



# 2009/2010 ACT® at a Glance

The ACT® test contains four curriculum-based, multiple-choice tests that measure academic achievement in the areas of English, mathematics, reading, and science, as well as an optional Writing Test, for which students complete an essay. Learn more at [www.act.org](http://www.act.org).

## ACT English Test

75 items, 45 minutes

Content/Skills	Number of Items
<b>Usage/Mechanics</b>	<b>40</b>
Punctuation	10
Grammar and Usage	12
Sentence Structure	18
<b>Rhetorical Skills</b>	<b>35</b>
Strategy	12
Organization	11
Style	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>75</b>

## ACT Mathematics Test

60 items, 60 minutes

Content Area	Number of Items
Pre-Algebra	14
Elementary Algebra	10
Intermediate Algebra	9
Coordinate Geometry	9
Plane Geometry	14
Trigonometry	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>

## ACT Reading Test

40 items, 35 minutes

Content Area	Number of Items
Prose Fiction	10
Humanities	10
Social Studies	10
Natural Sciences	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>40</b>

## ACT Science Test

40 items, 35 minutes

Content Area	Format	Number of Items
Biology	Data Representation	15
Earth/Space Sciences		
Chemistry	Conflicting Viewpoints	7
Physics		
<b>Total</b>		<b>40</b>

## ACT Writing Test

The Writing Test is an optional 30-minute essay test that measures writing skills emphasized in high school English classes and in entry-level college composition courses. The test consists of one writing prompt that describes two points of view on an issue, and students are asked to write a response about their position on the issue.

## ACT Noncognitive Components

**High School Course/Grade Information**—To increase the usefulness of ACT results, the High School Course/Grade Information questionnaire asks students about the courses they have completed or plan to take in high school and the grades they have received.

**ACT Interest Inventory**—The 72-item ACT Interest Inventory is completed when students register for the ACT.

**Student Profile Section**—The Student Profile Section (SPS) collects responses about students' educational and vocational aspirations, plans, abilities, accomplishments, and needs.

