



College Admissions Process

STRATEGIES TO TAKING THE SAT® & ACT® for high school juniors and seniors

THURSDAY

JULY 2020
30

7:00PM-8:30PM

Register at:
<https://capsatandact.eventbrite.com>

Resources
to help you
prepare

Components
of each
test

Which test
should I
take?

Testing
Tips &
Strategies

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®
Collaborating Chapters:

Gamma Delta Omega (Portsmouth, VA)

Lambda Omega (Newport News, VA)

Gamma Gamma Omega (Asheville, NC)

Lambda Omega Omega (Monmouth & Ocean Counties, NJ)

Psi Psi Omega (Stafford & Fauquier Counties, VA)





Welcome & Objectives



- ❖ Welcome parents and high school students.
- ❖ Thank you for joining the Test Taking Strategies for the Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT) and the American College Testing (ACT) Webinar.
- ❖ This webinar will be recorded for future use.

The webinar objectives are to:

- ❖ Equip scholars with tools to help navigate and demystify the SAT/ACT process..
- ❖ Share relevant SAT/ACT information due to COVID-19.
- ❖ Provide test taking strategies relevant to SAT/ACT.

Instructions

- ❖ All participant lines will be muted.
- ❖ Use the chat function to:
 - ❖ Ask questions and/or post comments.
 - ❖ Get assistance with technical issues..
- ❖ Have the **advance** materials sent, paper and a pen/pencil handy.
- ❖ Participants will be provided SAT and ACT practice test after the session.



Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®



- ❖ International Greek-letter non-profit service organization.
- ❖ Founded on January 15, 1908 on the campus of Howard University.
- ❖ Nearly 300,000 members world-wide.
- ❖ Program theme: *Exemplifying Excellence Through Sustainable Service.*
- ❖ Program Target 1: Historically Black Colleges & Universities (HBCU) for Life and College Admissions Program (#CAPSM)
- ❖ Promote HBCU attendance to high school students.
- ❖ Assist high school students through the college admissions process.

Upcoming #CAPSM Webinars



College Funding & Scholarship Strategies to Graduate Debt-free **(Juniors and Seniors)**

Date: Thursday, August 6, 2020

Time: 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm (ET)

Register at: <https://capcollegefunding.eventbrite.com>



Writing Essays and Getting Letters of Recommendation (Juniors and Seniors)

Date: Thursday, August 20, 2020

Time: 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm (ET)

Register at: <https://capessaysandrecommendations.eventbrite.com>



Applying to Colleges – Strategies for Seniors (Juniors Welcome)

Date: Thursday, August 27, 2020

Time: 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm (ET)

Register at: <https://capapplyingtocolleges.eventbrite.com>



General College Strategies and HBCU Facts (Juniors and Seniors)

Date: Thursday, September 24, 2020

Time: 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm (ET)

Register at: <https://capcollegeandhbcufacts.eventbrite.com>

Agenda

- ❖ Introduction of Facilitators
- ❖ General SAT/ACT Information
- ❖ **SAT – Tips & Strategies**
 - ❖ Reading
 - ❖ Writing & Language
 - ❖ Math – No Calculator
 - ❖ Math - Calculator
 - ❖ Essay (Optional)
- ❖ **ACT – Tips & Strategies**
 - ❖ English
 - ❖ Reading
 - ❖ Math
 - ❖ Science
 - ❖ Writing (Optional)
- ❖ Wrap-up (Future Webinars and Survey Evaluation)
- ❖ Question & Answer Session

General Information for this Webinar
Based on the “*I Wish Someone Had Told Me*” Series:



Dr. Christie Murray
Author, National Speaker
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®
Psi Psi Omega Chapter

SAT & ACT

General Information

SAT versus ACT



- ❖ Measures what students are learning in school and what they need to know to be successful in college.
- ❖ More colleges are making these test optional...
 - ❖ Essay, academics will be weighted heavier
 - ❖ May be needed for merit-based scholarships
- ❖ SAT redesigned – March 2016 (high school capstone exam)
- ❖ ACT has a Science Test, and one SAT Math Section no calculator.
- ❖ Send your SAT/ACT scores to your top 5 schools
- ❖ Eligible students can register with a fee waiver.
- ❖ Take Both Tests...Early

SAT/ACT Fees

2019-2020

Test	Cost	Test Q&A Score	Test Duration	Score Range	Average Test Score
SAT	\$52 (\$68 with Essay (optional))	\$18	3 hrs (+ 50 min for Essay (optional))	400 to 1600	1060
ACT	\$52 (\$68 with Writing (optional))	\$13	2 hrs 55 min (+ 40 min for Writing (optional))	1 -36	21

SAT and ACT

To Register Online...

Register for the **SAT** : <https://www.collegeboard.org/>

Register for the **ACT** : <http://www.actstudent.org/>



Computer with
Internet Service



Credit Card
Payment
Information



High School
Information
(Code and
Courses)



Clear Headshot
(Photo)



Colleges to
Send Scores
To

Takes about 20-30 minutes...

The
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Cracking the **SAT** 2020 Edition

**The strategies, practice, and review
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- **5** full-length practice tests (4 in the book & 1 online) with complete answer explanations
- Comprehensive review and techniques for every section of the exam
- Drills and practice questions to help maximize your score

By the Staff of The Princeton Review

SAT is a trademark registered by the College Board, which is not affiliated with, and does not endorse, this product.

SAT Strategies

- No penalty for guessing
 - Always guess even if it is random!
- Multiple Choice Questions
 - Eliminate which questions are wrong
 - POE (Process of Elimination)
 - Chip Away the incorrect answers
- LOTD (Letter of the Day) A-D
- Last Resort Effort
- Slow down and score more
 - You're not scored on how many questions you complete
 - You are scored on how many questions you get correct
- Embrace your POOD (Personal Order of Difficulty)

Reading Test

(52 questions – 65 minutes)

- **The 5 Step Basic Approach:**
- -Read the Blurb- short introduction (basic info) at beginning of passage gives idea what passage is about
- -Select and Understand the Question- do in order if possible as it sometimes helps with next question
- -Read only “What You Need”- use line references and lead words- helps guide you to many answer locations and develop a window of 5-6 lines above and below the line reference
- -Predict the correct answer- from the text. Find a phrase or sentence in the text that helps with your prediction
- -Use POE- eliminating puts you closer to the correct answer

Reading Examples

(Blurb) This passage is an excerpt from Zora Neale Hurston's 1937 book ***Their Eyes Were Watching God...***

This blurb gives you an idea that the passage relates to literature)

(Main idea) The central theme of the passage...

(Words in Context) As used in line 15, "common" most likely means...

(Author's Purpose) The author most likely mentions America in line 22

(Line reference) In line 12, pitting occurs mostly in what area?

(Graph info) According to the graph, what percentage of college grads win Sweden, go on to pursue master's degrees?

Writing and Language Test

(44 questions – 35 minutes)

- Step 1: Check what's changing in the answer choices.
- Step 2: Figure out what the question is testing and let the differences in the answer choices reveal potential errors.
- Step 3: Use POE.
- Step 4: If you can't eliminate three answer choices, pick the shortest answer that is most consistent with the rest of the sentence.

Writing and Language Exercises

1

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) babies' favorite bottles
- C) Baby's favorite bottle's
- D) Babies' favorite bottles'

What's changing in the answer choices?

What is this question testing?

2

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) did
- C) does
- D) have done

What's changing in the answer choices?

What is this question testing?

Writing and Language Exercises

3

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) Although
- C) While
- D) Because

What's changing in the answer choices?

What is this question testing?

4

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) was notable for their
- C) were notable for its
- D) were notable for their

What's changing in the answer choices?

What is this question testing?

5

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) beautiful, as in super pretty.
- C) beautiful, like easy on the eyes.
- D) beautiful.

What's changing in the answer choices?

What is this question testing?

Writing and Language Exercise

NEH: A Human-Centered Agency

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) is an independent federal agency that was created in 1965 to provide grants to humanities projects throughout the United States. Funding for the agency has been the **1** *protagonist* of debate for many years. Some critics **2** *think* the money that goes to the NEH would be better spent on infrastructure or job creation, while others object to the nature of some of the projects that receive funding.

1

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) Significance
- C) Discipline
- D) Subject

2

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) thought
- C) thinking
- D) would think

Math – Tests

- There are only six arithmetic operations tested on the SAT: addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, exponents, and square roots.
- These operations must be performed in the proper order (PEMDAS), beginning with operations inside parentheses.
- Apply the Distributive Law whenever possible. This is usually enough to find the answer.
- You must know how to add, subtract, multiply, and divide fractions. Calculator can be used in the permitted section.

Math Exercises

Math – No Calculator

20 questions – 25 minutes

Which of the following is equivalent to $10 + 2(x - 7)$?

- A) $-14x + 10$
- B) $2x + 24$
- C) $2x + 3$
- D) $2x - 4$

Math – Calculator

38 questions – 55 minutes

A certain homeowner uses a gas edger to clean up his lawn every time he mows. If the edger uses 160 milliliters of fuel each time, what is the maximum number of times the homeowner can edge his lawn with 8 liters of fuel? (1 liter = 1,000 milliliters)

- A) 5
- B) 50
- C) 100
- D) 1,000

Essay (Optional)

(50 minutes)

- SAT Essay is optional
- The essay is comprised of three separate tasks that will be scored individually: Reading, Analysis, and Writing.
- Read the passage and analyze how the author builds his or her argument.



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- 6 full-length practice tests (4 in the book & 2 online) with complete answer explanations
- Drills & questions to help you practice your way to perfection
- Up-to-date content review for every section of the ACT

By the Staff of The Princeton Review

ACT is a registered trademark of ACT, Inc. who has not affiliated with The Princeton Review.

The ACT Test

- Consists of four multiple choice timed tests, English, Math, Reading, Science, and an optional Writing
- English Test - 45 minutes – 75 questions
- Math Test - 60 minutes – 60 questions
- Reading Test - 35 minutes – 40 questions
- Science Test - 40 minutes – 40 questions
- Optional Writing Test – 40 minutes

ACT Strategies

- There is no penalty for wrong answers, so you should never leave any blanks on your answer sheet.
- Personal Order of Difficulty (POOD)
 - Now
 - Does a question look okay? Do you know how to do it? Do it Now.
 - Later
 - Will this question take a long time to work? Leave it and come back to it Later. Circle the question number for easy reference to return.
 - Never
 - Test taker, know thyself. Know the topics that are your worst and learn the signs that flash danger. Don't waste time on questions you should Never do. Instead, use more time to answer the Now and Later questions accurately.
 - Pacing
 - Let your POOD help determine your pacing. Go slowly enough to answer correctly all the Now questions but quickly enough to get the the number of Later questions you need to reach your goal score.
- Process of Elimination (POE)

What to Expect on the English Test

(75 questions – 45 minutes)

- There is no order of difficulty of the passages or their questions.
- The most important thing is to finish, finding all the now questions you can throughout the whole test.
- The 4 C's
 - Complete
 - Consistent
 - Clear
 - Concise

English Test Exercise

Nigerian author Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie,₁ is highly acclaimed for her novels, short stories, and essays.

STEP 1: Identify the topic
commas

STEP 2: Use POE

1. ~~A. NO CHANGE~~
- ~~B. author, Chimamanda
Ngozi Adichie~~
- C. author Chimamanda
Ngozi Adichie**
- ~~D. author, Chimamanda
Ngozi Adichie,~~

English Test Exercise

French bulldogs can face a serious₇ number of health issues affecting the respiratory system, knees, and eyesight.

7. The best placement for the underlined word would be:

- A. ~~where it is now.~~
- B. ~~before the word French~~
~~(revising the capitalization~~
~~accordingly).~~
- ☒ C. before the word *health*.
- D. ~~before the word respiratory.~~

STEP 1: Identify the topic
word placement

STEP 2: Use POE

* Read the word in the place that each answer choice suggests

English Test

Common Rules to Review:

- All punctuation
- Verbs
- Subject-Verb Agreement
- Pronouns
- Comparisons and Superlatives
- Frequently confused words (affect vs. effect)
- Order of sentences
- Order of paragraphs

Math Test

(60 questions – 60 minutes)

- TI-83 calculator authorized for use on ACT
- Spend more time to do fewer questions and you'll raise your accuracy.
- Take all 60 minutes and work *Now* questions, using your LOTD on *Never* questions.

What to Expect on the Math Test

(60 questions – 60 minutes)

Breakdown of the Math Test :

- Number & Quantity (4-6 questions)
- Algebra (7-9 questions)
- Functions (7-9 questions)
- Geometry (7-9 questions)
- Statistics and Probability (5-7 questions)
- Integrating Essential Skills (24-26 questions)
- Modeling (15 or more questions)

Math Test Exercise

Each member in a club had to choose an activity for a day of volunteer

work. $\frac{1}{3}$ of the members chose to

pick up trash. $\frac{1}{4}$ of the remaining

members chose to paint fences. $\frac{5}{6}$ of

the remaining members still without tasks chose to clean school buses.

The rest of the members chose to

plant trees. If the club has 36

members, how many of the members

chose to plant trees?

F 3

G. 6

H. 9

J. 12

K. 15

STEP 1: Know the question

STEP 2: Highlight key points

STEP 3: Work the Problem
and use POE

36 members

$\frac{1}{3}$ members pick up trash = 12

$36 - 12 = 24$ members

$\frac{1}{4}$ members paint fences = 6

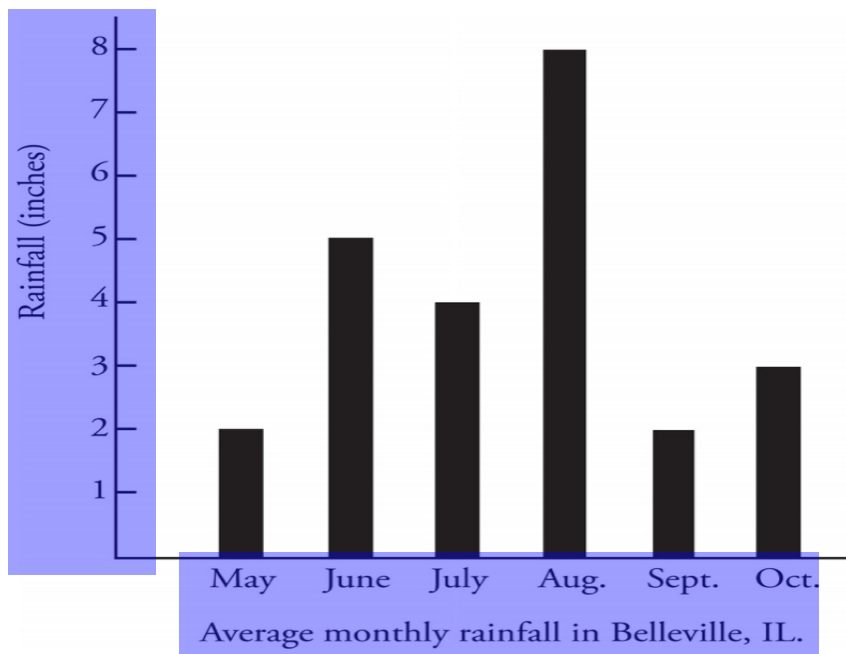
$24 - 6 = 18$ members

$\frac{5}{6}$ clean buses = 15

$18 - 15 = 3$ members

Math Test Exercise

Between which two months was the change in total rainfall the greatest?



- ~~A. May and June~~ 3
- ~~B. June and July~~ 1
- ~~C. July and August~~ 5
- D. August and September** 6
- ~~E. September and October~~ 1

STEP 1: Read the graph

STEP 2: Know the question

STEP 3: Highlight key points

STEP 4: Work the Problem and use POE

Reading Test

(40 questions – 35 minutes)

- Use your time wisely!
- Some students are slow but good readers. Doing fewer passages but get all the questions right for each passage you do. Use your LOTD for the passages you don't work, and you should pick up a few additional points.
- Find all the questions you can do on many passages, using your LOTD on all those Never questions, you could still hit your target score.
- It is imperative to practice and figure out what works best for you.

What to Expect on the Reading Test

(40 questions – 35 minutes)

Breakdown of the Reading Test :

- 4 passages and 40 questions
- 1st Passage - Prose Fiction (literary Narrative)
- 2nd Passage – Social Science
- 3rd Passage – Humanities
- 4th Passage – Natural Science
- Pick your order (POOD) to ensure you you answer as many questions as possible.

What to Expect on the Reading Test

(40 questions – 35 minutes)

The 6 Step Approach

1. Preview
2. Work the Passage
3. Select and Understand Questions
4. Read What You Need
5. Choose an Answer
6. Use POE

Science Test

(40 questions – 35 minutes)

- This is not a test of Science Facts
- Be aggressive.
- Spend time needed on the easiest passages first but keep moving.
- Identify *Never* questions on *Now* Passages and use your LOTD.
- Use your remaining time to find the *Now* questions on as many *Later* passages as you can get to.

Writing Test (optional)

(40 minutes)

- ACT Writing Test is optional
- Pace Yourself - writing test contains one question to be completed in 40 minutes
- Plan - carefully read and consider all prompt material. Be sure you understand the issue, its perspectives, and your essay task.
- Write – make your argument and main idea clear. Explain and illustrate your ideas with sound reasoning and meaningful examples.
- Review - Take a few minutes before time is called to read over your essay. Correct mistakes and make any corrections and revisions neatly.

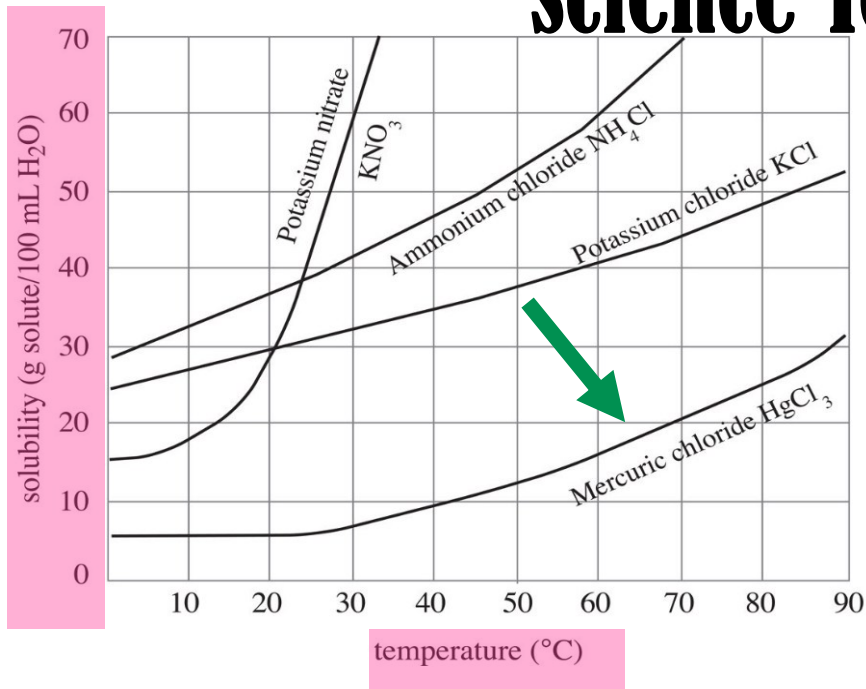
What to Expect on the Science Test

(40 questions – 35 minutes)

Breakdown of the Science Test :

- 6 passages and 40 questions
- Passages about science topics
- Be familiar with looking up data and trends
- Making predictions
- Synthesizing information (use what you know)
- Pick your order of difficulty (POOD) to ensure you answer as many questions as possible.

Science Test Exercise



STEP 1: Work the Figures

STEP 2: Work the questions

STEP 3: Work the Answers
and use POE

1. Based on the figure, as
temperature increases, the
solubility of HgCl₃:

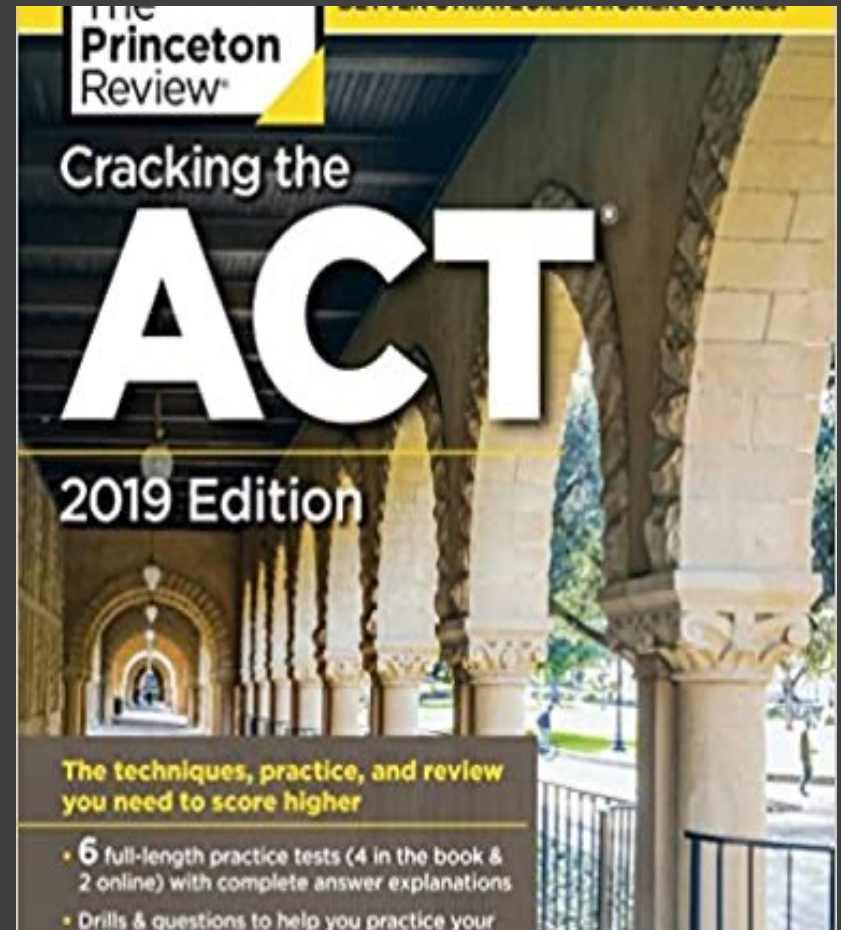
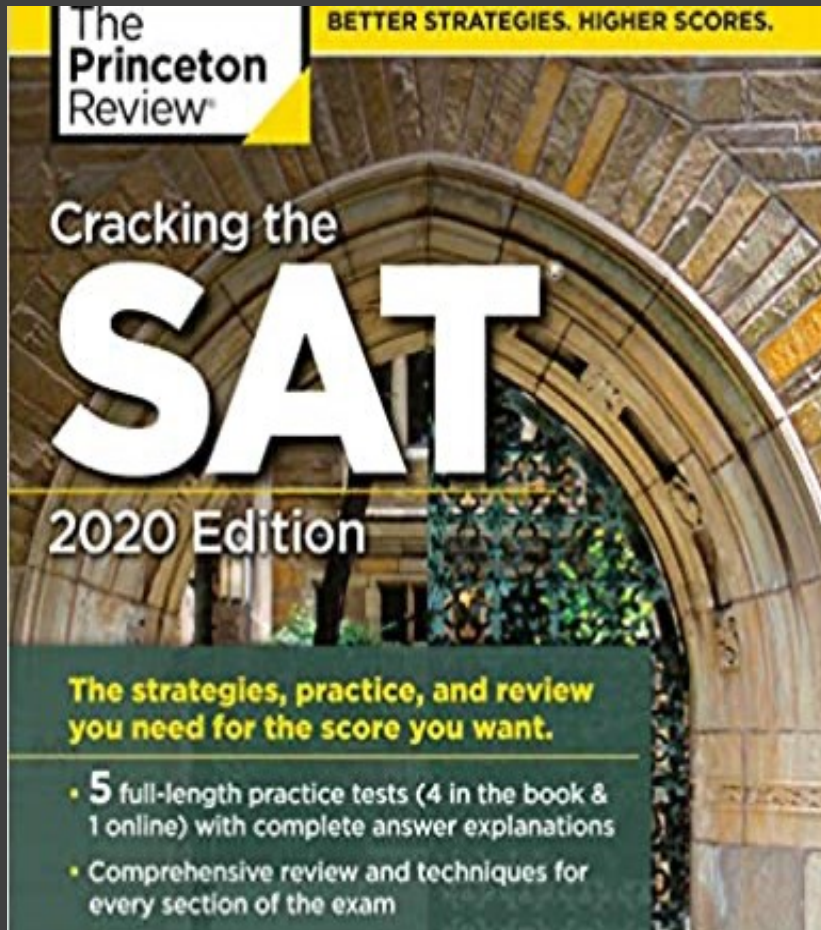
A. increases.

~~**B.** decreases.~~

~~**C.** increases, then decreases.~~

~~**D.** decreases, then increases.~~

v-SAT v-ACT or v-Both



Writing Test (optional)

(40 minutes)

- ACT Writing Test is optional
- Pace Yourself
- Plan
- Write
- Review

What to Expect on the Writing Test

(40 questions)

Focus of the Writing Test :

- Work the Prompt
- Work the Perspectives
- Gather your own Perspective
- Consider the text

Closing/Wrap up

Your Feedback Is Important to Us

Complete the

Link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/6Q76Y3R>

- ❖ Share your thoughts so we can make improvements.
- ❖ Click the link in the chat function.



Upcoming #CAPSM Webinars



College Funding & Scholarship Strategies to Graduate Debt-free **(Juniors and Seniors)**

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Questions & Answers



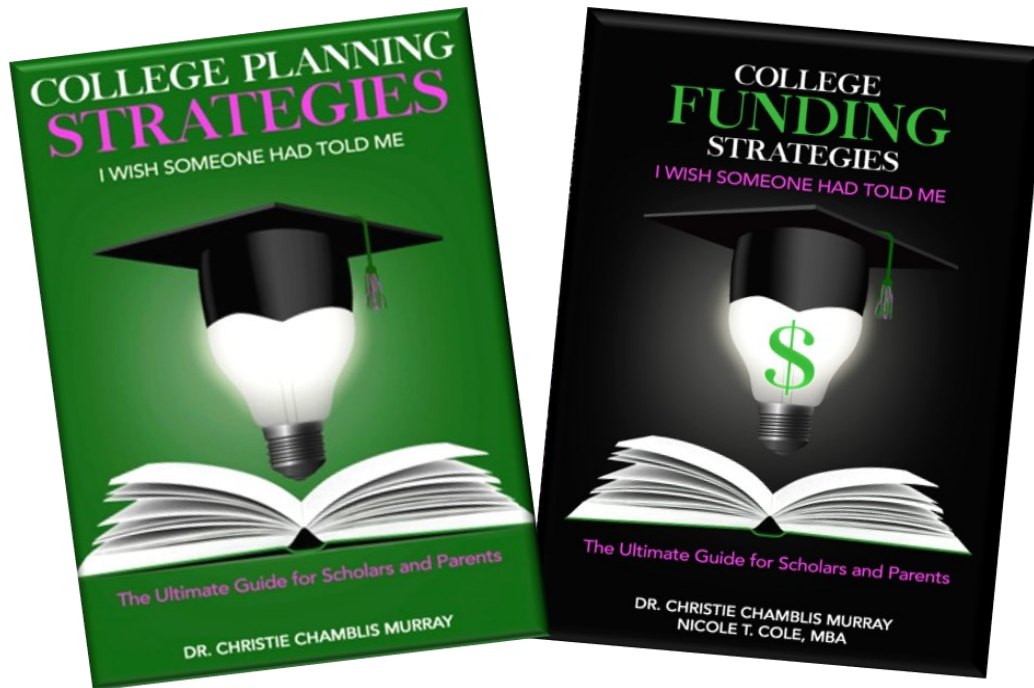
Useful Resources

- ❖ Invest N Others LLC: <https://www.investnothers.com>
- ❖ ACT: <http://www.act.org/>
- ❖ SAT: <https://www.collegeboard.org/>
- ❖ Best ACT/SAT Prep: <http://www.reviews.com/act-sat-test-prep-courses/>
- ❖ Cracking the SAT Premium Latest Edition, The Princeton Review
- ❖ Cracking the Act Premium Latest Edition, The Princeton Review
- ❖ Free ACT Prep – <https://academy.act.org>

Prep Resource	Type	Benefit	Cost
Kaplan	SAT/ACT	Most practice tests	\$299 and up
The Princeton Review	SAT/ACT	Best one-on-one interaction	\$299 and up
Khan Academy	SAT (only)	Best <i>free</i> SAT prep	Free
ACT Prep Online	ACT (only)	Most engaging ACT prep (fun)	\$40 and up

Reference Material

Books, Workbooks, and Templates



Available at:

Website: www.investNothers.com

Email: investnothers18@gmail.com