

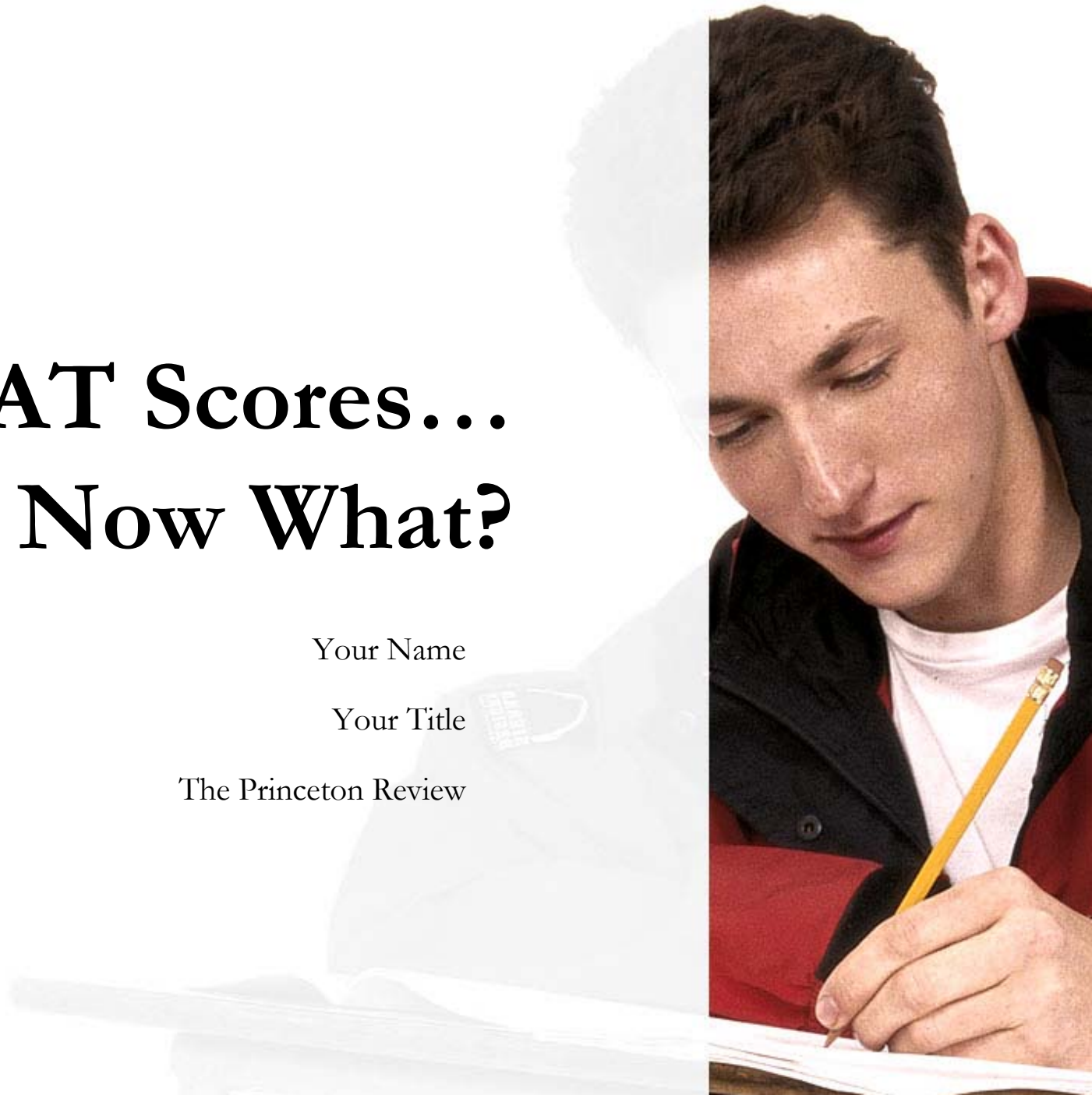


PSAT Scores... Now What?

Your Name

Your Title

The Princeton Review





Our Contact Information:

Phone Number

Info Email Address

Some other things to note:

www.PrincetonReview.com

www.Collegeboard.com

www.NationalMerit.org

www.ACT.org



- Why we take the PSAT
- The PSAT Score Report
- The National Merit Scholarship Program
- Where Your Scores Will Take You
- Admissions Timeline
- Overview of Admissions Tests
- Tricks of the Trade
- Test Prep Options



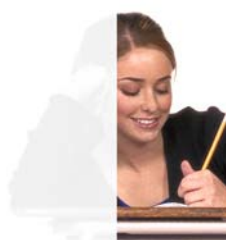
Why do we take the PSAT?

What does “PSAT” stand for?



What does this mean?

- A practice test before the SAT
- Qualifying exam for National Merit Scholarships
- Check with your school to see if they include your PSAT scores on your academic transcript (most don't anymore but check just to be sure)
- Another way for the College Board to make more money



Taking the PSAT is a great way to jumpstart your college admissions planning.

- You'll get an idea of how standardized tests work
- See how you perform in a high-pressure testing situation
- Most importantly, you'll get SCORES to give you a starting point



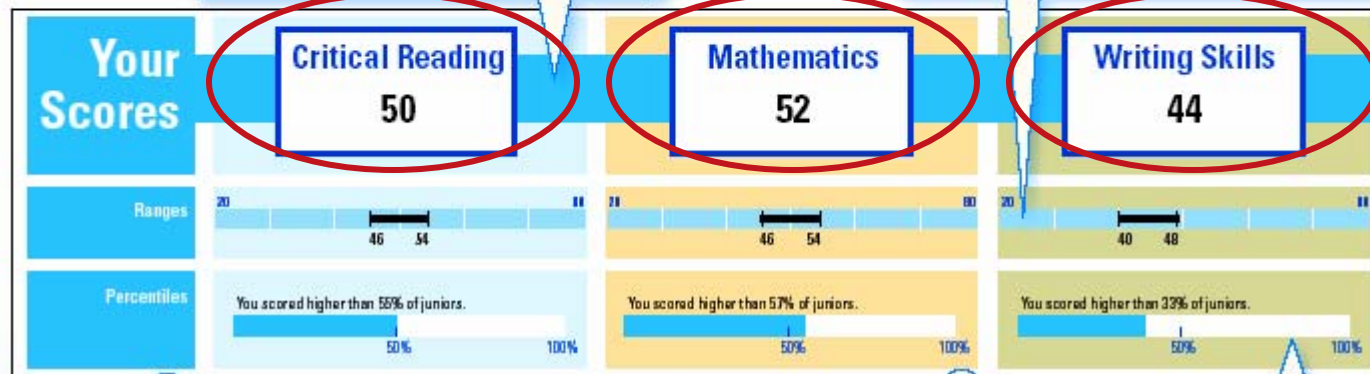
Your PSAT Scores and You.

1

The PSAT/NMSQT is based on a scale of 20-80. You will have 3 scores, one for Critical Reading, one for Mathematics, and one for Writing Skills.

2

Your score range is what the College Board predicts you would score if you took the PSAT over again but didn't really learn any additional skills. So if you took the test tomorrow, next week, and again next month without studying, they predict you would score somewhere in these ranges.



Your overall scores are found at the top of the Score Report. You should see three numbers, all between 20 and 80.



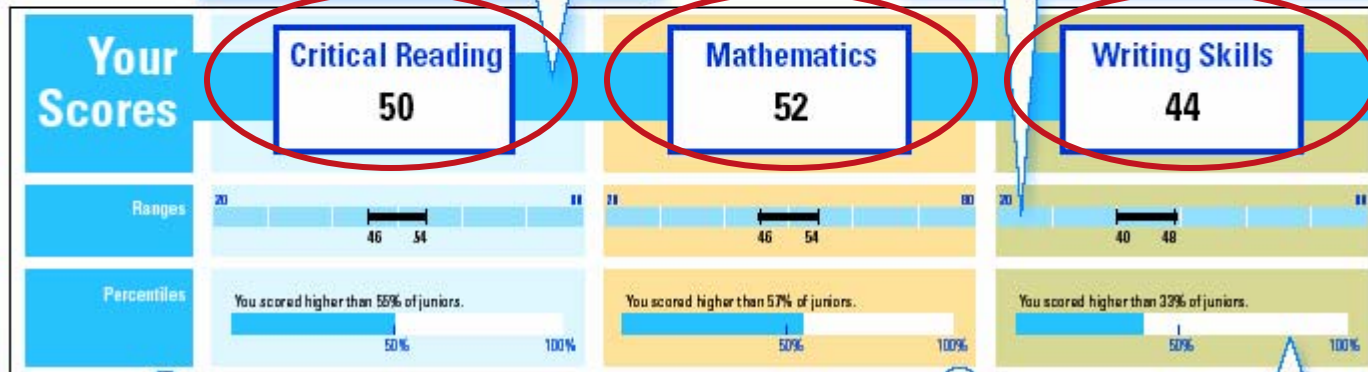
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Add each score above to get your overall PSAT score:

$$50 + 52 + 44 = 146$$



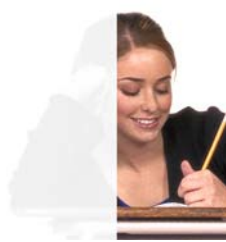
**Your total score =
Selection Index.**

**You can find your
Selection Index on
your College Board
Score Report**

Highest = 240

Lowest = 60

National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) Programs	
Selection Index	146
Percentile	47
compares your performance with college-bound juniors	
The Selection Index (S.I.) is the sum of your critical reading, mathematics, and writing skills scores. NMSC uses the S.I. as an initial screen of over 1.4 million students who enter its scholarship programs.	



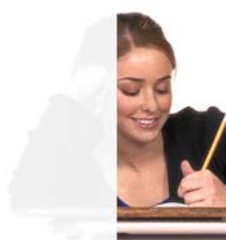
My Total PSAT Score

Projected Scores:

SAT Math: SAT Reading: SAT Writing:

SAT Combined: ACT:

Write your total PSAT Score (or Selection Index) at the top of p. 2 in the brochure

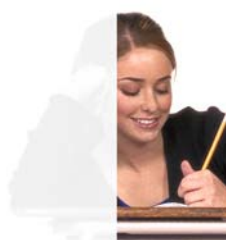


- **Raw Score = How Many Questions You Got Right**
 - **Reading: 48 questions**
 - **Math: 38 Questions**
 - **Writing: 29 questions**
 - **TOTAL: 125 questions**



Guessing Penalty

- Get It Right: +1 Raw Point**
- Leave It Blank: +0 Raw Points**
- Get It Wrong: - 1/4 Raw Point**

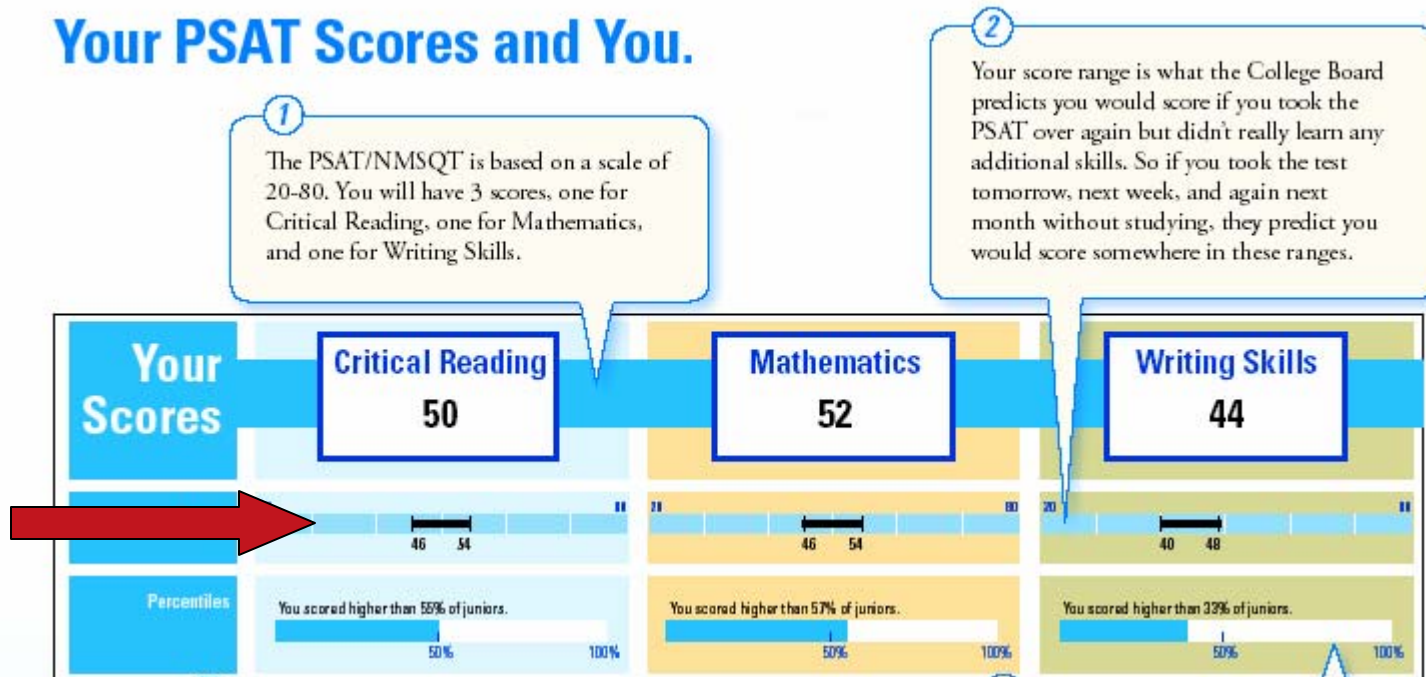


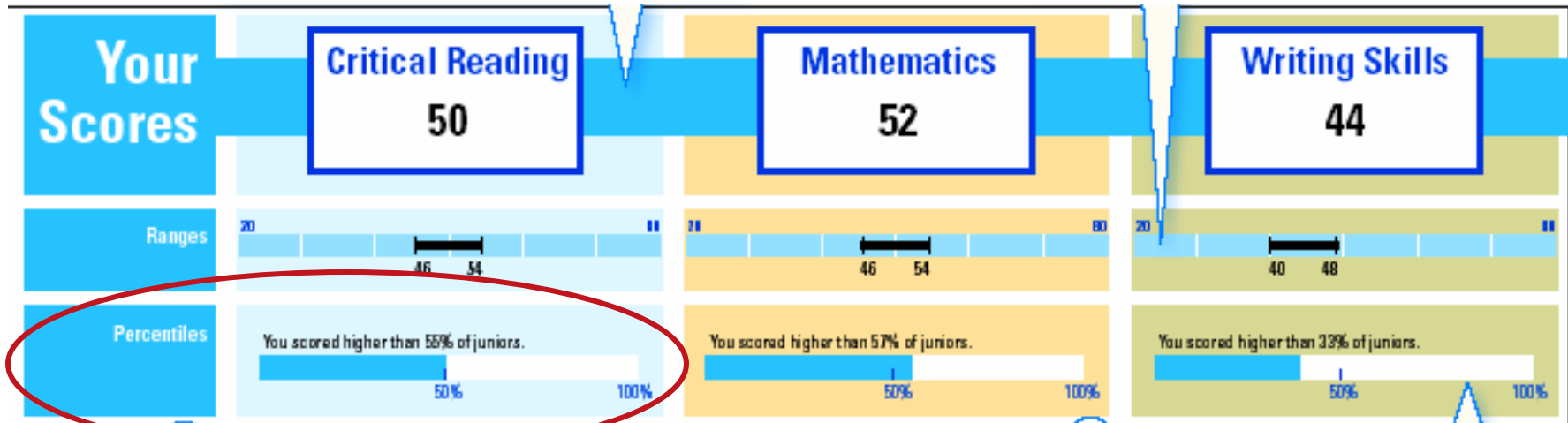
- 1. College Board takes your Raw Score from each section.**
- 2. They plug it into a crazy algorithm (which is different for each test date).**
- 3. You get a “Scaled” Score from 20-80 for each section, and 60-240 Overall.**



These are the ranges in which you scored. Scores within your range are considered “equal” statistically.

Your PSAT Scores and You.





4

The "Review Your Answers" section gives you a lot of information about what you answered on every question in every section. Take time to look back over how you answered each question. Did you do you better

3

These are your percentiles - where your scores stand against other students in your class year.

The Percentiles allow you to compare your score with all the other students that took the PSAT.



4

The “Review Your Answers” section gives you a lot of information about what you answered on every question in every section. Take time to look back over how you answered each question. Did you do you better at certain types of problems than others? Did you leave questions blank or did you guess?

Review Your Answers

Ask for your test book back so you can see the questions.

- Key**
- ✓ Correct
 - Omitted
 - ! Unscorable
 - e Easy
 - m Medium
 - h Hard
 - Alg Algebra & Functions
 - Data Data Analysis, Statistics &

SECTION 1

	Question	Correct Answer	Your Answer	Difficulty
Sentence Completions	1	A	✓	
	2	B	○	e
	3	A	C	m
	4	C	A	h
	5	B	E	h
	6	D	○	e
	7	B	○	m
	8	D	○	e
Passage-Based Reading	9	B	✓	m
	10	E	B	h
	11	D	✓	h
	12	C	✓	m
	13	A	✓	m
	14	B	A	m
	15	A	✓	e
	16	C	✓	m
	17	A	✓	e
	18	E	✓	m
	19	B	✓	m
	20	B	E	m
	21	E	✓	m
	22	D	B	h
	23	E	✓	m
	24	A	✓	m

Question – The question number in the exam/section.

Correct Answer – The correct answer for this question.

Your Answer – The answer choice you filled in on the test.

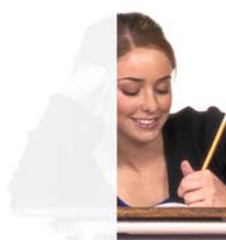
Difficulty – rated Easy, Medium or Hard and pertains to the level of difficulty of each question.



Even though the questions have different levels of difficulty, they are all worth the same amount of points.

So, if easy questions have the same point value as hard ones – which type of question would you want to spend the most time on?

THE EASY ONES!



Question #1

Question #20



Easy

Hard

Math Tips:

- It's all about the pacing. Getting the easy ones = more raw points = high overall Math Score.
- **SLOW DOWN and SCORE MORE!**



Writing Section Order of Difficulty Structure

1. Improving Sentences (20 questions) - from Easy to Hard
2. Error IDs (14 questions) – from Easy to Hard
3. Improving Paragraphs (5 questions) – all Easy or Medium

Writing Tips:

- **Know when the Order of Difficulty “re-sets.”**
- **Consider doing the Improving Paragraphs ?s first.**



For Critical Reading, you have to rely on your own Personal Order of Difficulty.

Reading Tips:

- Spend your time on the answers that you **CAN** answer.
- Consider omitting questions to save time.
- Improve your vocabulary!



Improve Your Skills

The skills listed are based on your individual performance on the test and represent those that you have the best chance to improve with extra work.

Follow the suggestions to improve in each area.

■ Determining an author's purpose or perspective

How to improve: Authors write for a variety of purposes, such as to inform, to explain, or to convince. When you read, try to determine why the author wrote what he or she wrote.

See questions 20, 42, 48.

■ Understanding complex sentences

How to improve: Ask your English teacher to recommend books that are a bit more challenging than those you're used to reading. Practice breaking the sentences down into their component parts to improve your comprehension. Learn how dependent clauses and verb phrases function in sentences.

See questions 5, 33.

■ Understanding sentences that deal with scientific ideas

How to improve: Read science articles about

■ Dealing with probability, basic statistics, charts, and graphs

How to improve: Practice solving problems that involve basic probability, basic counting, and finding the average (arithmetic mean), median, and mode. Look for charts and graphs in newspapers and magazines, and practice interpreting the data in them.

See questions 13, 14, 19.

■ Understanding geometry and coordinate geometry

How to improve: Review geometry units in your textbook involving perimeter, area, volume, circumference, angles, lines, slope. Familiarize yourself with the formulas given at the beginning of math sections of the test.

See questions 7, 11, 13.

■ Making connections among mathematical topics

■ Being precise and clear

How to improve: Learn to recognize sentence elements that are ambiguous and confusing. In your writing, choose words carefully and connect them for clear meaning.

See questions 4, 6, 8.

■ Recognizing logical connections within sentences and passages

How to improve: Use the writing process to help you revise your draft essays. Work with classmates and teachers to clarify meaning in your writing.

See questions 8, 28, 29.

Your Education Plans

Grade Average **B**

Major
Computer Engineering

Information above is self-reported.

Description: In the computer engineering major, students learn to design and develop computer and computer-related systems. These systems include software systems, hardware systems, and combined hardware/software systems. Students take courses in basic sciences, mathematics, and engineering science and design.

Associated Skills: Computing, basic sciences, mathematics.

Recommended High School Courses: English 4, precollege mathematics 4, biology 1, chemistry 1, physics 1, social studies 3-4, history 2-3, foreign language 2-4, music .5, visual arts .5, and computer science .5-1.

The College Board gives you some suggestions for further study. You can use them as a starting point.



**National Merit
Scholarship Corporation
(NMSC) Programs**

Selection Index
146

Percentile **47**
compares your
performance with
college-bound juniors

The Selection Index (S.I.) is the sum of your critical reading, mathematics, and writing skills scores. NMSC uses the S.I. as an initial screen of over 1.4 million students who enter its scholarship programs.

Entry Requirements
Below is information you provided on your answer sheet.

Full-time high school student:
Yes

Year to complete high school and enroll full time in college:
2008

Years to be spent in grades 9-12:
4

U.S. citizenship:
Yes

If your Selection Index places you among the 55,000 high scorers who qualify for program recognition, you will be notified next September.

True or False:

Only juniors are eligible for recognition by NMSC.

TRUE!

Sophomores are not considered for national merit recognition until their junior year.



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True or False: All National Merit Semi-Finalists and Finalists get college scholarships.

FALSE!

Less than 1% of students who take the test will receive any money from NMSC.



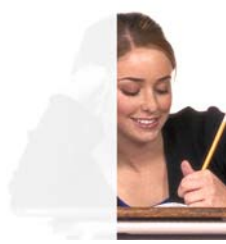
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True or False:

If you get recognized by NMSC, you won't have to worry about paying for college.

FALSE!

Of those scholarships handed out to less than 1% of students who took the test, none are worth more than \$2500.



**NMSC will contact your school if
you've been chosen for recognition.**

**For more information, check out
www.nationalmerit.org.**



	Score Comparison		
	PSAT	SAT	ACT
9-33	240	2400	36
3-27	234	2340	35
9-33	226	2260	34
0-34	219	2190	33
8-32	213	2130	32
2-27	204	2040	31
7-31	198	1980	30
3-27	192	1920	29
9-32	186	1860	28
9-33	182	1820	27
3-29	176	1760	26
8-33	170	1700	25
8-33	165	1650	24
6-30	159	1590	23
0-33	153	1530	22
	150	1500	21
	141	1410	20
	135	1350	19
	129	1290	18
	121	1210	17
	114	1140	16
	106	1060	15
	100	1000	14
	90	900	13
	78	780	12
	75	750	11

Use the comparison chart to guesstimate what you would get on the SAT and ACT without any further prep.

My Total PSAT Score: _____

Projected Scores:

SAT Math: _____ SAT Reading: _____ SAT Writing: _____

SAT Combined: _____ ACT: _____



Where Your Scores Will Take You

SCHOOL NAME	SAT MATH	SAT CRITICAL READING	SAT WRITING (PROJECTED)	ACT
Arizona State University—Tempe	500–620	490–610	550–660	20–26
Boston University	600–690	580–680	630–710	25–30
Brown University	670–770	660–760	690–760	27–33
Carnegie Mellon University	680–760	610–710	660–730	28–32
Emory University	660–740	640–730	680–740	29–33
Florida State University	540–630	530–620	590–660	23–27
Grinnell College	640–730	640–750	680–750	29–33
Harvard University	700–790	700–800	720–780	30–34
Johns Hopkins University	660–760	630–740	670–750	28–32
Michigan State University	520–650	490–620	550–660	22–27
New York University	620–710	620–710	660–730	27–31
North Carolina State University	560–660	530–620	590–660	23–27
Reed College	620–710	660–760	690–760	29–32
Stanford University	690–780	670–770	700–770	29–33
University of California—San Diego	600–710	550–660	610–690	23–29
University of Pennsylvania	680–770	660–750	690–750	28–33
University of Southern California	650–730	620–710	660–730	28–32
University of Wisconsin—Madison	600–700	580–670	620–700	26–30
Washington University in St. Louis	690–770	670–750	700–750	30–33

Colleges sourced from The Princeton Review Guide to the Best 1000 Colleges, 2023 edition. Average Math and Critical Reading scores were reported by the colleges.

UC schools use an admission formula that combines SAT, ACT, and SAT Subject Test scores. Therefore, the SAT Subject Test scores of UCs can exhibit very greatly depending on each student's SAT and SAT Subject Test scores.

The Princeton Review computer algorithm uses the middle 50 percent range of SAT scores reported both in The Princeton Review's annual data compiling the most recent 2022 scores. Our algorithm gives us the ability to create a middle 80 percent range for the writing portion of the SAT. To be clear, these estimated scores are based on research conducted by The Princeton Review only, and information supplied only by individual schools.



SOPHOMORE YEAR:

STUDY: Focus on grades and taking difficult classes **TEST:** Take your first PSAT

- Your HS Transcript is your #1 priority!
- Extracurricular Activities: quality over quantity
- Prep for and take your first PSAT
- Consider SAT Subject Tests



JUNIOR YEAR:

<p>OCTOBER TEST: Take a PSAT prep course</p>	<p>NOVEMBER RESEARCH: Start researching colleges</p>	<p>DECEMBER PREP: Start thinking about the SAT and ACT and how to prep</p>
<p>JANUARY TEST: SAT on January 24th</p>	<p>FEBRUARY RESEARCH: Consider going to visit colleges</p>	<p>MARCH TEST: SAT on March 14th</p>
<p>APRIL TEST: ACT on April 4th</p>	<p>MAY TEST: SAT on May 2nd; Consider taking Subject Tests!</p>	<p>JUNE TEST: SAT on June 6th; ACT on June 13th</p>

College Research

- 1-2 “Safety” Schools
- A Handful of “Target” Schools
- 1-2 “Reach” Schools

Use the **FREE** Counselor-O-Matic tool online at princetonreview.com to get started!



JUNIOR YEAR:

<p>OCTOBER</p> <p>TEST: Take a PSAT prep course</p>	<p>NOVEMBER</p> <p>RESEARCH: Start researching colleges</p>	<p>DECEMBER</p> <p>PREP: Start thinking about the SAT and ACT and how to prep</p>
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Make a Testing Plan

- **SAT or ACT?**
- **When will you take your first test?**
- **How long will you need to prep?**
- **When during the year are you going to have time to prep?**

Make sure to leave enough time to re-take the test at least once!



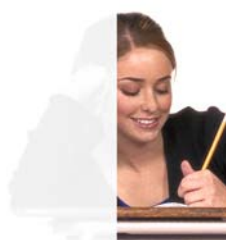
JUNIOR YEAR:

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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College Visits

- **Take a tour**
- **Talk with actual students**
- **Try it out: eat in the school cafeteria!**

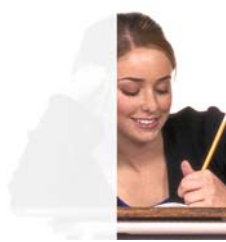
Be a savvy college shopper – this campus may be where you spend the next four years of your life!



SUMMER BREAK:

APPLY: Consider applying Early Decision and/or Early Action

- Start looking at applications
- Think about recommendations, essays, and resumes
- Start hunting for scholarships
- If You're Sure: Early Decision and/or Early Action



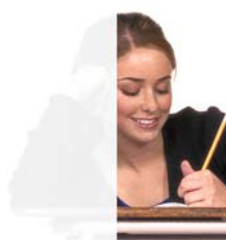
▶ **SENIOR YEAR:**

TEST: Take the SAT/ACT or Subject Tests again if you need to

PLAN: Secure teacher recommendations **APPLY:** Send applications early!

SUBMIT: Complete the FAFSA as early as possible in 2010

- Retake the SAT or ACT if necessary
- Fill out those applications early!
- Apply for Financial Aid as early as January 1st!



	PSAT	SAT	ACT	SAT Subject Tests
Is it Required?	No	Yes	Yes	Sometimes
Length	2.5 hours	3 hours, 45 minutes without breaks	3 hours, 25 minutes for Essay	1 hour
Subjects and Sections	Math (2), Reading (2), Writing (1)	Math (3), Reading (3), Writing (3), Experimental (1)	English (1), Math (1), Reading (1), Science (1), Optional Essay (1)	By subject
Scoring and Penalties	20-80 each section, 60-240 overall, +1 right, +0 blank, -1/4 wrong	200-800 each section, 600-2400 overall,+1right, +0 blank, -1/4 wrong	1-36 is average of scores from all parts of test, no guessing penalty	200-800, +1 right, +0 blank, -1/4 wrong
Score Choice	No	Yes	Yes	Yes



SAT vs ACT

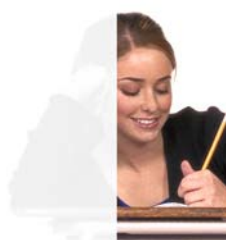
Choose the lesser of two evils...

Pick the one that is best for YOU!

How We Can Help

Take our FREE Princeton Review Assessment (PRA)

www.princetonreview.com/Events

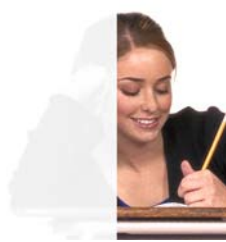


SAT Question

The dull monotone with which the announcer droned on about the details of the discovery _____ her excitement.

- (A) decried (D) escalated
(B) embodied (E) belied
(C) confirmed

Strategy: Process of Elimination (POE)



Answer for yourself: was the opposite of

(A) Decried

?

(B) Embodied

NO

(C) Confirmed

NO

(D) Escalated

NO

(E) Belied

?



FINAL ANSWER = (E)

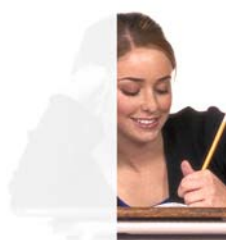



ACT Question

The width of a rectangular classroom is eight feet shorter than the length. The perimeter of the classroom is 60 feet. What is the width of the classroom?

- (A) 3 (D) 26
(B) 11 (E) 34
(C) 19

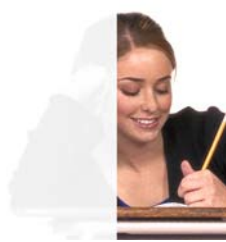
Strategy: Plugging in the Answers (PITA)



Label:	<u>Width</u>	<u>Length</u>	<u>Perimeter</u>	<u>= 60?</u>
	(A) 3			
	(B) 11	19	60	YES!
	(C) 19	27	92	NO
	(D) 26		TOO BIG	
	(E) 34		TOO BIG	

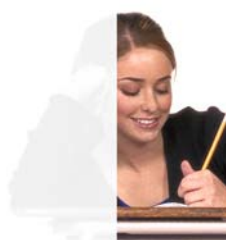


FINAL ANSWER = (B)



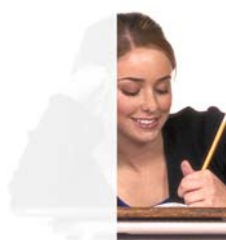
TRICKS OF THE TRADE REVIEW

1. Pacing
2. Personal Order of Difficulty
3. Process of Elimination (POE)
4. Plugging In The Answers (PITA)



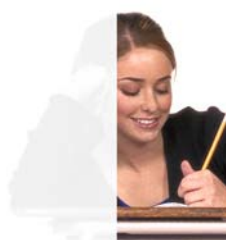
The Bottom Line: You Gotta Prep!

- **Classroom Courses**
- **Small Group Tutoring**
- **Private Tutoring**
- **Online Courses**



Classroom Courses:

- **30 hours of instruction**
- **4 proctored full-length diagnostic tests**
- **Small Class Sizes – Maximum of 15 students**
- **24/7 access to our Online Student Center**
- **The BEST materials in the industry**
- **The BEST teachers in the industry**



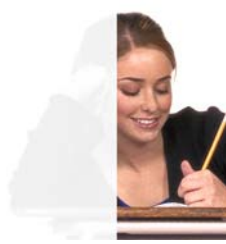
Small Group Tutoring:

- 24 hours of instruction
- 4 proctored full-length diagnostic tests
- 3 Students
- 24/7 access to our Online Student Center
- The BEST materials in the industry
- The BEST tutors in the industry



Private Tutoring

- 24 hours of private instruction
- 4 proctored full-length diagnostic tests
- 24/7 access to our Online Student Center
- Customized preparation plans and curriculum
- The BEST materials in the industry
- The BEST tutors in the industry



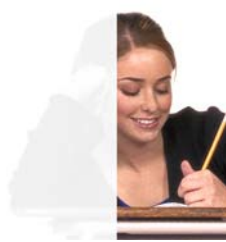
Online Options:

- **Express Online:** 3 hrs multimedia, 2 practice tests
- **Online Course:** 20-30 hrs multimedia, 4 practice tests
- **LiveOnline Course:** 5 LiveOnline sessions, 20-30 hrs multimedia, 4 practice tests
- **Online Tutoring:** 25 hrs LiveOnline tutoring, 20-30 hrs multimedia, 4 practice tests



Why Princeton Review?

1. We've got the **BEST** Materials
2. We've got the **BEST** Teachers
3. We've got the **BEST** Customer Care.



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ADMISSIONS PROCESS!**