrashZoom - \$195		
Location: Zoom - Instructor: TBA		
Class 1	Sun, Sept 24	3:30-6pm
Practice Test*	Sat, Sept 30	10am-1pm
Class 2	Sun, Oct 1	3:30-6pm
*Zoom students are welcome to join in person Practice Tests		

Full Course for the December 2nd SAT

Sunday In-Person Full Course for the 2412SAT-FullHermosa - \$495

(Contact us about the \$295 option to take only the

first 5 events for the Nov SAT)			
Location: Hermosa - Instructor: Paul Jury			
Practice Test 1	Sat, Oct 14	10am-1pm	
Class 1	Sun, Oct 15	2-4:30pm	
Class 2	Sun, Oct 22	2-4:30pm	
Practice Test 2	Sat, Oct 28	10am-1pm	
Class 3	Sun, Oct 29	2-4:30pm	
Class 4	Sun, Nov 5	2-4:30pm	
Class 5	Sun, Nov 12	2-4:30pm	
Practice Test 3	Sat, Nov 18	10am-1pm	
Class 6	Sun, Nov 19	2-4:30pm	
Class 7	Sun, Nov 26	2-4:30pm	

Sunday Zoom Full Course for the

2412SAT-FullHermosa - \$495

(Contact us about the \$295 option to take only the first 5 events for the **Nov SAT**)

Location: Zoom - Instructor: Paul Jury		
Practice Test 1	Sat, Oct 14	10am-1pm
Class 1	Sun, Oct 15	2-4:30pm
Class 2	Sun, Oct 22	2-4:30pm
Practice Test 2	Sat, Oct 28	10am-1pm
Class 3	Sun, Oct 29	2-4:30pm
Class 4	Sun, Nov 5	2-4:30pm
Class 5	Sun, Nov 12	2-4:30pm
Practice Test 3	Sat, Nov 18	10am-1pm
Class 6	Sun, Nov 19	2-4:30pm
Class 7	Sun, Nov 26	2-4:30pm



Schedule for Winter '23-'24 SAT & ACT Classes

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Hybrid Course for the Dec 2nd paper SAT

+ the March 9th digital SAT

Hybrid In-Person Course for the **2324SAT-HybridHermosa - \$695**

Location: Hermosa - Instructor: Paul Jury

For the December paper test:

1 or the	December paper t	CDI.
Practice Test 1	Sat, Oct 14	10am-1pm
Class 1	Sun, Oct 15	2-4:30pm
Class 2	Sun, Oct 22	2-4:30pm
Practice Test 2	Sat, Oct 28	10am-1pm
Class 3	Sun, Oct 29	2-4:30pm
Class 4	Sun, Nov 5	2-4:30pm
Class 5	Sun, Nov 12	2-4:30pm
Practice Test 3	Sat, Nov 18	10am-1pm
Class 6	Sun, Nov 19	2-4:30pm
Class 7	Sun, Nov 26	2-4:30pm

For the March digital test:

Class 1d	Sun, Feb 10	6-8:30pm
Practice Test 1d	Sat, Feb 17	9-11:30am
Class 2d	Sun, Feb 18	6-8:30pm
Class 3d	Sun, Feb 25	6-8:30pm
Practice Test 2d	Sat, Mar 2	9-11:30am
Class 4d	Sun, Mar 3	6-8:30pm

Hybrid Zoom Course for the

2324SAT-Hybrid Hermosa - \$695

Location: Zoom - Instructor: Paul Jury

For the December paper test:

Practice Test 1	Sat, Oct 14	10am-1pm
Class 1	Sun, Oct 15	2-4:30pm
Class 2	Sun, Oct 22	2-4:30pm
Practice Test 2	Sat, Oct 28	10am-1pm
Class 3	Sun, Oct 29	2-4:30pm
Class 4	Sun, Nov 5	2-4:30pm
Class 5	Sun, Nov 12	2-4:30pm
Practice Test 3	Sat, Nov 18	10am-1pm
Class 6	Sun, Nov 19	2-4:30pm
Class 7	Sun, Nov 26	2-4:30pm

For the March digital test:

Class 1d	Sun, Feb 10	6-8:30pm
Practice Test 1d	Sat, Feb 17	9-11:30am
Class 2d	Sun, Feb 18	6-8:30pm
Class 3d	Sun, Feb 25	6-8:30pm
Practice Test 2d	Sat, Mar 2	9-11:30am
Class 4d	Sun, Mar 3	6-8:30pm

www.pjtestprep.com to sign up!

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

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Courses for the February 10th ACT

Feb ACT In-Person Blitz Course 2402ACT-BlitzHermosa - \$295					T Zoom Blitz T-BlitzZoon	
Location: Hermosa - Instructor: Paul Jury			Location: Z	<mark>oom - Instructor:</mark>	Paul Jury	
Class 1	Sun, Jan 28	Noon-2:30pm	Class 1 Sun, Jan 28 11:30am-2		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 F	Full Course	March
2303SAT-	<u>FullHermos</u>	a-1 - \$49 <u>5</u>	2303SA
Location: He	rmosa - Instructo	or: Paul Jury	Location
Practice Test 1	Sat, Jan 13	9-11:30am	Practice Test
Class 1	Sun, Jan 21	3-5:30pm	Class 1
Class 2	Sun, Jan 28	3-5:30pm	Class 2
Practice Test 2	Sat, Feb 3	10am-12:30	Practice Test
Class 3	Sun, Feb 4	3-5:30pm	Class 3
Class 4	<i>Sat</i> , Feb 10*	3-5:30pm	Class 4
Class 5	Sun, Feb 18	3-5:30pm	Class 5
Practice Test 3	Sat, Feb 24	9-11:30am	Practice Test
Class 6	Sun, Feb 25	3-5:30pm	Class 6
Class 7	Sun, Mar 3	3-5:30pm	Class 7
*Feb 11th (Super	bowl weekend) Class	meets Saturday	*Feb 11th (S

March SAT Zoom Full Course			
2303SAT-FullHermosa - \$495			
Location: Z	<mark>oom</mark> - Instructor:	Paul Jury	
Practice Test 1	Sat, Jan 13	9-11:30am	
Class 1	Sun, Jan 21	3-5:30pm	
Class 2	Sun, Jan 28	3-5:30pm	
Practice Test 2	Sat, Feb 3	9-11:30am	
Class 3	Sun, Feb 4	3-5:30pm	
Class 4	<i>Sat</i> , Feb 10*	3-5:30pm	
Class 5	Sun, Feb 18	3-5:30pm	
Practice Test 3	Sat, Feb 24	9-11:30am	
Class 6	Sun, Feb 25	3-5:30pm	
Class 7	Sun, Mar 3	3-5:30pm	
*Feb 11th (Superbowl weekend) Class meets Saturday			

www.pjtestprep.com to sign up!



Schedule for Winter '23-'24 SAT & ACT Classes

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More courses for the March 9th digital SAT

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

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

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

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

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Courses for the April 13th ACT

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

April ACT Zoom Full Course					
2304ACT-FullZoom - \$495					
Location: Z	oom - Instructor: I	Paul Jury			
Practice Test 1	Practice Test 1 Sat, Feb 24 10am-2pm				
Class 1	Sun, Feb 25	Noon-2:30			
Class 2	Sun, Mar 3	Noon-2:30			
Practice Test 2	Sun, Mar 10	Noon-2:30			
Class 3	Sat, Mar 16	10am-2pm			
Class 4	Sun, Mar 17	Noon-2:30			
Class 5	Sun, Mar 24	Noon-2:30			
Class 6	Sat, March 30*	Noon-2:30			
Practice Test 3	Sat, Apr 6	10am-2pm			
Class 7	Sun, Apr 7	Noon-2:30			
*Faster (March 31st) Weekend					

*Easter (March 31st) Weekend

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