

Benefits of PSAT™ 8/9

CollegeBoard

PSAT™ 8/9

Take the first step on the road to college.

The PSAT™ 8/9 helps you:



Get started

The PSAT 8/9 tests what you learn in class and allows your school to see the areas where you are on track for success in college. You'll also be able to pinpoint the skills that need more attention and practice.



Get matched with AP® courses

If you're in ninth grade, your score report will let you know which of select AP courses may be a great match for you. AP gives you an opportunity to earn college credit while still in high school and can help you stand out when you apply to college.



Get better

After you take the PSAT 8/9, you can create a free SAT® study plan on Khan Academy® based on your test results.

Ask your counselor when your school is offering the PSAT 8/9. To learn more about the test, visit psat.org/8-9.

Practice

for a lot more than a test

GET READY FOR THE NEW SAT® WITH OFFICIAL SAT PRACTICE

- Official SAT® Practice – from the creators of the SAT and Khan Academy®
- World-class test practice that's free to all students
- All online so students can practice anytime, anywhere
- Personalized to show students where they excel and where they need more work



STUDENTS HAVE ACCESS TO:



FULL-LENGTH PRACTICE TESTS

Four official full-length practice tests, plus study and test-taking tips



DAILY PRACTICE APP

More practice available on your phone featuring questions of the day



VIDEO LESSONS

Easy-to-follow videos explain problems step by step



INTERACTIVE PROBLEMS AND INSTANT FEEDBACK

Get hints, explanations, and constant progress updates to know where you stand

Sign up
for free at
SATPRACTICE.ORG

STOP PREPPING AND START PRACTICING.

Every student in the world now has access to high-quality test practice for free, leveling the playing field like never before. Get the inside scoop on the SAT, and build your own personalized practice program today.

Prepare for the 2016-17 PSAT™ 8/9



- » What Is the PSAT 8/9?
- » Benefits of the PSAT 8/9
- » When is the PSAT 8/9?
- » Skills Tested on the PSAT 8/9
- » How to prepare for the PSAT 8/9?
- » Resources

A blue-tinted photograph of a classroom. In the foreground, a young woman with long dark hair is sitting at a desk, looking down and writing on a piece of paper with a pencil. She is wearing a light-colored long-sleeved shirt. In the background, other students are also sitting at desks, some looking down and others looking slightly away. The classroom has a bulletin board with colorful papers on the left wall and a framed picture on the right wall.

What Is the PSATTM 8/9?

Some Key Facts

- » The PSAT™ 8/9 is designed for **8th** and **9th grade students**
- » The PSAT 8/9 is a test that will help educators and students figure out **what students need to work on most** so that they are ready for college when they graduate from high school
- » Scores for the SAT® Suite of Assessments (SAT, PSAT/NMSQT®, PSAT™ 10, and PSAT™ 8/9) are reported on a common vertical scale, allowing educators and students to **measure progress**
- » 2 hours and 25 minutes*
- » **No penalty for guessing** or blank responses also known as “rights-only scoring”

*an additional variable section of 20 minutes may be included

Benefits of the PSAT™ 8/9:



The PSAT™ 8/9 establishes a baseline measurement of college and career readiness



The PSAT™ 8/9 tests the same skills and knowledge as the SAT®, PSAT/NMSQT®, and PSAT™ 10 — in a way that makes sense for each grade level



Personalized practice on Khan Academy gives students the opportunity to upload their test results to receive targeted learning plans that students can use to learn more about and practice the skills they need to improve



The score reports will give students comprehensive, personalized feedback on test performance, allowing students to see which questions were answered incorrectly and which academic skills should work to improve on



Majors and career exploration with College Board and Roadtrip Nation

2016-17 PSAT 8/9 Test Dates

The PSAT 8/9 is given in the fall and the spring

Fall Testing Window

Sept. 26, 2016 to Jan. 27, 2017

Spring Testing Window

Feb. 21 to April 14, 2017

A person is shown from the side, sitting at a desk and studying. They are holding a pen over an open notebook. Several books are stacked on the desk. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter. The text 'Skills Tested on the PSAT™ 8/9' is written in white, bold, sans-serif font across the middle of the image.

Skills Tested on the PSAT™ 8/9

 Reading Test

 Writing and Language Test

 Math Test

- » Each test assesses the academic skills that students developed over the years, primarily through course work.
- » These skills are considered essential for success in high school and college and career.

Reading Test

- » **42 passage based questions; 55 minutes**
- » **Total of 4 single passages and 1 pair of passages**

QUICK FACTS

- › All questions are multiple choice and based on passages.
- › Some passages are paired with other passages or informational graphics such as charts, graphs, and tables.
- › No mathematical computation is required.
- › Prior topic-specific knowledge is never tested.

Reading Test

What to expect?

- » The Reading Test always includes; One passage from a classic or contemporary work of U.S. or world literature.
- » One passage or a pair of passages from either a U.S. founding document or a text in the great global conversation they inspired. The U.S. Constitution or a speech by Nelson Mandela, for example.
- » A selection about economics, psychology, sociology, or some other social science.
- » Two science passages (or one passage and one passage pair) that examine foundational concepts and developments in Earth science, biology, chemistry, or physics.

Writing and Language Test

» **40 Passage-Based Questions; 30 minutes**

» **Total of 4 passages**

QUICK FACTS

- › All questions are multiple choice and based on passages.
- › Some passages are paired with informational graphics such as charts, graphs, and tables.
- › No mathematical computation is required.
- › Prior topic-specific knowledge is never tested.
- › The Writing and Language Test is part of the Evidence-Based Reading and Writing section

Writing and Language Test

What to expect?

The Writing and Language Test puts students in the active role of an editor who is improving a written passage. Most questions ask students to decide which, if any, of the three alternatives to an underlined part of a passage most improves it.

Math Test

- » **2 Test Sections**
- » **38 Questions** (31 multiple choice, 7 grid-ins, 2 sections, 60 minutes)

QUICK FACTS

- › Most math questions will be multiple choice, but some will be student-produced responses (grid-ins).
- › The Math Test is divided into two portions:
Math Test – Calculator and Math Test – No Calculator.
- › Some parts of the test will present a scenario and then ask several questions about it.

Math Test

What to expect?

The Math Test focuses on the math that matters most to college and career readiness. To succeed on the Math Test, students will need to demonstrate mathematical practices, such as problem solving and using appropriate tools strategically

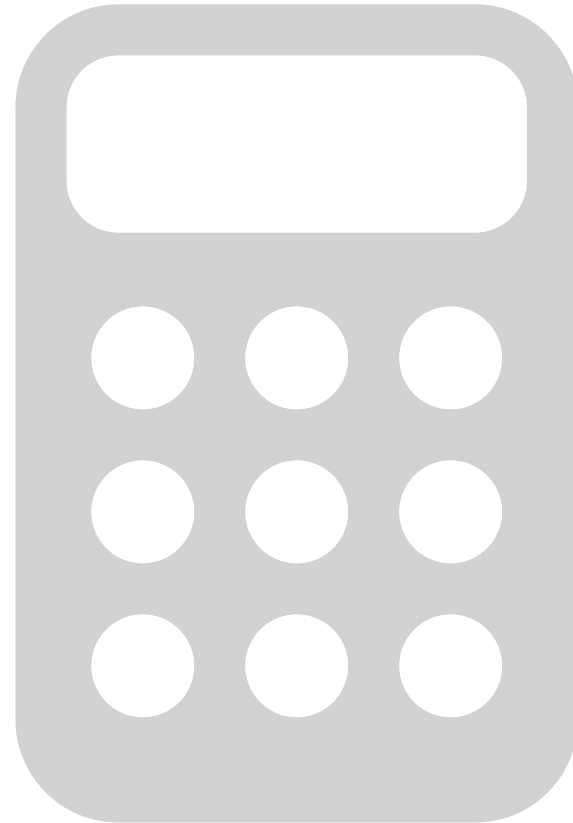


MATH SECTION

Math Test – Calculator

Students: Know Your Calculator

- » A scientific or graphing calculator is recommended.
- » Students should bring a familiar calculator. Test day is not the time to figure out how to use a new calculator.



Additional calculator tips for Students:

- » Don't try to use the calculator on every question – no question requires one.
- » Decide how to solve each problem; then decide whether to use a calculator.
- » Make sure your calculator is in good working order and that batteries are fresh.
- » Students will not be permitted to use laptops or other computers, tablets, cell phones, or smartphones, etc. Please reference the student guide for a complete list.

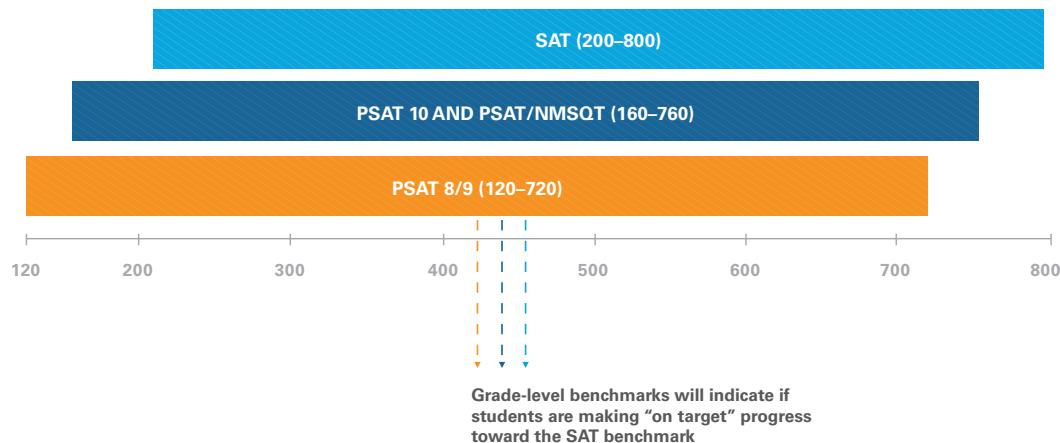
How does the PSAT™ 8/9 connect to the PSAT/NMSQT® and the SAT®?

Content and Domain Alignment:

All tests in the SAT Suite of Assessments (SAT®, PSAT/NMSQT®, PSAT™ 10, and PSAT™ 8/9) are aligned to the same research backbone and focus on the same domain of knowledge and skills.

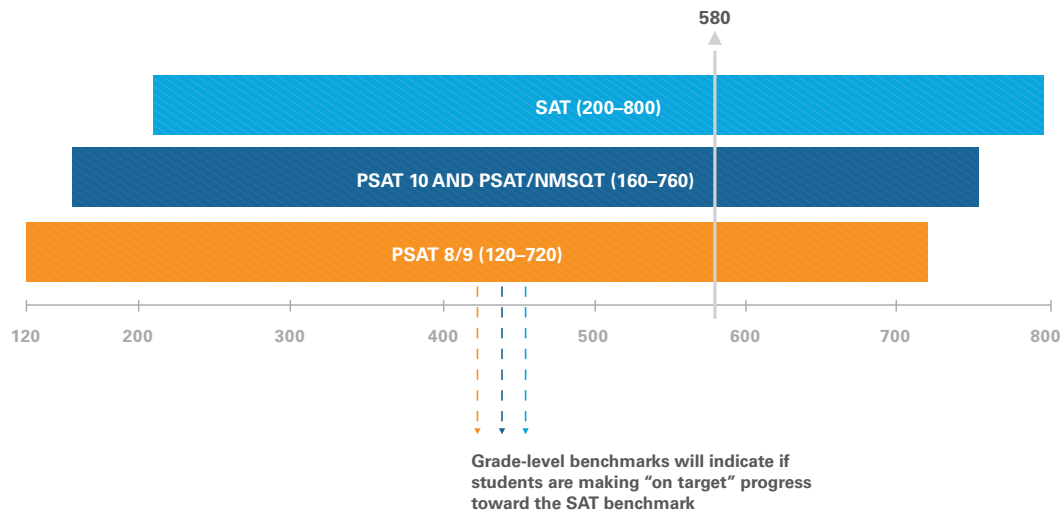
Scoring:

All tests in the SAT Suite of Assessments are on a common score scale that provides consistent feedback, enabling teachers to adjust instruction to better support students who are ahead or behind.



How does the PSAT™ 8/9 connect to the PSAT 10, PSAT/NMSQT® and the SAT®?

The score students get on the PSAT 8/9 is the same score they would have gotten on the PSAT™ 10, PSAT/NMSQT or SAT if it was taken on the same day.



Take control of your learning by working on the skills you choose at your own pace with free online courses.

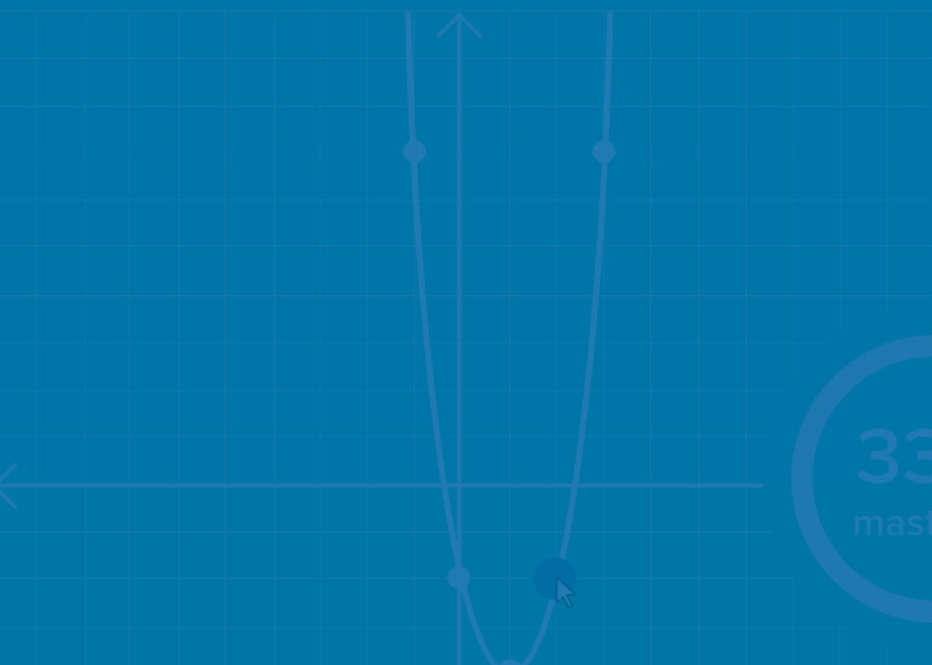


Algebra

UP NEXT: Parabolas

☒ Practice

How to Prepare for the PSAT™ 8/9



Sharpen your skills with over 100,000 interactive exercises.

Know How the PSAT 8/9[™] Is Scored

Rights-Only Scoring

- » 1 point for each correct answer
- » 0 points deducted for each incorrect or blank question

Math Grid-ins

- » Enter answers as (reduced) fractions or decimals
- » If rounding a decimal, make sure to use every box

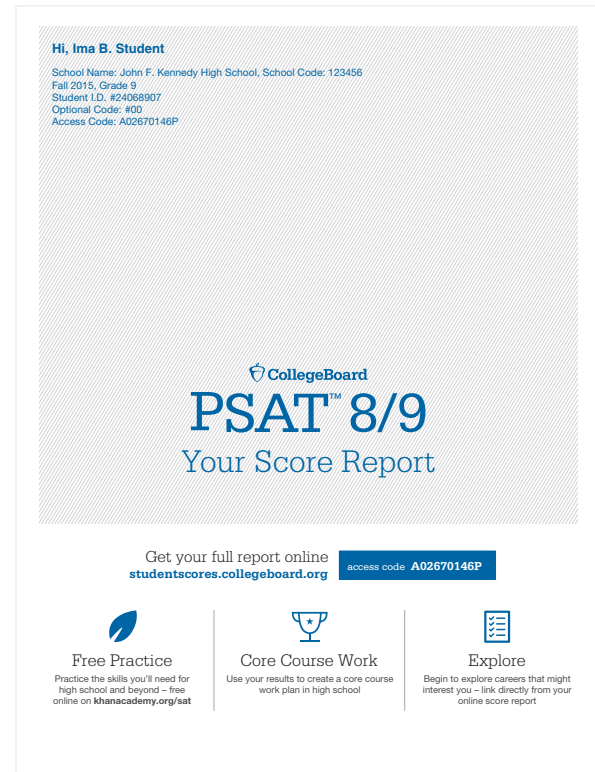
Scale

- » 120 – 720 for each test section
- » 240 – 1440 for the total score

Personalized Skills Information

The PSAT™ 8/9 Score Report

- » Contains information **to help students improve their academic skills.**
- » **Lists skills** that students have the best chance of improving with additional work.
- » Connects students to **personalized practice** recommendations on **Khan Academy.**



Preparation Starts in School

Read

- » Continuous reading improves vocabulary and develops essential skills.

Take Challenging Courses

- » This will help students to develop and strengthen their critical thinking skills.

Take the 2016-17 PSAT™ 8/9

How to Sign Up: _____

Test Day/Date: _____

Time: _____

Location: _____

Make sure you bring:

- » Two No. 2 pencils
- » Calculator (optional)

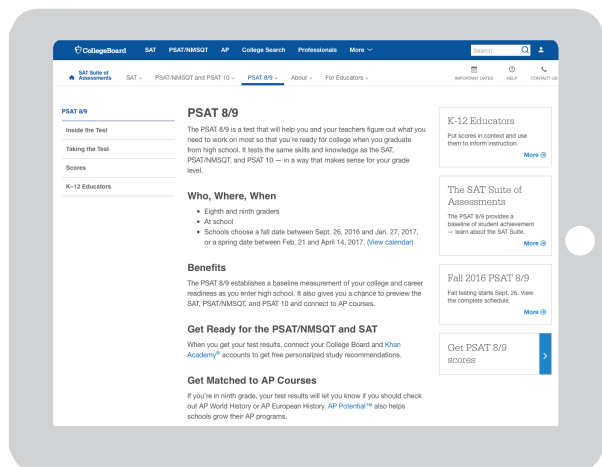
A blue-tinted photograph of students in a classroom. In the foreground, a young man on the left is looking at a tablet computer, and a young woman on the right is smiling and looking at the same tablet. They are sitting at a desk. In the background, other students are visible, some sitting at desks and others standing. The word "Resources" is overlaid in white text on the left side of the image.

Resources



For personalized resources aligned to the SAT® Suite of Assessments (including PSAT™ 8/9, PSAT™ 10 and PSAT/NMSQT®), please visit:

khanacademy.org/sat



For general information about the PSAT 8/9, please visit:

psat.org/8-9

A young woman with dark hair and glasses is smiling while sitting at a desk. She is wearing a denim jacket and has her arms crossed over an open book. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter.

Good Luck!