Introduction to the SAT and ACT

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applerouth

Score Reports

The score report tells you about:

- The score you'd get if you took the test now
- Your overall strengths and weaknesses
- Your time-management
- Where to focus your study

Score

See your overall score for the test.

Composite Score

SAT Equ. Score: 1360

Total **29**

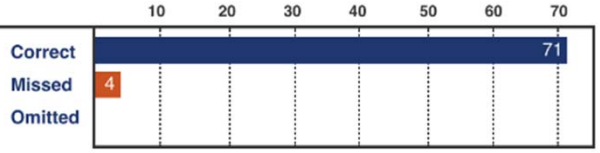
Section Scores

Compare scores for each section of the test.

Total # of Questions

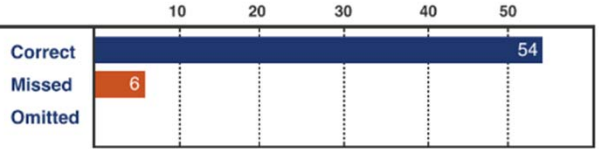
English 33 97th percentile

You lost the most points on **Grammar/Mechanics** questions.



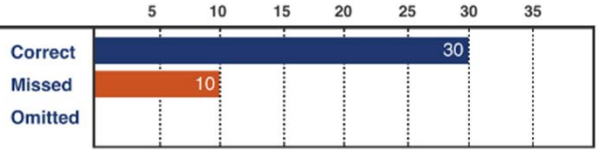
Math 31 96th percentile

You lost the most points on **Geometry** questions.



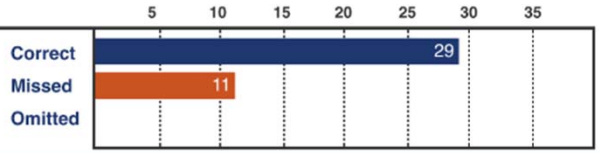
Reading 28 85th percentile

You lost the most points on **Specific Questions** questions.



Science 25 83rd percentile

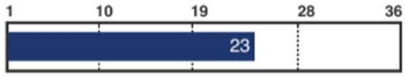
You lost the most points on **Inference** questions.



Score

See your overall score for the section.

English 23



Essay - Ideas and Analysis Score: **7**
Essay - Development and Support Score: **7**
Essay - Organization Score: **7**
Essay - Language Use Score: **7**

Writing Test Score: 7

Answers

See which problems you nailed, and which you missed.

Section 1

Question:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Student:	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	F	✓	G	✓
Key:	C	H	B	G	D	H	A	H	A	G	D	F	C	G	B	F	C	F	D	H	D	G	C	F	D

	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
	F	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	J	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	C	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	J	D	F	B	F	D	H	C	F	B	H	D	J	B	F	A	F	C	H	D	F	D	F	A	J

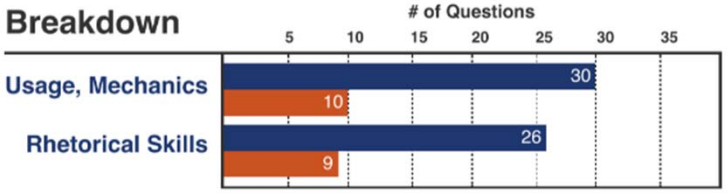
	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75
	✓	✓	D	✓	✓	J	✓	✓	A	F	✓	F	✓	J	✓	F	C	✓	B	J	A	✓	D	✓	B
	B	G	B	F	A	H	D	H	D	H	C	J	A	H	B	J	A	H	C	G	B	F	B	G	C

Usage, Mechanics Rhetorical Skills

Breakdown

See how you performed in each category.

Breakdown



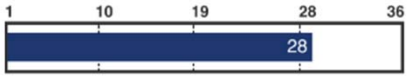
Looking For Patterns in English

- Grammar questions may be accurate more often than Expression of Ideas Questions: Didn’t read for context.
- Omits: time management.
- Look for one grammar rule that is weaker (e.g. Subject/Verb Agreement might be strong but Parallelism might be weak)

Score

See your overall score for the section.

Math 28



Answers

See which problems you nailed, and which you missed.

Section 2

Question:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Student:	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	E	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	G	✓	✓	✓
Key:	D	J	D	J	B	F	C	H	D	F	A	K	B	F	B	J	D	H	E	H	B	F	C	G	B

	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	H	✓	✓	✓	✓	B	✓	✓	J	✓	✓	✓	G
	G	B	H	C	H	D	J	C	H	E	G	D	F	E	J	B	F	A	F	A	K	B	H	E	H

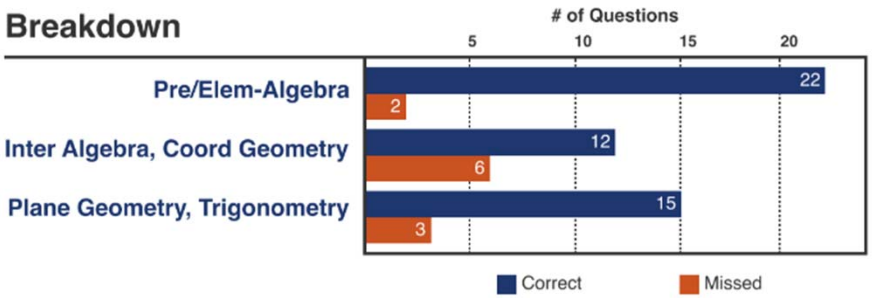
	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
	✓	✓	C	✓	✓	H	A	✓	✓	K
	E	K	A	K	D	K	E	K	D	G

Pre/Elem-Algebra Inter Algebra, Coord Geometry Plane Geometry, Trigonometry

Breakdown

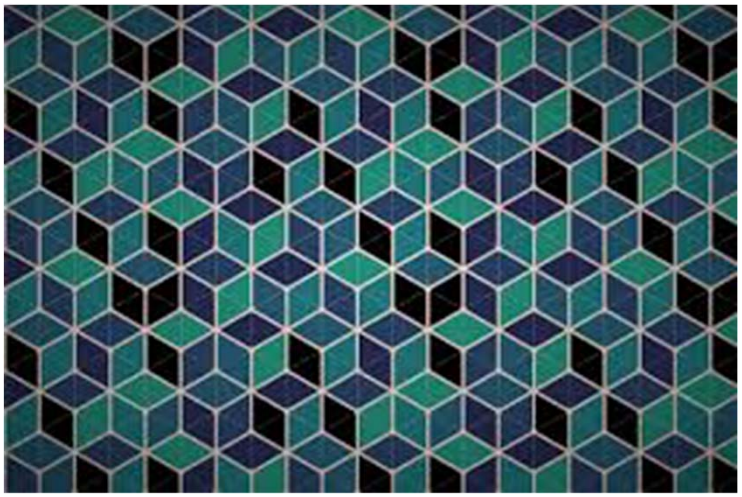
See how you performed in each category.

Breakdown



Looking For Patterns in Math

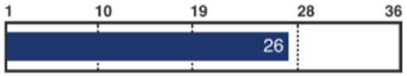
- Missing problems early on: Carelessness or not writing out work.
- Affinity for a certain subject over another (e.g. more Geometry problems right than Algebra problems).
- Forgetting to use a calculator.



Score

See your overall score for the section.

Reading 26



Answers

See which problems you nailed, and which you missed.

Section 3

Question:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Student:	✓	G	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	J	✓	✓	✓	H	✓
Key:	D	H	B	J	D	G	D	H	B	F	A	F	D	H	B	H	A	G	B	F	D	F	A	G	B

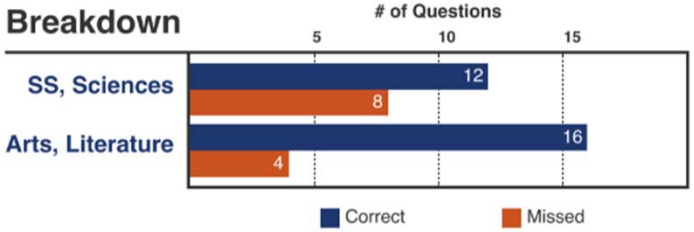
	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
	✓	✓	-	✓	G	B	✓	D	J	✓	✓	D	-	-	-
	J	C	H	A	F	D	J	C	G	C	H	A	J	D	G

SS, Sciences Arts, Literature

Breakdown

See how you performed in each category.

Breakdown

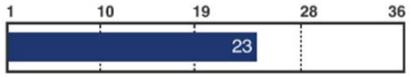


Looking For Patterns in Reading

- String of mistakes or omits later on: time management or fatigue.
- One passage is weaker: loss of interest in subject matter.

Score See your overall score for the section.

Science 23



Answers See which problems you nailed, and which you missed.

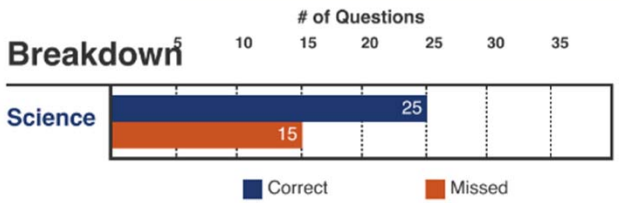
Section 4

Question:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Student:	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	G	C	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	F	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Key:	B	H	C	F	A	H	B	G	D	F	B	H	D	J	A	J	B	H	D	J	D	G	A	G	B

26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
✓	D	✓	B	H	B	G	A	H	D	✓	C	G	A	H
H	C	F	A	G	C	H	B	J	A	G	A	J	D	F

Science

Breakdown See how you performed in each category.



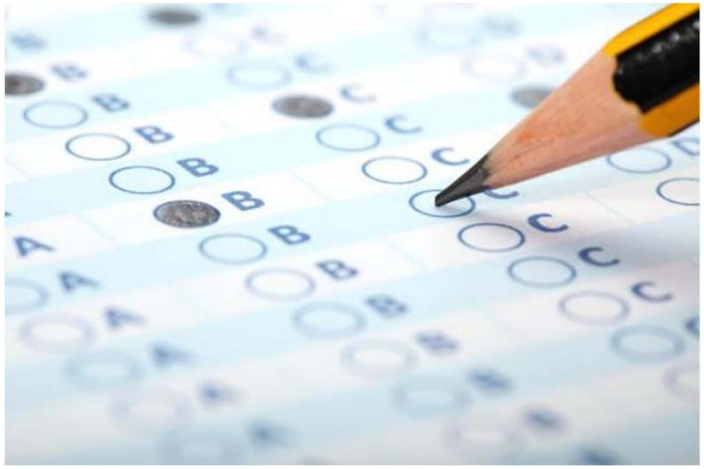
Looking For Patterns in Science

- Strong of Omits at the end: Time Management.
- Tried to read all the supporting information instead of just looking at the data.
- Did not anticipate the “Dueling Scientists” section

How Important are the Tests?

- Over the last decade, the tests have become a more significant part of the application process, affecting both admissions and merit-based scholarship decisions.

Why Testing Has Increased in Importance



- Standardized, which allows for easy comparison across geographic & demographic lines
- A hedge against grade inflation
- Efficient way to make big cuts
- Moderately useful predictor of success in college

NACAC Admissions Trends Survey 2013: Factors Influencing Admissions Decisions

Importance	Considerable	Moderate	Limited	None
Grades in college prep	81.5%	10.4%	7.4%	0.7%
Strength of curriculum	63.7%	24.8%	8.1%	3.3%
Admission test scores	58.3%	29.5%	10.0%	2.2%
Grades in all courses	51.5%	37.4%	8.9%	2.2%
Essay or writing sample	22.2%	37.8%	22.6%	17.4%
Demonstrated interest	20.1%	34%	23.9%	22%
Teacher recommendation	14.1%	43.9%	28.3%	13.8%
Counselor rec.	15.9%	43.9%	24.7%	15.5%
Class rank	15.2%	35.3%	33.5%	16%
Extracurricular activities	9.6%	40.6%	33.9%	15.9%
Interview	7.8%	21.2%	27.9%	43.1%
Subject test scores (AP, IB)	7.5%	30.6%	32.5%	29.5%
Portfolio	6.4%	9.4%	34.3%	49.8%
SAT II scores	6.0%	10.9%	23.7%	59.4%

Putting the SAT/ACT in Context

H.S. Grades in the Context of Schedule Strength and Academic Strength of School

SAT
ACT

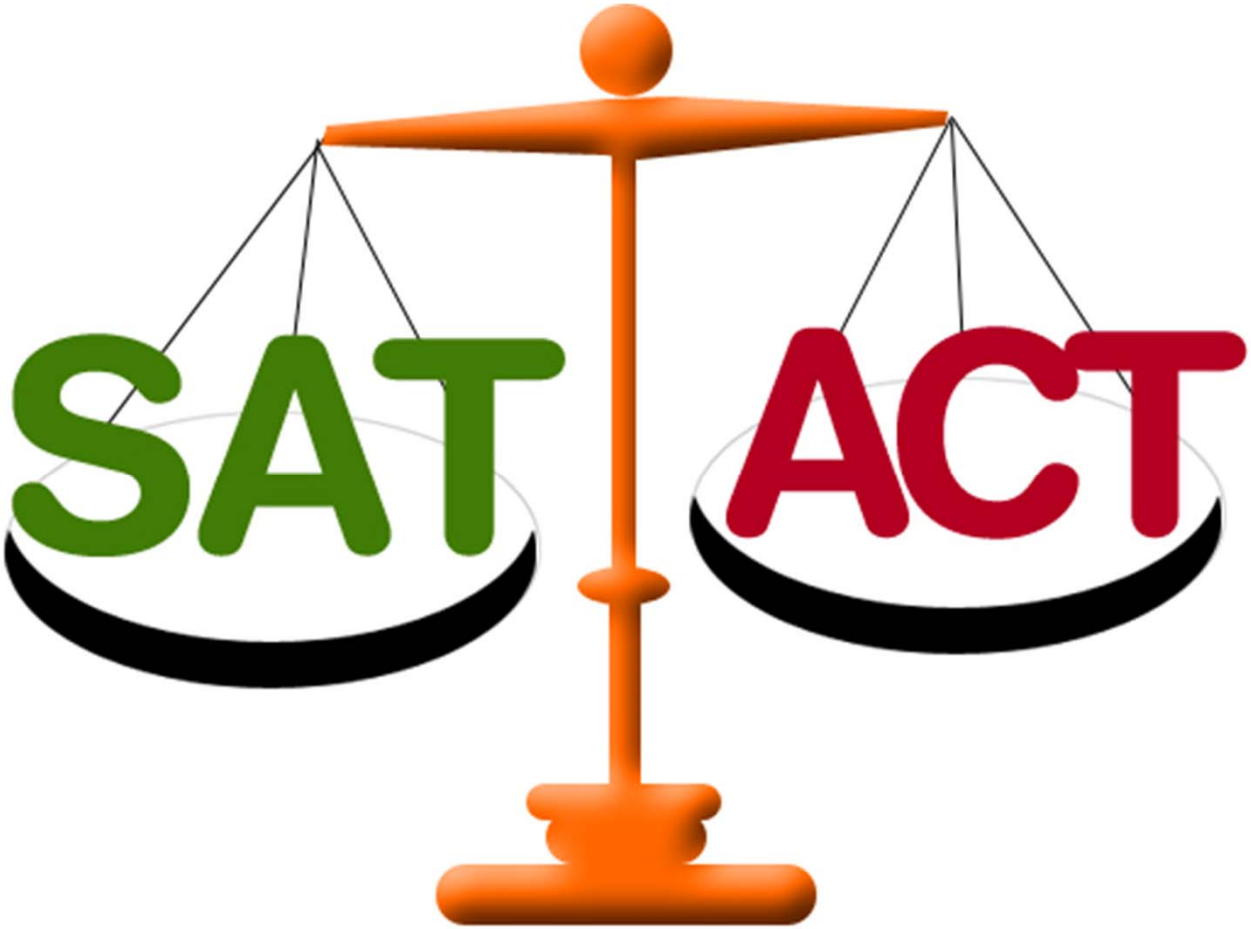
Teacher Recommendations

SAT Subject Tests

Admissions Essay

Activities (Leadership, Depth)

You walk through these doors one at a time. A super high SAT score cannot make up for a 1.5 GPA. A beautifully written essay will rarely trump an SAT score below a school's minimum range.


SAT
ACT

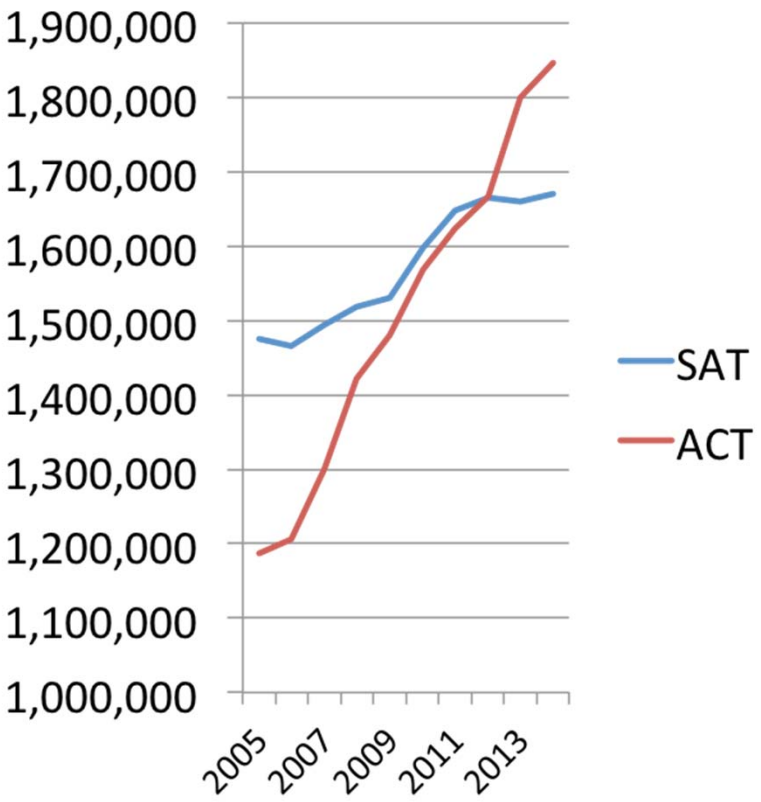
The SAT and ACT are universally accepted

Colleges will accept either test **without prejudice.**

"The **University of Washington** accepts the SAT and ACT equally. There is absolutely no advantage in submitting one test over the other. We recommend that students submit all test scores from SAT and ACT. **If an applicant submits scores from both tests, national concordance tables determine which scores are relatively higher**."

The ACT Has Rocked the SAT's World!

	SAT	ACT	Gap
2005	1,475,623	1,186,251	289,372
2006	1,465,744	1,206,455	259,289
2007	1,494,531	1,300,599	193,932
2008	1,518,859	1,421,941	96,918
2009	1,530,128	1,480,469	49,659
2010	1,597,329	1,568,835	28,494
2011	1,647,123	1,623,112	24,011
2012	1,664,479	1,666,209	**-1,730**
2013	1,660,047	1,799,243	**-139,196**
2014	1,670,000*	1,845,787	**-175,787**



Aligning with the Common Core has made the ACT the big winner!

Structurally the two tests appear nearly identical

	SAT	ACT
	Reading	Reading
	Writing	English
3:00	Math	2:55 Math
	No Calculator Math	Science
:50	Optional Essay	:40 Optional Essay
Testing Time	**3:50**	**3:35**

The ACT's stand-alone science section is one of the key differences

Deeper Comparison: Reading

SAT

- Long passages
- Literature, Social Science, Politics/History, Natural Science
- Interpret graphs for 2 science passages
- 2 questions per passage: use textual evidence to support your previous answer

ACT

- Long passages
- Literature, History/Social Studies, Humanities, Natural Science
- Hunt for specific detail: "Where did I read that?"

Deeper Comparison: Math

SAT

- Lots of Algebra I, Algebra II (advanced functions and graphs), Data Analysis
- A bit of Geometry and Trigonometry
- Tests math fluency
- Has no-calculator section
- Wordy real-world analysis problems

ACT

- Lots of Geometry, Algebra I, Algebra II, and Trigonometry
- One-topic questions
- More straightforward question types
- Less time per question

Comparing SAT and ACT math content*

Test	Algebra	Geometry	Arithmetic/ Data Analysis	Trigonometry
ACT	46%	23%	24%	7%
SAT	**62%**	**6%**	30%	2%

SAT has more algebra and much less geometry. Trigonometry is mostly an afterthought. Algebra dominates the SAT.

*Using SAT categories, slightly different from how the ACT categorizes math items

Deeper Comparison: English/Writing

SAT

- Grammar/Rhetoric in the context of a passage
- Similar to the ACT English section with harder passages
- Interpret charts for one or two passages
- More focus on rhetorical elements than ACT

ACT

- Grammar/Rhetoric in the context of a passage
- Similar to SAT Writing with easier passages
- More focus on grammar rules

Deeper Comparison: Science

SAT

- Charts, tables, and graphs in the Reading and Writing sections
- Science-related math questions (no science knowledge required for most)

ACT

- Primarily graph and table analysis
- Little science knowledge required
- All about speed
- Counts towards composite score

Deeper Comparison: Essay

SAT

- Analyze persuasive/rhetorical elements in a passage/speech
- Optional, not factored into 1600 score

DFW

- Evaluate three perspectives on a contemporary issue
- Optional, not factored into 36 composite score

Deeper Comparison: Timing

SAT

- Much more generous with time, but this allows for deeper-level questions

ACT

- More of a sprint than the SAT
- Rewards fast readers and quick thinkers

Deeper Comparison: Guessing

SAT

- No guess penalty! Answer every question.

ACT

- No guess penalty! Answer every question.

Deeper Comparison: Scoring

SAT

- Reading and Writing are combined for a score from 200-800.
- Math (no-calc and calc) gives a score of 200-800
- R/W + Math = 400-1600 total score

ACT

- Section scores range from 9-36
- Composite score ranges from 9-36
- Composite score is the average of the section scores

Schools are more likely to “superscore” the SAT!

WHAT ABOUT THE PSAT?

Does the PSAT Matter?

- Only if you are a **junior** on the cusp of the National Merit Scholarship.
- If not, look at the PSAT as practice.

SAT II Subject Tests

- A few schools also ask for 1 or 2 SAT subject tests.
- The ACT sometimes lets you skip subject tests.
- Subject tests share SAT test dates – plan ahead!

So when should I take these tests?

We recommend testing 2 or 3 times.

- More than that will likely see diminishing returns.
- You can do all three 3 tests during your Junior year.
- You can do 2 times your Junior year and once your Senior year!
- There no wrong way to do it as long as you watch Early Action and Early Decision Deadlines.

No Easy or Hard Test Dates!

Historic ACT Data 2007-2012						
	English	Math	Reading	Science	Total	Students
September	27.6	26.6	27.0	25.9	26.8	485
October	26.9	26.1	26.9	25.5	26.4	305
December	26.6	25.7	26.3	24.9	25.8	246
February	26.1	26.1	26.3	25.2	25.9	458
April	27.0	26.1	26.1	25.3	26.2	653
June	26.5	26.0	26.3	25.0	25.9	765
Averages	26.8	26.1	26.4	25.3	26.2	2912

Test Dates

ACT	SAT
December 9, 2017	December 2, 2017
February 10, 2018	March 10, 2018
April 14, 2018	May 5, 2018
June 9, 2018	June 2, 2018
July 14, 2018	August 25, 2018
September 8, 2018	October 6, 2018
October 27, 2018	November 3, 2018

SAT and ACT Summer Classes at Lakeside

- Registration opens Feb. 1 for Lakeside families.
- Two SAT courses and two ACT courses – one each in July and August.
- Details at: http://www.lakesideschool.org/summer/high-school-courses

LAKESIDE SCHOOL

An Independent School • Grades 5-12

PARENTS & GUARDIANS | ALUMNI | SUPPORT LAKESIDE

ABOUT US | ADMISSIONS & AID | ACADEMICS | ARTS | ATHLETICS | STUDENT EXPERIENCE | SUMMER

Summer Overview | High School Academic Courses | Investigative Learning Camp | Athletics Camps | Lakeside Educational Enrichment Program (LEEP) | Academic Bridges

High School Academic Courses

Feb. 1: Registration opens for Lakeside students and children of Lakeside alumni.

Mar. 1: Registration opens for students not attending Lakeside. (Registration link will be posted here at that time.)

2018 Courses

- + Science
- + Math
- + History/Social Science
- + English
- + Language
- + Arts
- + College Counseling

Courses are designed for students entering grades 9 – 12 and are open to students from any school.

Why spend the summer in class? Students value the ability to delve deeply into one content area without other demands on their schedule, and engage in immersive learning environments like the IslandWood environmental learning center. For-credit classes help

Momentum: Going in Strong

- Don’t spread this out evenly over the year; students can, and do, burn out on testing
- Go hard about 10 weeks before the actual test
- Take a mock test within a month of every real test
- Give students breaks and time away from prep

Allow Enough Time to Prep

- This is a process, not a one-shot deal
- Cram jobs almost never work
- Plan on taking the test 3 times
- It's smart to start **early**!

Questions?

Contact us at **206-456-6864** or at **info@applerouth.com**