

Difference between ACT and SAT Exams

The **ACT** is an achievement test measuring what a student has learned in school.

The **SAT** is an aptitude test measuring testing reasoning and verbal abilities.

The **ACT** has 5 components: English, Mathematics, Reading, Sciences and an **optional** writing test. You take the writing test only if required by the college(s) you're applying to.

The **SAT** has 3 components: Critical Reasoning, Mathematics, and a **required** writing test.

The **ACT** is scored based on the number of correct answers with no penalty for guessing.

The **SAT** has a correction for guessing. They take off for wrong answers.

Source: www.actstudent.org

	SAT	ACT
Length	3 hours 45 minutes	3 hours 25 minutes (includes optional 30-minute Writing Test)
Sections	10 Sections: 3 Critical Reading, 3 Math, 3 Writing (include Essay), 1 Experimental (not scored)	4 Sections (plus optional Writing Test): English, Math, Reading, Science, Writing
Subjects	Critical Reading Math Writing	English Math Reading Science Writing (optional)
Reading	Reading Passages with questions pertaining to comprehension and sentence completion	4 passages, 10 questions per passage
Science	N/A	Science (analysis, knowledge, problem solving)
Math	Arithmetic , Geometry, Algebra, and Algebra II	Arithmetic, Algebra, Geometry, and Trigonometry
Essay	Required	Optional (final section)
Score Composition	1/3 Math 1/3 Reading 1/3 Writing	¼ English ¼ Math ¼ Reading ¼ Science
Scoring	Aggregate score 600-2400 based on total of 3 scores 200-800 (Reading, Math, Writing) Score of 0-12 for Essay	Composite score 1-36 based on average of 4 sections (English, Math, Reading Science) Score 0-12 for Optional Essay
Sending Scores to Colleges	Currently entire score history is sent. Starting with the March 2009 test date, students can select ("opt-in feature") which will allow them to choose specific test date(s) – 3/09 and forward – and all scores from the selected test date(s) will be sent.	Student decides which scores are sent.
Additional Information	www.collegeboard.com	www.actstudent.org

Source <http://www.inlikeme.com/test/sat-vs-act-comparison-chart.html>