

**KAPLAN**  
TEST PREP

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# Parent Seminar



# Kaplan Test Prep

is proud to partner with the David Brearley High School

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# Today's Agenda

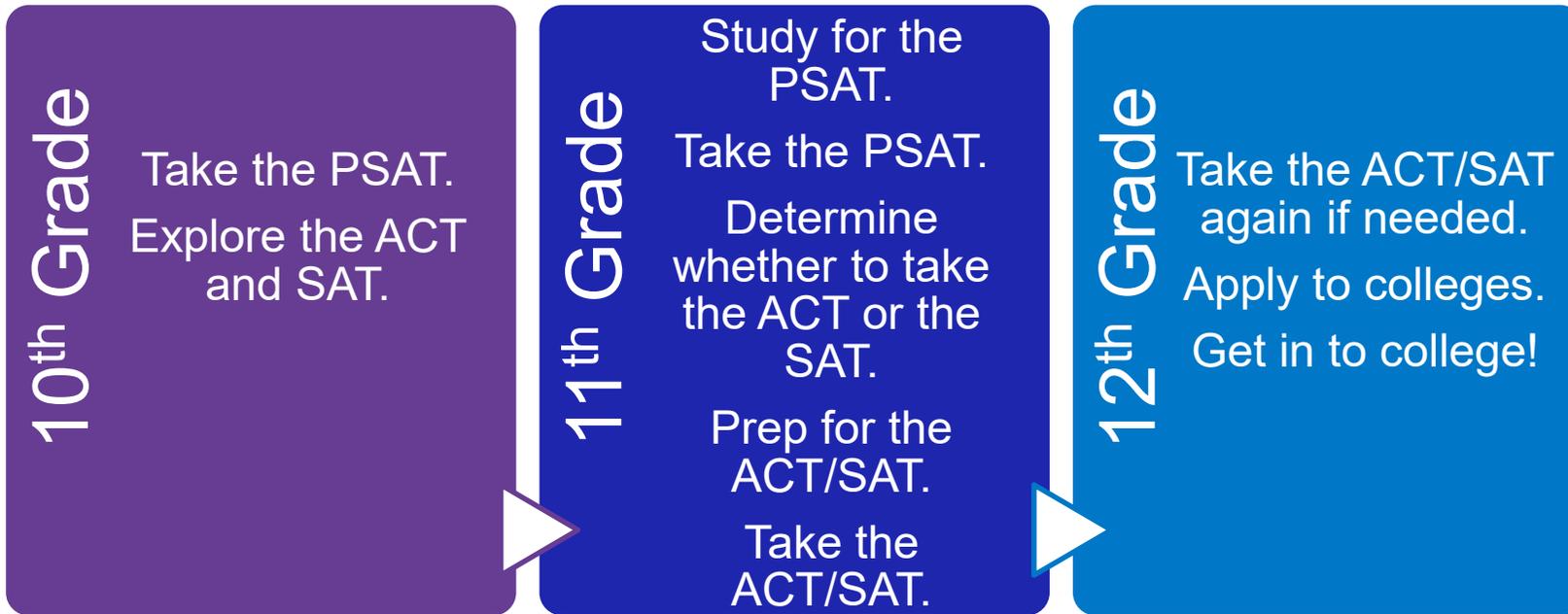
Test Taking  
Time Line  
and PSAT  
Scores

SAT vs ACT

Next Steps



# College Admissions Test Taking Time Line.....



PSAT Scores are Back!

Now What?!?

Understanding the PSAT  
Score Report



# What is the purpose of the PSAT.....

- A practice SAT
- National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test – for juniors only
- NOT used for college admissions

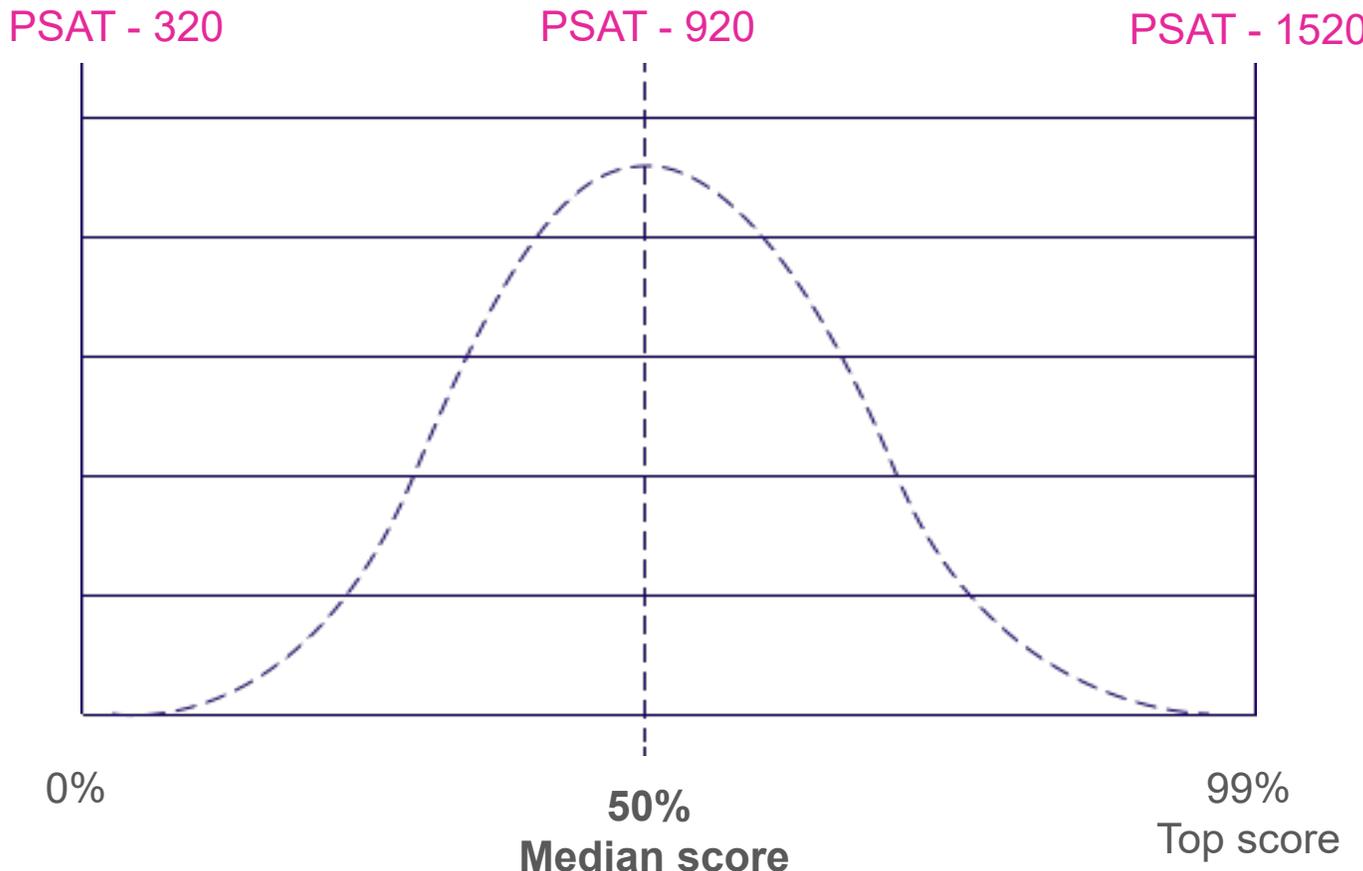
# PSAT Score Back Timeline.....

- October 11, 14, and 25 – PSAT 2017 Test Dates
- December 4 – PSAT Scores accessible to school counselors
- December 11-13 – PSAT scores available to students through the College Board's electronic portal

[www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)



# PSAT Score Distribution



PSAT Sections	Score Range
Verbal	160-760
Math	160-760



# What's a Good PSAT Score?

PSAT Sections	College & Career Readiness Benchmark for 10 <sup>th</sup> Grade	College & Career Readiness Benchmark for 11 <sup>th</sup> Grade
Evidence-Based Reading & Writing	430	460
Math	480	510

Scoring above the Benchmark gives a 75% likelihood of achieving a C or better in first year college courses.

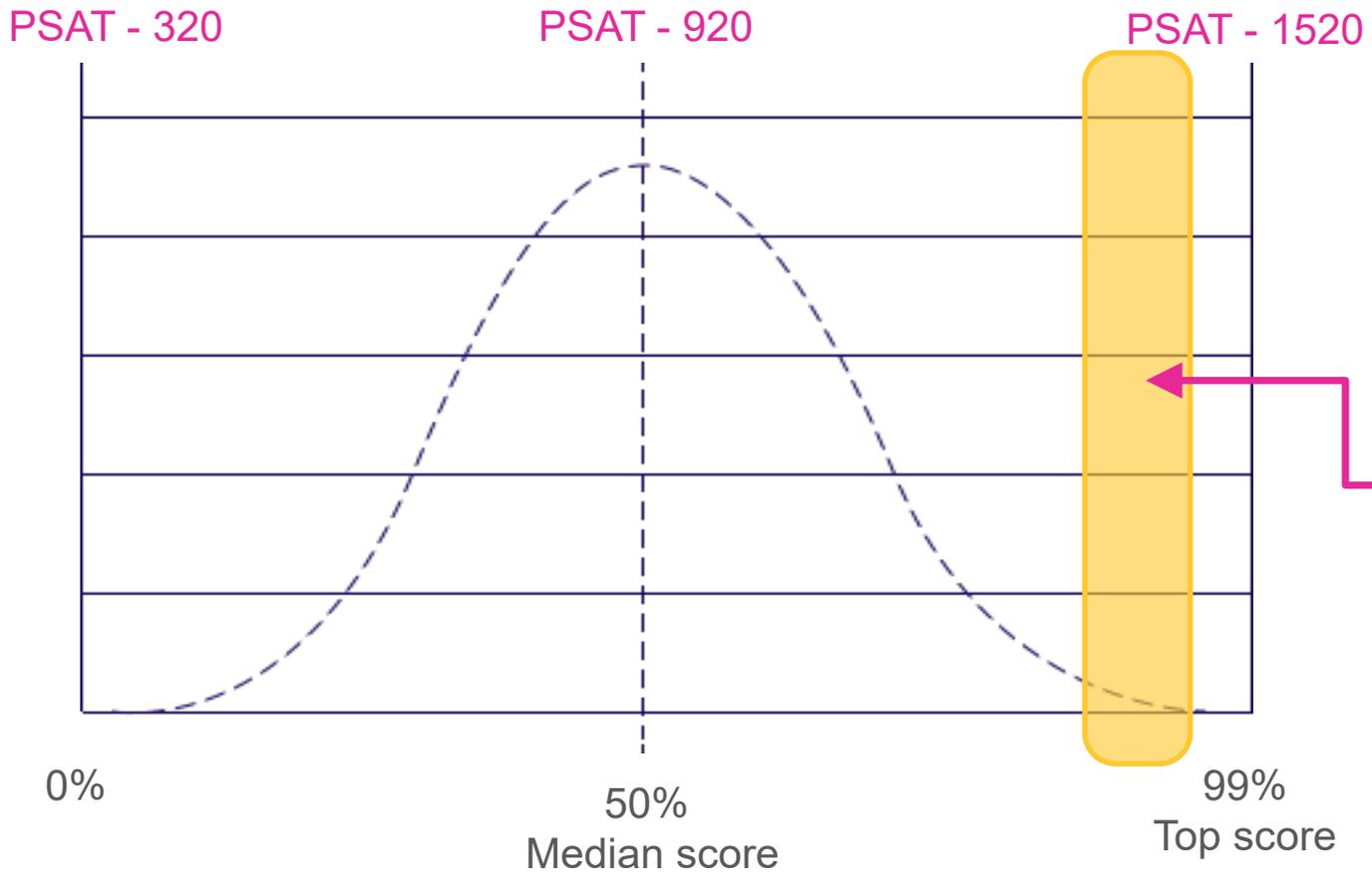


# What's a Good PSAT Score?

Percentile	10 <sup>th</sup> Grade Score	11 <sup>th</sup> Grade Score
99th	1360	1450
95th	1250	1350
90th	1180	1280
80th	1090	1180
70th	1030	1120
60th	970	1060
50th	920	1010
40th	870	960



# National Merit



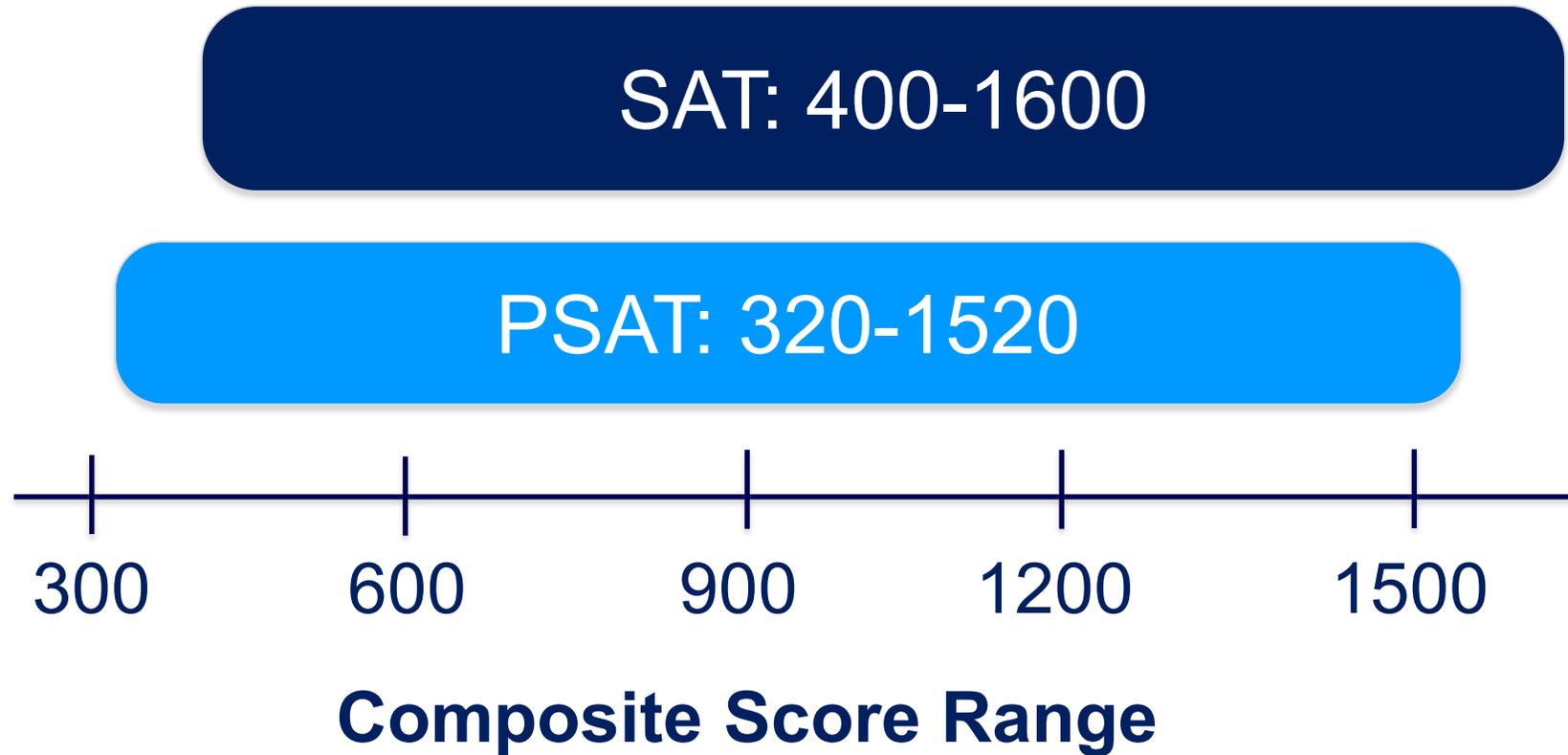
National Merit Cutoffs in 2016 ranged from 1380-1480.

ONLY juniors can be considered for National Merit.



Source: <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/pdf/psat-10-understanding-scores-2017.pdf>

# PSAT Scoring vs SAT Scoring



# SAT VS ACT. Which Test is Right for me?

Choosing the SAT or the ACT.....



# SAT Overview



# SAT Overview

Category	Features
<b>The SAT</b>	400-1600 scoring, 3 hours without essay
 <b>Reading</b>	65 minutes, 52 questions
 <b>Writing</b>	35 minutes, 44 questions
 <b>Math</b>	25 minutes, 20 questions, no calculator
 <b>Math</b>	55 minutes, 38 questions, calculator
 <b>Essay</b>	Requires reading a passage, describing development of argument, 50 minutes long

Category	Features
 <p data-bbox="596 579 973 768"><b>Evidence-based Reading and Writing</b></p>	<ul data-bbox="1123 462 1709 501" style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reading and Writing combined</li></ul> <p data-bbox="1123 551 1403 589"><b><u>Reading details:</u></b></p> <ul data-bbox="1123 596 2066 765" style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No sentence completions</li><li>• Passage topics include US and World Literature, History/Social Studies, and Sciences (500 - 750 words)</li><li>• 65 minutes</li></ul> <p data-bbox="1123 818 1429 856"><b><u>Language details:</u></b></p> <ul data-bbox="1123 863 1893 943" style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Focus on extended prose (400 - 500 words)</li><li>• 35 minutes</li></ul>

Category	Features
 <p><b>Math Section</b></p>	<p><b><u>Three areas of concentrated focus:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Problem solving and data analysis</li><li>• “The Heart of Algebra”</li><li>• “Passport to Advanced Math”</li></ul> <p>55 minutes with a Calculator 25 minutes <u>without</u> a Calculator</p>

# SAT Overview

Category	Features
 <b>Essay</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Essay is <b>optional</b></li><li>• 50 minutes</li><li>• Requires students to analyze a 650-750 word document and explain how the author builds an argument</li></ul> <p><b>3 Scores</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Reading</li><li>✓ Analysis</li><li>✓ Writing</li></ul>

# SAT Scoring Details

## Composite (Total) Score

- Sum of the two Area Scores
- Range of 400 - 1600



## Math Area Score

Range of 200 - 800



## Evidence-Based Verbal Area Score

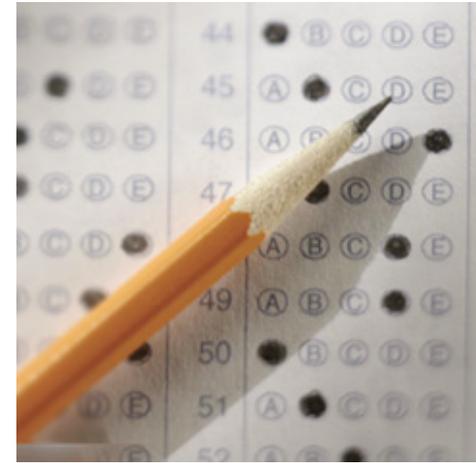
Range of 200 - 800



# Scoring SAT

## Understanding Scoring

- Correct Answer: +1 point
- Omitted Question: 0 points
- Incorrect Answer: 0 points



**Answer every question.  
If you don't know the answer, guess!  
You won't be penalized. Every point helps**

# SAT Subject Tests



# SAT Subject Tests

- 1-hour standardized test on individual subjects
  - Offered on same dates as standard SAT
- Some schools or programs require SAT Subject Tests for admission purposes
- Selective colleges usually require or recommend scores from at least two SAT Subject Tests



# Subject Test Overview

- Formerly known as the SAT IIs
- 20 different tests in 5 general subject areas:
  - English
  - History
  - Languages
  - Mathematics
  - Science ( Biology, Chemistry, Physics)
- Up to three on one test day
- Cannot be taken the same day as SAT
- Required or recommended by approximately 200 colleges; considered if sent by others

# Advanced Placement Exams

- The culmination of a students' involvement in an AP class
- Offered in the spring
- Can count towards college credit towards their degree
- Check with schools of interest to learn more about AP credit acceptance policies

# Subject Tests vs. Advance Placement Exams

- Overlap exists but.....
  - Subject Tests high school content
  - APs cover college-level content
- Senior year AP scores not in time for admission
- Can take subject test even if AP not available in your school
- In general, AP classes are great preparation for related Subject Tests

# When are these subject tests available for the 2018-2019 School Year?

Subject Tests Available	Aug 25,	Oct 6	Nov 3	Dec 1	Mar	May 4	June 1
Chemistry	○	○	○	○		○	○
Physics	○	○	○	○		○	○
Eng Lit	○	○	○	○		○	○
Math I/II	○	○	○	○		○	○
U.S. History	○	○	○	○		○	○
World History	○			○			○
Spanish	○	○		○		○	○

More Subject Test info for this school year: Visit [College Board Website](https://collegeboard.org/sat-subject-test)

# ACT Overview



Category	Features
<p data-bbox="606 354 825 411"><b>The ACT</b></p>	<p data-bbox="1149 368 2002 425">1-36 scoring, three hours without essay</p>
 <p data-bbox="690 529 873 586"><b>English</b></p>	<p data-bbox="1149 518 1531 561">45 minutes, 75 questions</p>
 <p data-bbox="690 675 830 732"><b>Math</b></p>	<p data-bbox="1149 675 1531 718">60 minutes, 60 questions</p>
 <p data-bbox="690 832 899 889"><b>Reading</b></p>	<p data-bbox="1149 839 1536 882">35 minutes, 40 questions</p>
 <p data-bbox="690 986 889 1043"><b>Science</b></p>	<p data-bbox="1149 992 1531 1035">35 minutes, 40 questions</p>
 <p data-bbox="690 1139 830 1196"><b>Essay</b></p>	<p data-bbox="1149 1100 2015 1179">Requires analysis of 3 different perspectives , 40 minutes long, optional</p>

# ACT Scoring

**English**  
Out of 36 Points

+

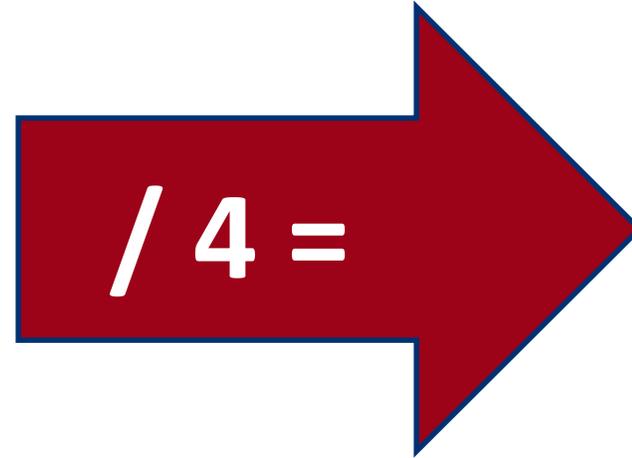
**Math**  
Out of 36 Points

+

**Reading**  
Out of 36 Points

+

**Science**  
Out of 36 Points



**Composite Score**  
Out of 36 points  
Average of the four sections  
English, Math, Reading, Science

(Optional) Essay Score  
-Score between 2-12  
-Average of four domain scores



# Similarities Between the Tests

## SAT & ACT

Both used for college admissions

Used for scholarships + merit-based grants

Can retake several times

Colleges accept both

Typically taken Spring of junior year + Fall of senior year

Approx three to four hours long

Optional essay

No wrong answer penalty

**SAT/ACT Which Test is right for me?**

# SAT and ACT: Notable Differences

	SAT	ACT
<b>Reading</b>	More Social Studies Reading	More Science Reading
<b>Math</b>	More data analysis	More geometry
	No calculator section	Calculator use allowed
<b>Scoring</b>	50% math, 50% verbal	25% math, 50% verbal 25% science

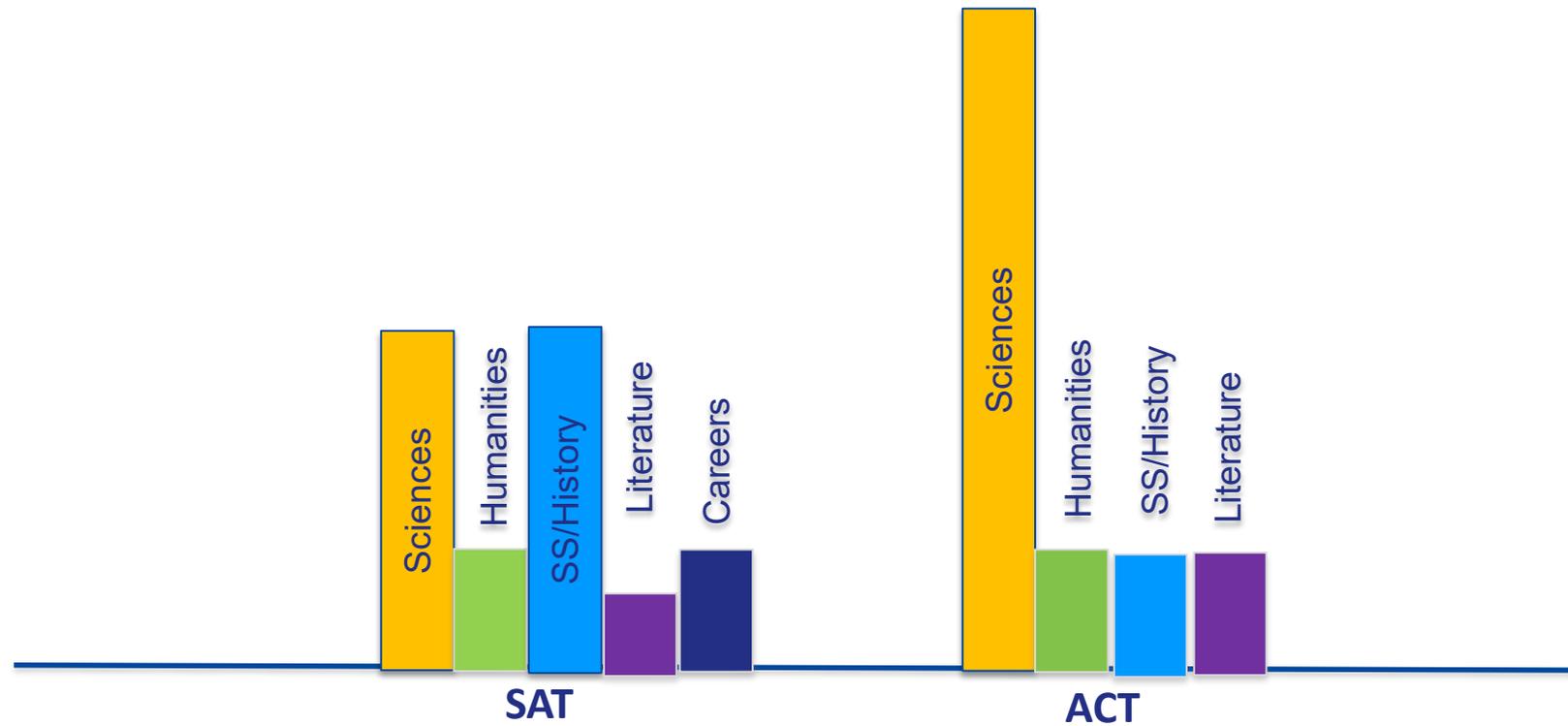
**The best way to know is to take a practice test!**

ACT?

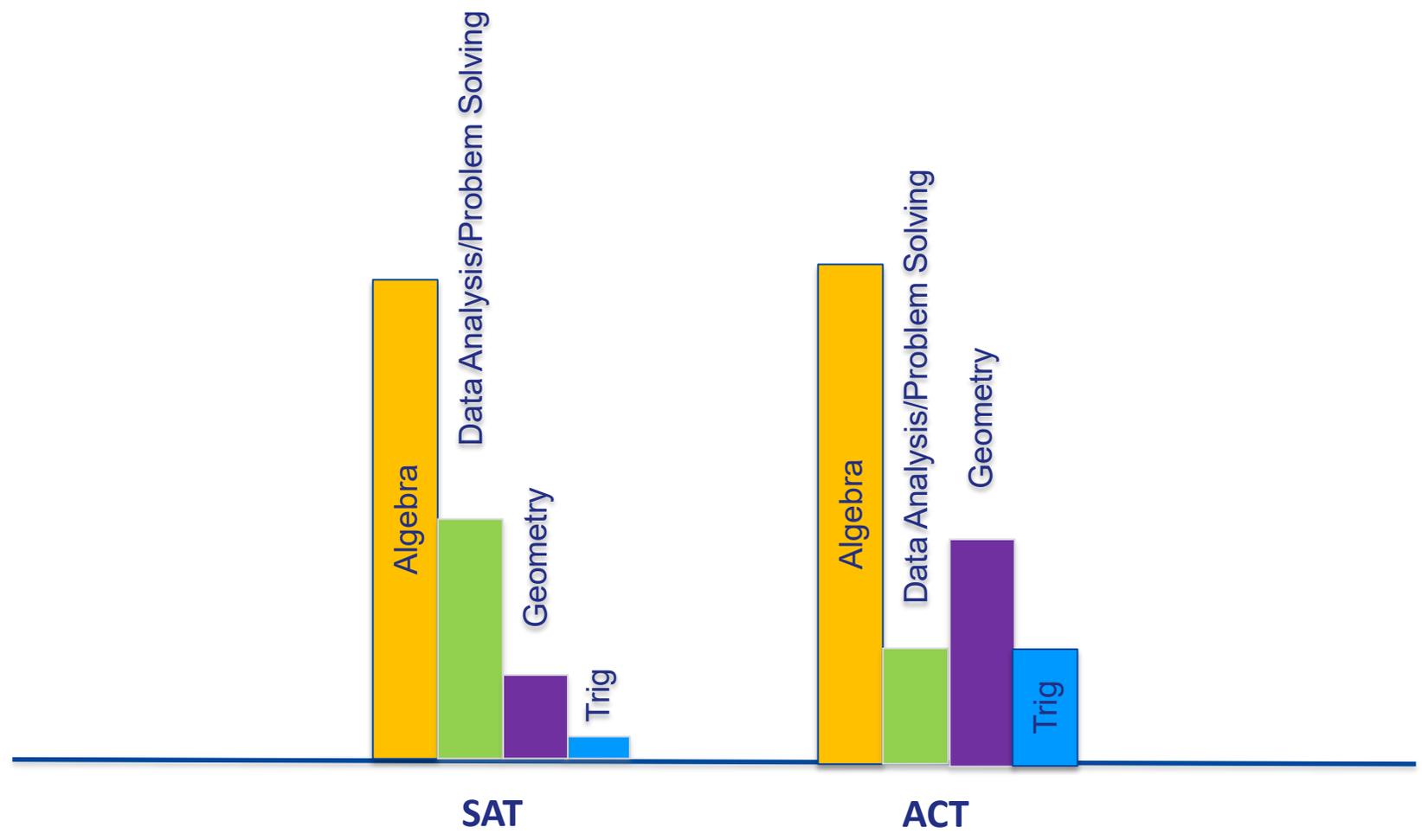
SAT?

What's the  
Difference?

# Reading Passage Topics SAT vs. ACT

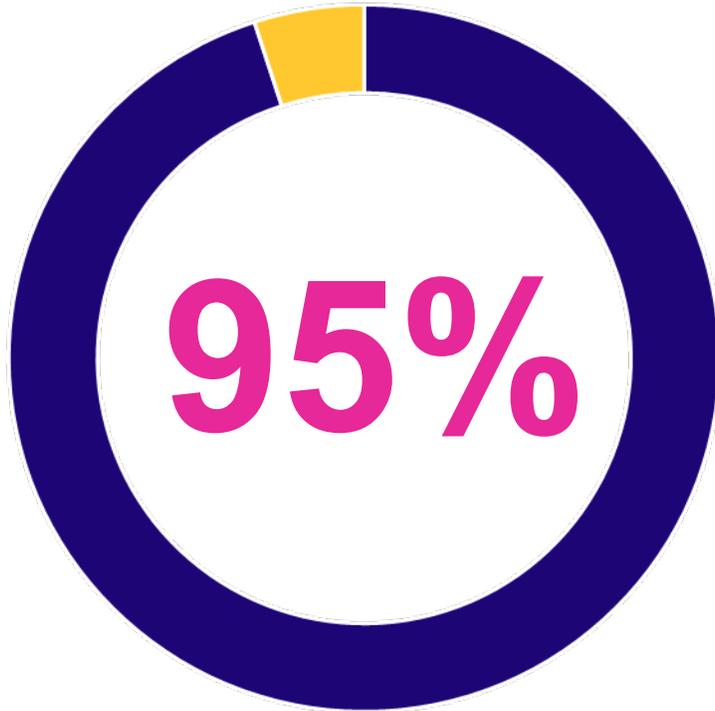


# Math Skills Tested SAT vs. ACT



# Test Scores in College Admissions

95% of college admissions advisors are **confident** that the **SAT and ACT** are **effective tools** in measuring students' future success at their schools.



Now is the time to make a  
**Test Prep Plan To Get a**  
Higher Score



# Get a Higher Score – Succeed



**Get the results you want.**

**9 out of 10** Kaplan students get into one or more of their top choice colleges\*.

\*9 out of 10 claim based on thousands of responses each year to an annual survey about Kaplan students who were admitted to college as of May 2012, May 2013, May 2014, May 2015, and May 2016. Prior results are not a guarantee of admission outcomes for future students or for any individual student.



# Get a Higher Score – Your Way

## ACT or SAT PREP

### Prep

Prepare with an expert teacher in a structured, interactive classroom either online or in person.  
**Starting at \$899**



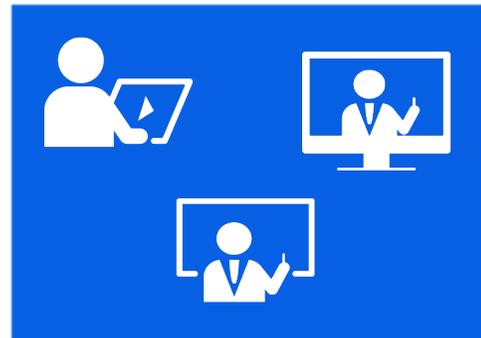
### Self-Paced

Prep at your speed on your schedule with the best prep resources available.  
**Starting at \$499**



### Unlimited Prep

Take and retake any of our PSAT, SAT, and ACT prep courses until December of your senior year.  
**\$1599**



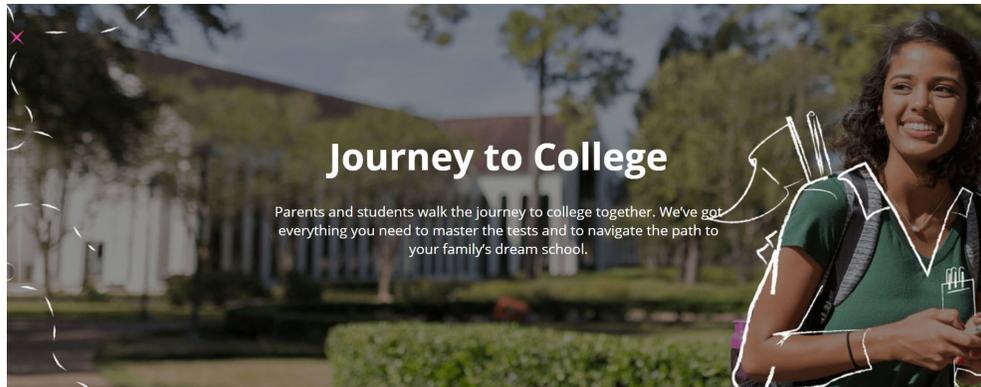
### Private Tutoring

Work one-on-one with a top tutor at home or online – and get a prep course included at no additional cost.  
**Starting at \$2599**



# Continue the Journey to College with Us

## Upcoming Free Events



**Feb 11-14: ACT Free Prep Week**

**Coming Soon: AP Review Weekend**

<https://www.kaptest.com/college-prep/journey-to-college>



Thank You!

**THANK YOU FOR COMING!  
GOOD LUCK WITH YOUR PREP and  
Happy Testing!**

Jennifer Hansen- Pre-College Program Manager

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Visit us at [kaptest.com/college-prep](https://kaptest.com/college-prep) or

Call us at 1-800-KAPTEST.

