Optimizing College Admissions

Test Scores

The NEW SAT

PSAT Score Reports

Personalized Test Prep through College Board & Khan Academy

National Merit Scholar Program
The New SAT

• 2 Scored Areas (Critical Reading & Math) Plus Optional Essay (1600 points plus 8-point Essay)
• No Penalty for Wrong Answers
• 4 Answer Choices, Not 5
• Fewer Yet Longer Sections
• More Complex Reading Passages
• Calculator and No Calculator Math
• More Familiar Vocabulary
The New SAT...
Get Ready for Rigor

RIGOR IS FOR EVERYONE!
There is currently a broad global movement away from considerations of mere economic success towards a new public policy goal involving a broader notion of quality of life. This movement has also spurred a rethinking of which statistics inform us best about a country’s situation and how its citizens are faring. For decades, the gold standard was a macroeconomic indicator: the GDP - gross domestic product, calculated per capita. This is the most prominent yardstick that the media, politicians and the public consider when they try to assess how a country is performing. However, this measure was never meant to be a measure of the welfare of nations (as its creator Simon Kuznets warned in the 1930s) and so there is growing skepticism about the GDP’s usefulness as a measure of national well-being. Slogans such as “beyond GDP” or “redefining progress” challenge the preoccupation with the GDP.
Sample Question From Passage

In the first paragraph, the reference to Simon Kuznets mainly serves to:

A) emphasize that the GDP is a respected and valid tool.

B) underscore a common concern about the GDP by citing a critic.

C) clarify an abstract point about the development of the GDP by mentioning its creator.

D) strengthen the argument that the GDP does not adequately measure well-being.
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Correct!

In the first paragraph, the reference to Simon Kuznets mainly serves to:

A) emphasize that the GDP is a respected and valid tool.
B) underscore a common concern about the GDP by citing a critic.
C) clarify an abstract point about the development of the GDP by mentioning its creator.
D) **strengthen the argument that the GDP does not adequately measure well-being.**
Sample Math Question: Isolating Quantities

\[ v = 331.3 \sqrt{1 + \frac{T}{273.15}} \]

The formula above gives the velocity, \( v \), in meters per second, at which sound travels through air that is at a temperature of \( T \) degrees Celsius. Which of the following equations correctly gives the air temperature in terms of the velocity of sound?

A. \[ T = 273.15 \left( \frac{v^2}{331.3^2} - 1 \right) \]

B. \[ T = 273.15 \left( \frac{v^2}{331.3^2} \right) - 1 \]

C. \[ T = 273.15(v - 331.3)^2 \]

D. \[ T = 273.15 \left( \frac{v - 331.3}{331.3} \right)^2 \]
PSAT Score Reports

• *New PSAT (Oct. 2015)* Aligned to *New SAT (March 2016)*

• PSAT Score Reports Now Available: [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)

• Student Creates a College Board Account

• Use Access Code on Printed Score Report
Take a Look at the NEW PSAT Score Report

YOUR PSAT/NMSQT® SCORES ARE READY!
College Board & Khan Academy

- **FREE** online SAT preparation platform (khanacademy.org)
- Tests & questions created by SAT test writers
Leveling the Playing Field

• College Board Establishes Equity in Test Prep
• Expensive Prep Programs are Inferior
• 9th, 10th, & 11th graders link Oct. PSAT scores to Khan Academy for personalized SAT prep.
Classroom Preparation for April SAT

Some Khan Academy Practice in English & Math:

• Practice Tests
• Skill-Specific Instruction
• Khan Academy Registration
• Resources and Materials from College Board
FLHS In-School SAT: April 12th

• FLHS Juniors Only
• Official in-school administration of NEW SAT
• No charge to FLHS students
• Critical Reading & Math Sections
Registration & Documentation – April 12

• FLHS will pre-register all students. Students *do not* register individually.

• Need current photo ID & entrance ticket (provided by FLHS/College Board)

• Calculators provided or bring your own.
Testing Day

• Estimated 4 Hours of Testing
• Most Testing in Media Center & Building 5
• College Workshop for Juniors follows testing & lunch
After April 12th:
SAT & ACT Schedule & Registration
# SAT Dates & Costs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TEST DATE</th>
<th>REGISTRATION DEADLINE</th>
<th>LATE REGISTRATION (requires late fee)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 5, 2016</td>
<td>Feb 5, 2016</td>
<td>Feb 23, 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 7, 2016</td>
<td>April 8, 2016</td>
<td>April 26, 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 8, 2016</td>
<td>Sept 9, 2016</td>
<td>Sept 23, 2016</td>
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<td>January 28, 2017</td>
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<td>TBA</td>
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<td>March 11, 2017</td>
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<td>May 6, 2017</td>
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<td>TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 3, 2017</td>
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## COST:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Cost</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SAT</td>
<td>$43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAT with essay</td>
<td>$54.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Late Registration Fee</td>
<td>add $28</td>
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</table>
# ACT Dates & Costs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TEST DATE</th>
<th>REGISTRATION DEADLINE</th>
<th>LATE REGISTRATION (REQUIRES LATE FEE)</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 9, 2016</td>
<td>March 4, 2016</td>
<td>March 18, 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 11, 2016</td>
<td>May 6, 2016</td>
<td>May 20, 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 11, 2017</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 8, 2017</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 10, 2017</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

## COST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACT</td>
<td>$39.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACT with Writing</td>
<td>$56.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Late Registration Fee</td>
<td>add $25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Fee Waivers

• Currently enrolled in 11th & 12th Grade
• U.S. citizen or student testing in U.S.
• Demonstrate economic need
• 2 SAT waivers
• 2 ACT waivers
• See Mr. Francis or Ms. Wolfe
ACT & SAT ID & Admission Policies

Have your admission ticket and photo ID ready!

The 4-Way Match

1. Appearance on Test Day
2. Photo ID
3. Admission or Waitlist Ticket
4. Supervisor’s Roster (includes photos)
Bring Your Materials

- Bring your own calculator
- Bring No. 2 pencils
- FLHS will provide calculators & pencils for April 12th school administration
National Merit Scholarship Program

To Qualify:

- Take the PSAT in October of Junior Year
- Enrolled as a high school student planning to enroll in college in the fall following senior year
- U.S. Citizen or Permanent Legal Resident
- Top 1% of test takers
Top 1% > National Merit Semifinalists

• Calculated on a state by state basis
• Student notified by College Board or FLHS
• No set score will guarantee status. Comparison is made against fellow test takers.
• Selected students must complete application to advance to Finalist status.
Top 3% > National Merit Commended Scholars

- Add to resume & college applications
- Certain scholarships available from corporations & businesses
National Hispanic Recognition Program

• Take PSAT in October of Junior Year
• At least one-quarter Hispanic/Latino
• Top 2% of Hispanic test takers by state
• 3.5 GPA by mid-Junior year
• Student notified by College Board
• Recognition Program – Not a scholarship program
Timeline

- Sept. of Senior Year – Cut-off Scores & Semi-finalists Announced
- Feb. of Senior Year – Finalists Announced
- March of Senior Year – Scholarships Awarded
National Merit Finalists

• Eligible for a $2,500 corporate-sponsored scholarship
• Eligible for individual college National Merit scholarships.
• Add this designation to resumes and college applications.
SAT Subject Tests

- Hour long tests in specific subjects
- Required by some selective colleges and universities
- Florida public universities do not require
- Declining in importance due to AP/AICE popularity
- Check each college’s admissions page
- 200-800 scale
- Colleges require 2 or 3 of student’s choice
- Engineering students: Science and Math
List of Subjects

- Literature
- US History
- World History
- Mathematics Level 1 & 2
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics
- French
- Chinese
- Hebrew
- Italian
- German
- Korean
- Latin
- Spanish
- Chinese
Timeline for SAT/ACT and Subject Tests

• Skip March SAT - 1st administration; skewed pool of test takers & uncertain timeline for scores
• Take April 12 in-school SAT
• May 7 - Subject Area Tests
• June 4 - SAT
• ACT options - April 9 and June 11
• Try both tests - some students show significant difference in scores
# Median Test Scores

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College</th>
<th>Math</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>ACT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FAU</td>
<td>490 - 590</td>
<td>490 - 580</td>
<td>21 - 26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UCF</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FSU</td>
<td>590 - 670</td>
<td>560 - 630</td>
<td>26 - 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UF</td>
<td>600 - 700</td>
<td>580 - 690</td>
<td>27 - 32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ivies</td>
<td>730 - 750</td>
<td>730 - 750</td>
<td>32 - 33</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Remember: Most colleges use holistic review. Go to “Freshman Profile” for individual college median test scores.
CAP Program

• World famous college-readiness program hosted by Ms. Hautigan and Ms. Wolfe
• Two day seminar the week following last day of school in June
• Rising 12th grade students
• Seminar covers: applications for both Florida universities and the Common Application, essay writing, resume building, financial aid, and scholarships
• Look for announcement flyer in May
Questions