

Welcome

SAT *vs* ACT  
Get the Right Answers!

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# Test Dates

(2011 - 2012)

## **SAT**

Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>

Nov 5<sup>th</sup>

Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>

Jan. 28<sup>th</sup>

Mar. 10<sup>th</sup> \*

May 5<sup>th</sup>

Jun. 2<sup>nd</sup>

## **ACT**

Sep. 10<sup>th</sup>

Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup>

Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>

Feb. 11<sup>th</sup>

Apr. 14<sup>th</sup>

Jun. 9<sup>th</sup>

## **PSAT**

Oct. 12<sup>th</sup> (or)

Oct. 15<sup>th</sup>

## **PLAN/EXPLORE**

TBD

## **AP Tests**

April 30<sup>th</sup> – May 11<sup>th</sup>

# When to Prepare?

Applying early decision?

Applying to highly competitive colleges?

Needing a large score increase?

Planning to take both the SAT and the ACT (and/or Subject tests)?

**Yes:**

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**Start in the fall / winter of your Junior year**

**No:**

**Start in the Spring of Jr. year or the Fall of Sr. year**

# SAT vs. ACT

Reasoning & Logic

Deduction for wrong answers

Vocabulary emphasized

No Science **Reasoning**

Arithmetic, Algebra, Geometry

10 Free-response Math

Mostly easy to hard

3 hours, 20 minutes

+ 25 min Experimental Section

Score Choice

PSAT

Curriculum Based

Answer EVERY question

Little vocabulary

Science **Reasoning**

+ 4 Trigonometry questions

No Math formulas given

Only Math is easy to hard

3 hours, 25 minutes

No experimental section

Score Choice

PLAN

# SAT (Reasoning) Test

## Math (200-800)

- Arithmetic
- Algebra
- Geometry

## Reading (200-800)

- Sentence Completions (Vocab)
- Reading Comprehension

## Writing (200-800)

- Essay
- Grammar

**2400 pts**

# ACT Test

## English (1-36)

- Usage/mechanics and rhetorical skills
- Punctuation / Commas

## Math (1-36)

- Emphasis on geometry
- Some algebra and trigonometry

**36 pts**

## Reading (1-36)

- Arts / Literature Passages
- Social Science / Natural Science Passages

Essay – ~~optional~~

## Science (1-36)

- Questions on science-based passages
- Interpreting Data from Graphs and Charts

# SAT Subject Tests

**1 hour**

**800 pts**

## **English**

- Literature

## **History**

- U.S History
- World History

## **Mathematics**

- ~~Math Level 1~~
- Math Level 2

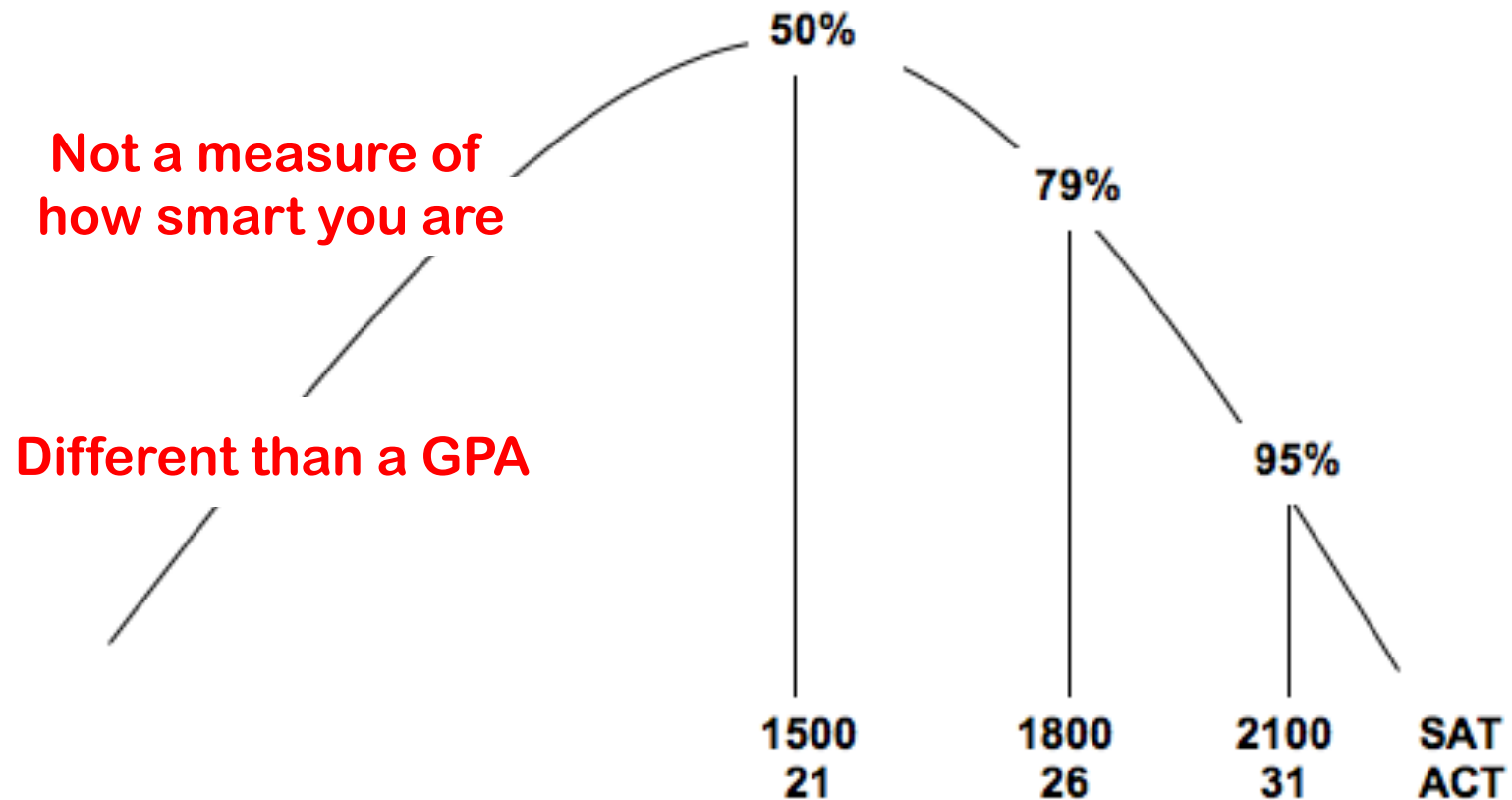
## **Science**

- Biology E/M
- Chemistry
- Physics

## **Languages**

- Chinese
- French
- German
- Spanish
- Hebrew
- Italian
- Latin
- Japanese
- Korean

# The Bell Curve



# Research

## Harvard

690 – 800 Reading  
700 – 780 Math  
690 – 790 Writing  
25 – 31 ACT

## UW

530 – 650 Reading  
570 – 680 Math  
530 – 640 Writing  
24 – 29 ACT

## Middlebury

640 – 730 Reading  
650 – 740 Math  
650 – 740 Writing  
25 – 31 ACT

## Seattle U

520 – 640 Reading  
530 – 630 Math  
510 – 620 Writing  
23 – 28 ACT

## UCLA

570 – 680 Reading  
610 – 730 Math  
580 – 700 Writing  
25 – 31 ACT

## Western WA

490 – 610 Reading  
500 – 610 Math  
480 – 590 Writing  
21 – 26 ACT

# Research

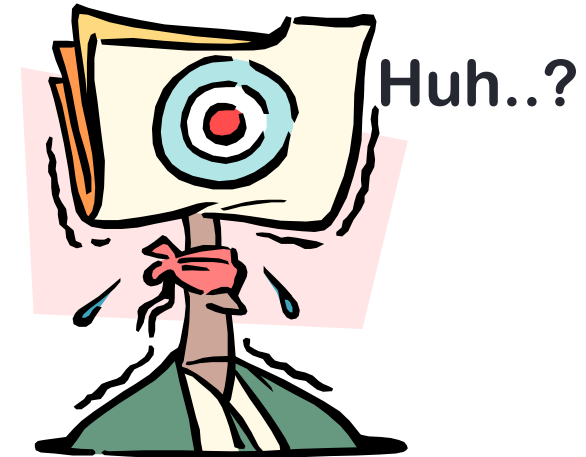
## College MatchMaker

[PrincetonReview.com/CollegeSearch](https://PrincetonReview.com/CollegeSearch)

# School vs. Standardized Tests

Kindergarten to HS

College Entrance Tests



# Standardized Tests are Different

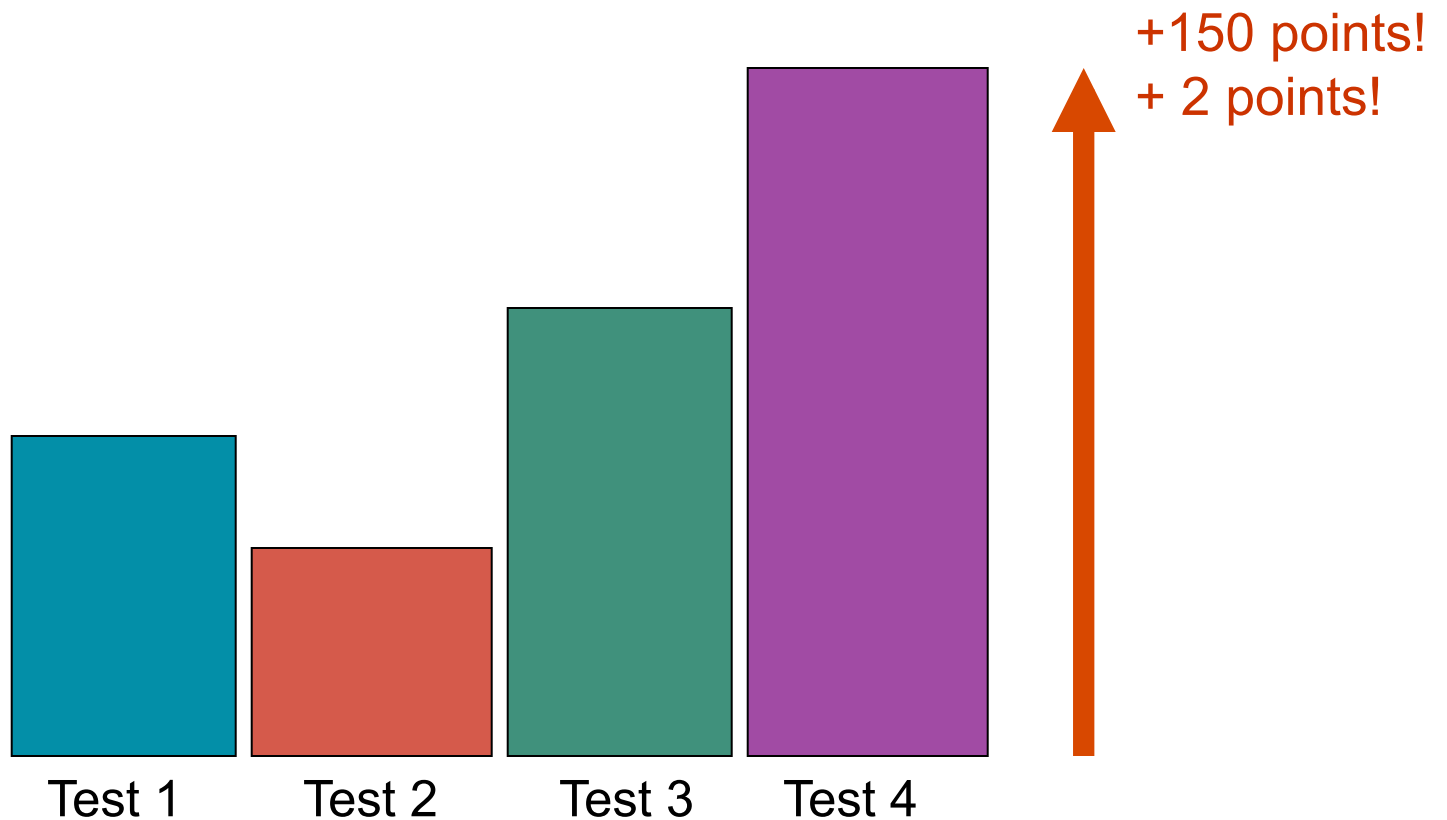
- Four hours long
- Not enough time to finish
- Double negatives and tricky wording
- Trap answers

# How to Increase Scores

- Take Practice Tests
- Study Practice Tests
- Practice, Practice, Practice

*(Read Questions Carefully)*

# The 2nd Test Dip



# Resources

## Testing

CollegeBoard.org

ACTStudent.org

FairTest.org



*Lists over 830 colleges that do not use the SAT or ACT.*

## Scholarships

TheWashBoard.org

## Vocabulary Help

FreeRice.com

InsideStoryFlashCards.com

# Contact Us

PrepNorthwest™

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