



# Know the Score:

## *How to Capitalize on FREE Test Prep Resources for the SAT/ACT*

Presented by: *Angela Castonguay*

The NHHEAF Network Organizations' Center for College Planning



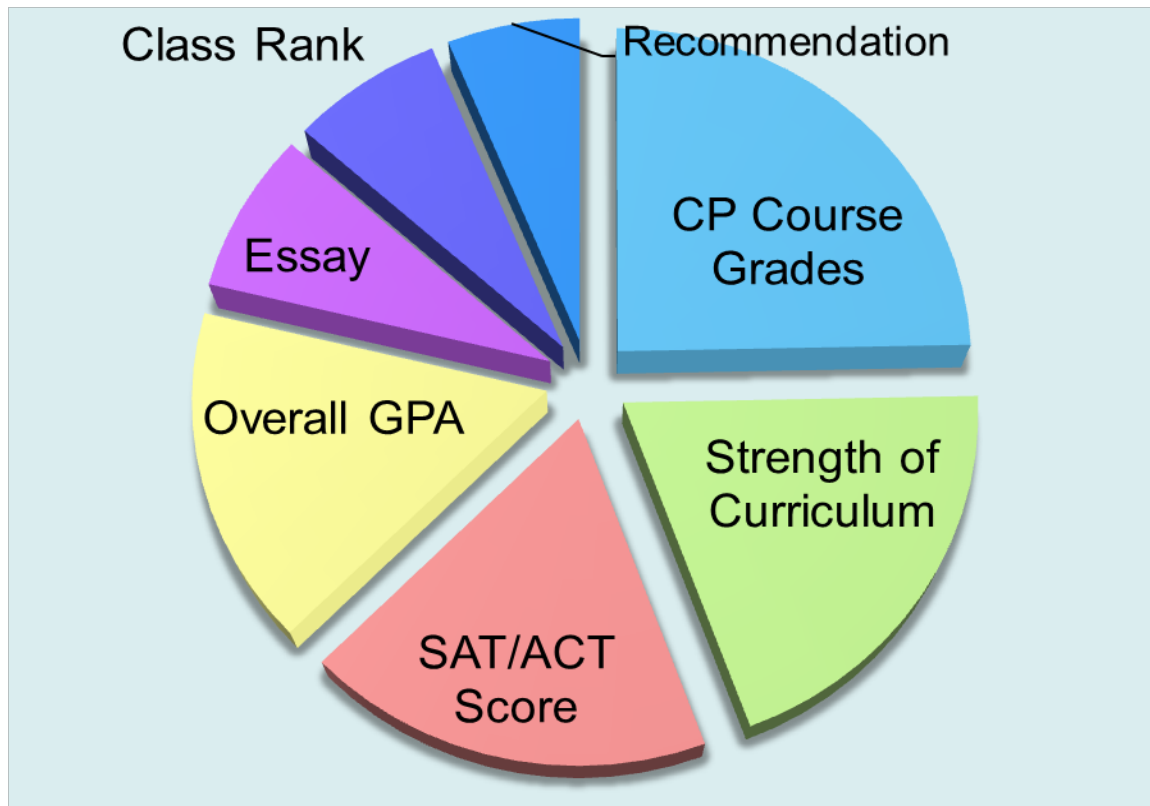
1.888.747.2382, x119 • [nhheaf.org](http://nhheaf.org) • [collegeplanning@nhheaf.org](mailto:collegeplanning@nhheaf.org)



# On the Agenda...

- The landscape of college entrance
- Comparison of the SAT and the ACT
- Which test is right for me?
- What is a “good” score?
- How to start “studying” for the big day

# College Admission Factors



- CP Course Grades
- Strength of Curriculum
- SAT/ACT Score
- Overall GPA
- Essay
- Class Rank
- Recommendation

# Why & How Colleges Use Standardized Tests

- Some colleges use test scores in their admission decisions
  - Creates a level playing field
  - Adjusts for grade inflation
  - May help predict student success in college level work
- Some colleges use test scores to award merit scholarships
  - May have VERY DIFFERENT score requirements for scholarships than for admission
- Scores may determine placement in college classes

# Which Test Should I Take?

- For over a decade, the ACT has been the test taken by more high school students....

**however for the first time, in 2018**

**2.09 million students took the SAT**

**1.9 million students took the ACT**

- In terms of college admissions, the ACT and SAT are treated equally, so we tell students to take the test that's best for them.

# Comparing ACT & SAT Scores

**Note:**

Concordance Tables for SAT to ACT scores can be found at BOTH

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

[act.org](http://act.org)

ACT Composite
34
32
30
28
26
24
22
20
18

SAT Reading and Math
1540
1470
1400
1320
1260
1180
1110
1030
950



# What's a “Good” Score?

## It depends on...

- the Colleges to which you are applying (and/or the major)
- the test scores of the other applicants
- the college's scholarship requirements

School	Typical SAT	Typical ACT
Dartmouth College	1390-1570	30-34
Bowdoin College	test optional	test optional
Northeastern University	1400-1540	31-34
Univ. of Vermont	1170-1360	25-30
Univ. of New Hampshire	1080-1280	22-27
Plymouth State Univ.	test optional	test optional
Rivier University	970-1150	17-27
NHTI	Not Required	Not Required



# What If I Don't Test Well?

There are over 1,000 test-optional colleges in the U.S.,  
and the trend is slowly growing.

**Fairtest.org**

- **The Dilemma**... if they are not “required”, but “optional”, do I send them or not?

“If [applicants] feel that the score does not accurately reflect their academic abilities, and they don't want it included in their application materials, they now have that option,”

**Wake Forest University**

“This policy allows applicants to decide for themselves whether or not their test results accurately reflect their academic ability and potential.” **Bowdoin College**





# SAT Subject Tests

# SAT Subject Tests (SAT II's)

## WHAT ARE THEY

Subject specific tests  
*required* for admission  
to some colleges

## TEST COST

\$26 to sit for the test –  
then an extra \$22  
(*\$26 for languages*) for  
each subject you take

## Mathematics

Math Level 1  
Math Level 2

## Science

Biology E/M  
Chemistry  
Physics

## English

English

## History

U.S. History  
World History

## Languages

Spanish  
French

Chinese  
Italian

German  
Hebrew

Latin

Japanese  
Korean

## HOW ARE THEY SCORED

Each subject is scored  
from 200-800 points

## TEST FORMAT

All are multiple choice  
(*some languages having a  
listening portion*)

**Wait...**  
**you can STUDY**  
**for the SAT ?!?!**



# Free SAT Prep: Khan Academy



- Khan Academy is designed to engage students in **30 minutes of productive practice on a daily basis.**
- All questions in the Khan platform **meet SAT test specifications.**
- Each question will provide step by-step **answer explanations.**

## Studying for the SAT makes a difference!

A 2017 study by College Board found that studying for the SAT for **20 hours through Khan Academy** is associated with **an average score gain of 115 points**, nearly double the gain for students who do not use Khan Academy.

# Link Scores to Khan Academy

**Step 1:** Log in OR create a Khan Academy Account and click **START PRACTICING**

**Step 2:** You can now choose **“Sign in to Collegeboard.org”**

**Step 3:** You will be prompted to sign in to your Collegeboard account

**Step 4:** When prompted; hit **“Send”** to authorize the account linking

**Step 5:** Start practicing

The image shows a screenshot of the Khan Academy website interface. The top navigation bar includes a search bar, the Khan Academy logo, and a 'Donate' link. Below the navigation, there are tabs for 'Practice', 'Dashboard', 'Tips and Strategies', 'Full Tests', and 'Review'. The main content area features a 'COLLEGE ADMISSIONS' section with a blue envelope icon and a gold seal, and a button that says 'Go to college admissions content'. Overlaid on the bottom right of the screenshot is a 'Request for Approval' dialog box from CollegeBoard. The dialog box contains the following text: 'Khan Academy is requesting permission for the following: Press “Send” below to give College Board permission to send your test results to Khan Academy so that Khan Academy can personalize your practice recommendations based on how you did. And once you’re registered for the SAT, College Board will also send Khan Academy your upcoming test date so they can update your practice schedule. You can remove permission at any time.' Below this text, it says 'Logged in as SOA1693'. At the bottom of the dialog box, there are two buttons: 'Don't Send' and a green 'Send' button.

# Dashboard

Subjects ▾ Search 🔍 KHANACADEMY angela casto

Official SAT® Practice **Dashboard** Practice Tips and Strategies Full Tests Review

**COLLEGE ADMISSIONS**  
 Learn more about college admissions  
 Learn more about the application process, paying for college, campus visits, and more by checking out our college admissions content.  
[Go to college admissions content](#)  
 Or choose a schedule for your next exam

**Sign In to CollegeBoard.org**

We'll use your previous SAT, PSAT/NMSQT®, PSAT 10, or PSAT 8/9 results to give you personalized practice recommendations and fast-forward your skill progress.

[Sign In to CollegeBoard.org](#)

**Test scores** [View Full Tests](#)

Your test scores will appear here once you [complete your first practice test](#) or import a real exam from [CollegeBoard.org](#).

**Current skill levels** [What are skill levels?](#)

**Math** **Reading & Writing**

To set your current skill levels, complete your [diagnostic quizzes](#), take a [full test](#), or [link](#) your SAT, PSAT/NMSQT®, PSAT 10, or PSAT 8/9 results.

**Frequently asked questions**

Do you have a [problem](#) or a [sweet idea](#)? Check out our [frequently asked questions](#) first.





# Practice

Dashboard Practice Tips and Strategies Full Tests Review In part

Answer 20 questions 0 of 20 questions answered

MATH READING & WRITING ESSAY

Complete these 4 quizzes to unlock your personalized Math practice

DIAGNOSTIC QUIZ  
 Quiz 1 — Math (No Calculator) Take this quiz

Quiz 1 — Math (No Calculator) Quiz 2 — Math (No Calculator) Quiz 3 — Math (Calculator OK) Quiz 4 — Math (Calculator OK)

Do you have a [problem](#) or a [sweet idea](#)? Check out our [frequently asked questions](#) first.

Or choose from the full list of Math practice and videos

**Heart of algebra**  
 These skills focus on linear equations, their graphs, and their applications.

HOW-TO EXAMPLES

Solving linear equations and linear inequalities	Practice	Basic example	Harder example
Interpreting linear functions	Practice	Basic example	Harder example
Linear equation word problems	Practice	Basic example	
Linear Inequality word problems	Practice	Basic example	Harder example



# Tips & Strategies

KHANACADEMY angela castong

## SAT Time Management, Part 1: The Two Passes Strategy

If you have trouble finishing sections on the SAT in the time allowed, you're not alone! Here's a strategy that many students find helpful in managing their time on Test Day.

[Share to Google Classroom](#)
[Share](#)
[Tweet](#)
[Email](#)

### What Is the Two Passes Strategy?

The **Two Passes Strategy** is a method you can use to structure your time strategically while working through a group of questions. It can help to ensure that you don't run out of time before you have had the chance to work on the questions that are easier for you.

### Pass One: Pick the lowest-hanging fruit

Go through each group of questions once fairly quickly to answer the questions that are easiest for you. Attempt only those questions that you immediately know how to approach and solve.

- **Reading Test:** If you are finding the first paragraph of a passage difficult to understand, consider skipping the entire passage and coming back to it later if time allows. This is called "*prioritizing the passages.*" Within a set of questions about a passage, skip the hardest questions until you have had a chance to grasp as much of the passage as possible. By the time you

About the SAT Reading Test

- The SAT Reading Test: What to expect
- Introduction to the SAT Reading test
- The SAT Reading Test: Overview
- SAT Reading Test: content areas
- The SAT Reading Test: Information and Ideas
- The SAT Reading Test: Rhetoric
- The SAT Reading Test: Synthesis

Reading Test Strategies

- Active Reading Strategies Part 1: SQ3R
- Active Reading Strategies Part 2: Rephrase and Predict
- SAT Reading Test Tips Share Space

About the SAT Writing and Language Test

- The SAT Writing and Language Test: What to expect
- Introduction to the SAT Writing & Language test
- The SAT Writing and Language Test: Overview



# Full Tests

Official SAT® Practice    Dashboard    Practice    Tips and Strategies    **Full Tests**    Review    In partnership with CollegeBoard

## Tests

- Practice test 1  
0 of 4 sections complete
- Practice test 2  
0 of 4 sections complete
- Practice test 3  
0 of 4 sections complete
- Practice test 4  
0 of 4 sections complete
- Practice test 5  
0 of 4 sections complete
- Practice test 6  
0 of 4 sections complete
- Practice test 7  
0 of 4 sections complete

Start Practice test 1 After completing a section, you can stop or review

65 min

Reading  
52 questions

Start this section

35 min

Writing and Language  
44 questions

🔒 Complete previous sections to unlock

25 min

Math (No calculator)  
20 questions

🔒 Complete previous sections to unlock

55 min

Math (Calculator OK)  
38 questions

🔒 Complete previous sections to unlock

These practice tests were written by the College Board and provided exclusively to Khan Academy.


If you would like to take these tests on paper instead of online, you can [download the PDF versions of the practice tests and print them](#). You can also [download](#)



# There's an "App" for That

## "Daily Practice for the New SAT"

Warning: Reading further will eliminate any excuse not to practice for the SAT.



Download on the  
**App Store**

ANDROID APP ON  
**Google Play**

**One Question a Day, Zero Excuses**

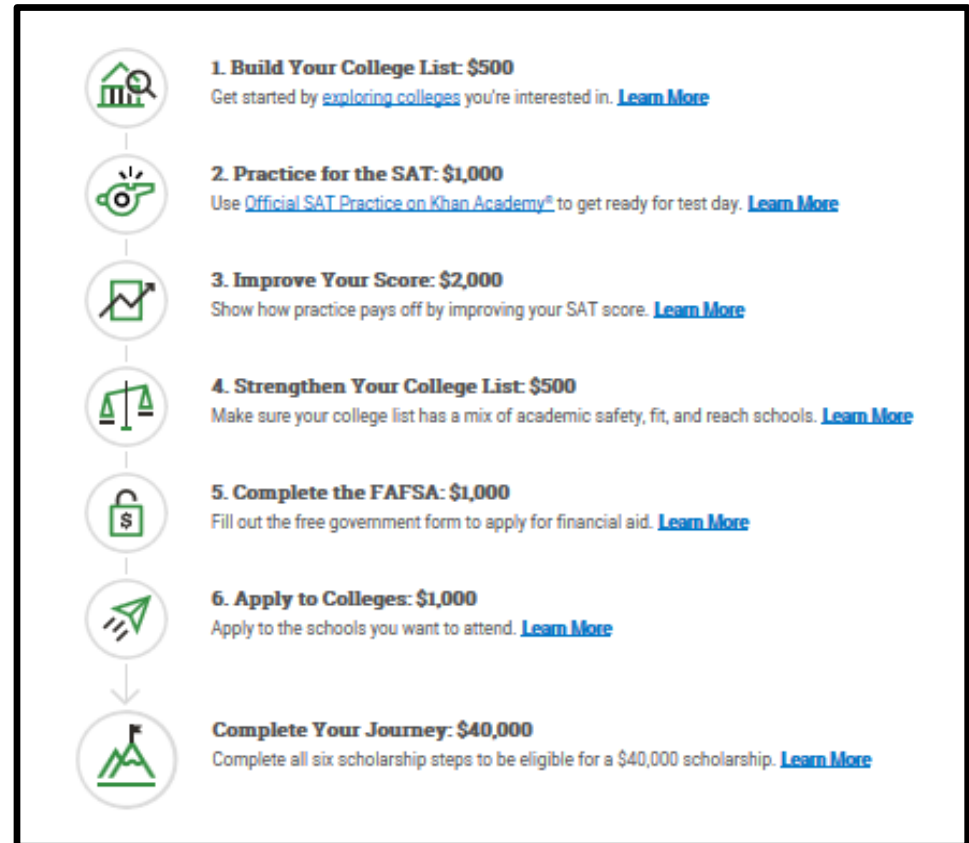
Make practice part of your routine—any place, any time. Answer a question a day on the Daily Practice for the New SAT app and get immediate feedback. The free app makes it easy to:

- Question of the Day
- Use to score practice tests.
  - Print out a bubble sheet
  - Take a real practice test (time yourself for even better practice)
  - Scan your bubble sheet and get it scored instantly

# Earn As You Learn

## Collegeboard Opportunity Scholarships

- The more effort you put in, the more opportunities you have to earn a scholarship
- Complete all six, and you're eligible to earn \$40,000
- Scholarships will be awarded through monthly drawings to students who complete each action



# Should I Take a Course?

- Check YOUR high school first – possibly fee
- Local night school programs – minimal cost
- Sylvan Learning Center – \$795 - \$1290;  
*also offers an online class*
- Private tutors - \$1,000 - \$9,000
- Online courses - \$80 - \$900





# Questions?

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

Center for College Planning

1.888.747.2382 X119

[collegeplanning@nhheaf.org](mailto:collegeplanning@nhheaf.org)



1.888.747.2382, x119 • [nhheaf.org](http://nhheaf.org) • [collegeplanning@nhheaf.org](mailto:collegeplanning@nhheaf.org)

