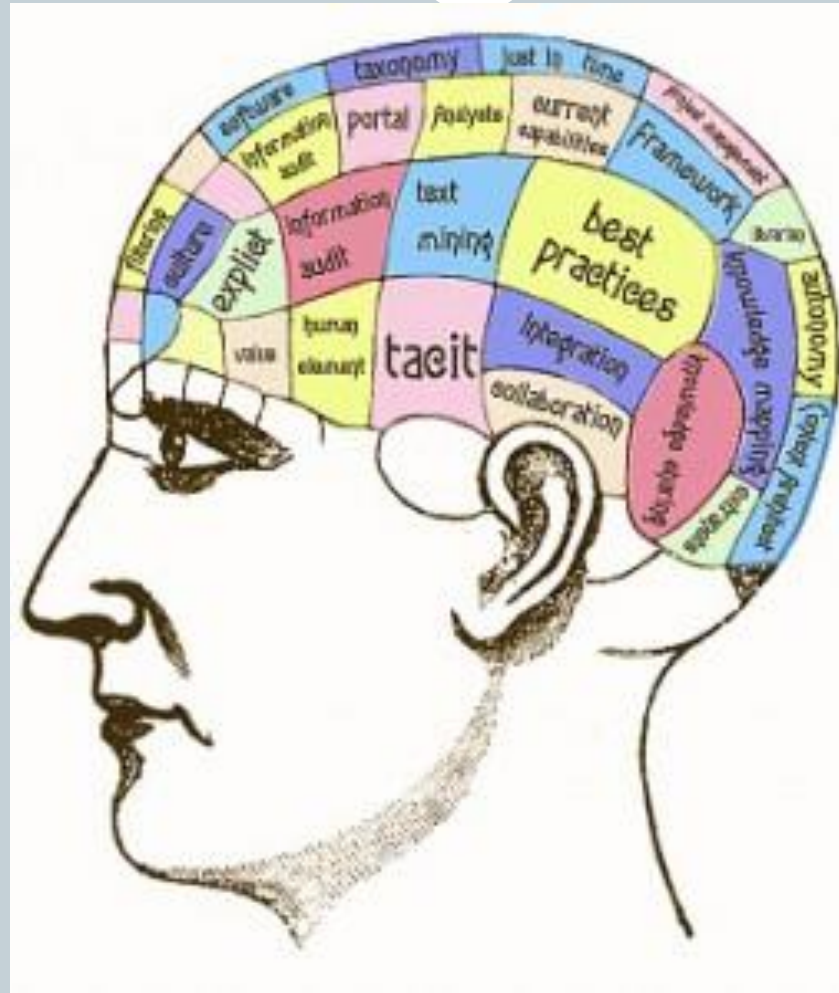




Richard J. Dalton Jr.

FOUNDER, YOUR SCORE BOOSTER®
CREATOR OF THE POINTSBOOSTER METHOD

What's the Best Way to Reduce Anxiety?



2 Admissions Exams: The SAT and ACT



The SAT logo, featuring the letters "SAT" in a large, bold, black serif font. A small registered trademark symbol (®) is located to the upper right of the letter "T". The logo is set against a white rectangular background.

- Strong name recognition
- Perceived as more prestigious

The ACT logo, featuring the letters "ACT" in a large, bold, black serif font. A small registered trademark symbol (®) is located to the upper right of the letter "T". A red swoosh underline is positioned beneath the letter "A". The logo is set against a white rectangular background.

- Taken by more students than the SAT
- Becoming more popular

How Admissions Officers View the Exams



SAT[®]

=

ACT[®]

ACT



- Creator: American College Testing Inc.
- Offered since 1959
- Four sections contribute to total score:
 - English (Grammar)
 - Reading
 - Math
 - Science
- Essay (optional)
 - Students write an essay on lined paper

SAT



- Creator: College Board
- Offered since 1926
- Four sections contribute to total score:
 - Writing (multiple-choice grammar questions)
 - Reading
 - Math (with calculator)
 - Math (no calculator)
- Essay (optional)
 - Students write an essay on lined paper

SAT Changed in March 2016

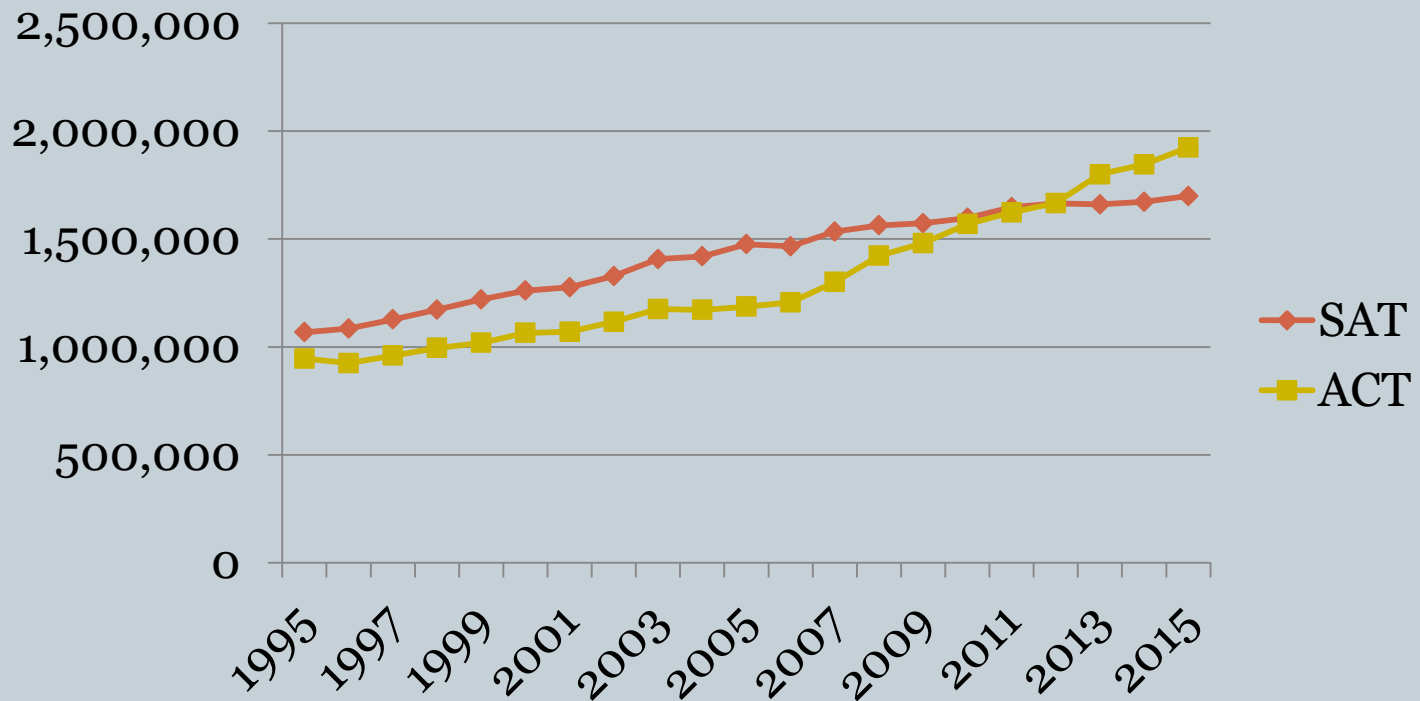


- **Current version of SAT**
 - Ended January 2016
- **New SAT**
 - Launched March 2016

ACT is More Popular



Number of Students Taking the Exams



SAT: Old vs. New



	Old SAT	New SAT
Multiple Choice options	5	4
1/4-point penalty for guessing	Yes	No

Scoring



	Old SAT	New SAT
Reading	800	No separate score
Math	800	800
Writing Multiple Choice & Essay scores combined	800	No separate score
Reading and Writing Combined	N/A	800
Total	2400	1600

Old SAT Essay Score



- Essay Score: Range of 2 to 12
- Combined with Multiple-Choice Writing Score
- Produces Overall Writing score of 200-800

Writing MC Raw Score	Essay Raw Score						
	12	11	10	9	8	7	6
49	800	800	800	800	790	770	750
48	800	800	800	780	760	730	720
47	800	800	770	760	730	710	690
46	790	780	750	740	710	690	670
45	770	760	740	720	690	670	660
44	760	750	720	710	680	660	640
43	740	730	710	690	670	650	630
42	730	720	700	680	660	630	620
41	720	710	690	670	640	620	610

Number of Essay Scores



	Old SAT	New SAT
Number of Essay Scores	1	3
Essay Score Affects Overall Writing Score	Yes	No

Old SAT Essay



Think carefully about the issue presented in the following excerpt and the assignment below.

Most people think that contentment — being happy with the way things are — is the perfect state of affairs. After all, what could be better than being so satisfied with how things are that you don't want anything else? But contentment has disadvantages: if we are content with the way things are, we are not motivated to change things, to improve ourselves, or to do better. We must therefore always choose between being content and pushing ourselves to do better.

Assignment: Does being content with the way things are prevent people from improving themselves and doing better? Plan and write an essay in which you develop your point of view on this issue. Support your position with reasoning and examples taken from your reading, studies, experience, or observations.

Old SAT – One Score, Top Score 12

Based on:

- Grammar
- Language
- Organization
- Variety in Sentence Structure
- Examples

New SAT Essay



Read a Passage and Analyze it

As you read the passage below, consider how Jimmy Carter uses

- evidence, such as facts or examples, to support claims.
- reasoning to develop ideas and to connect claims and evidence.
- stylistic or persuasive elements, such as word choice or appeals to emotion, to add power to the ideas expressed.

Adapted from former US President Jimmy Carter, Foreword to *Arctic National Wildlife Refuge: Seasons of Life and Land, A Photographic Journey* by Subhankar Banerjee. ©2003 by Subhankar Banerjee.

- 1 The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge stands alone as America's last truly great wilderness. This magnificent area is as vast as it is wild, from the windswept coastal plain where polar bears and caribou give birth, to the towering Brooks Range where Dall sheep cling to cliffs and wolves howl in the midnight sun.
- 2 More than a decade ago, [my wife] Rosalynn and I had the fortunate opportunity to

New SAT Essay



In 3 categories, essays get score of 1 to 4 by two grades = total of 2 to 8 on each section.

Three scores combined for total score of 6 to 24

- **Reading:** Shows student understood the passage's ideas and details and used that evidence
- **Analysis:** Shows student examined author's evidence, reasoning, and other stylistic and persuasive techniques
- **Writing:** Focused, organized, and precise essay, with varied sentence structure and correct grammar.

New SAT: Changes in Reading



- **Sentence completion eliminated**
- **No more difficult vocabulary words**

8. The picture book *Red Sings from Treetops* ----- the changing seasons, with whimsical illustrations that ----- the colors, sounds, and tastes associated with different times of the year.

- (A) perpetuates . . . praise
- (B) provokes . . . detail
- (C) celebrates . . . castigate
- (D) inaugurates . . . belie
- (E) evokes . . . epitomize

SAT Reading:

Interpret Charts and Graphs

- **Math and science questions integrated into reading**
- **Graphs and charts with passages**



Base Composition of DNA				
Organism	Percentage of base in organism's DNA			
	adenine (%)	guanine (%)	cytosine (%)	thymine (%)
Maize	26.8	22.8	23.2	27.2
Octopus	33.2	17.6	17.6	31.6
	28.0	22.0	21.6	28.4
	28.6	21.4	20.5	28.4
	29.3	20.7	20.0	30.0
per	29.3	20.5	20.7	29.3
n	32.8	17.7	17.3	32.1
	27.3	22.7	22.8	27.1
	31.3	18.7	17.1	32.9

28

Based on the table and passage, which choice gives the correct percentages of the purines in yeast DNA?

- A) 17.1% and 18.7%
- B) 17.1% and 32.9%
- C) 18.7% and 31.3%
- D) 31.3% and 32.9%

Old SAT Writing



Individual Questions

11. Some scientists believe that the number of stars in the universe have been seriously underestimated and may be as much as three times greater than previously thought.

- (A) have been
- (B) having been
- (C) has been
- (D) were
- (E) to be

New SAT Writing



Passage-based (Similar to ACT)

Greek yogurt business have found many methods of controlling and eliminating most environmental threats. Given these solutions as well as the many health benefits of the food, the advantages of Greek yogurt **1** outdo the potential drawbacks of its production.

[1] The main environmental problem caused by the production of Greek yogurt is the creation of acid whey as a by-product. [2] Because it requires up to four times more milk to make than conventional yogurt does, Greek yogurt produces larger amounts of acid whey, which is difficult to dispose of. [3] To address the problem of disposal, farmers have found a number of uses for acid whey. [4] They can add it to livestock feed as a protein

1

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) defeat
- C) outperform
- D) outweigh

2

Which choice provides the most relevant detail?

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) supplement and convert it into gas to use as fuel in electricity production.
- C) supplement, while sweet whey is more desirable as a food additive for humans.
- D) supplement, which provides an important element of their diet.

ACT Writing



Passage-based Questions

snowflake, similarly,² confounded scientists for years because it apparently defied the basic laws of chemistry.

[A] The seemingly triangular shape of those snowflakes suggests that forming³ through a different process of chemical bonding. [B] By re-creating snowflake formation,

a discovery has revealed to scientists Kenneth Libbrecht⁴
and Hannah Arnold the cause of this apparent variation.⁴

[2]

Snowflakes begin to form when water in the

2. F. NO CHANGE
G. for example,
H. additionally,
J. however,

3. A. NO CHANGE
B. the manner in which formation
C. which had formed
D. that they form

4. F. NO CHANGE
G. the discovery of the cause of this apparent variation has been made by scientists Kenneth Libbrecht and Hannah Arnold.
H. scientists Kenneth Libbrecht and Hannah Arnold have discovered the cause of this apparent variation.
J. the cause of this apparent variation has been discovered by scientists Kenneth Libbrecht and Hannah Arnold.

SAT Writing



- **Concepts Tested**

- **Grammar**

- **Editing**

- ✦ **Move sentences**

- ✦ **Delete word or sentence**

- ✦ **Insert sentence**

- ✦ **Sometimes based on information in a graph or chart**

NOTE: Math and science integrated into writing section

New SAT: Math



- **Two sections**

- **One allows calculator usage**

- ✦ Questions 1 – 30: multiple choice
- ✦ Questions 31 – 38: grid-in

- **One disallows calculator usage**

- ✦ Questions 1-15: multiple choice
- ✦ Questions 16-20: grid-in

Grid-in Questions

Answer: 2.5

	2	.	5
← Fraction line	/	/	
	.	●	.
	0	0	0
1	1	1	1
2	●	2	2
3	3	3	3
4	4	4	4
5	5	5	●
6	6	6	6
7	7	7	7
8	8	8	8
9	9	9	9

← Decimal point

What new SAT and ACT Have in Common



- Equally Accepted
- Material
 - Writing (Grammar)
 - Reading
 - Math
 - Essay (optional)
- 1 raw point per question
- All questions have the same weight
- No penalty for guessing

Differences Between new SAT and ACT



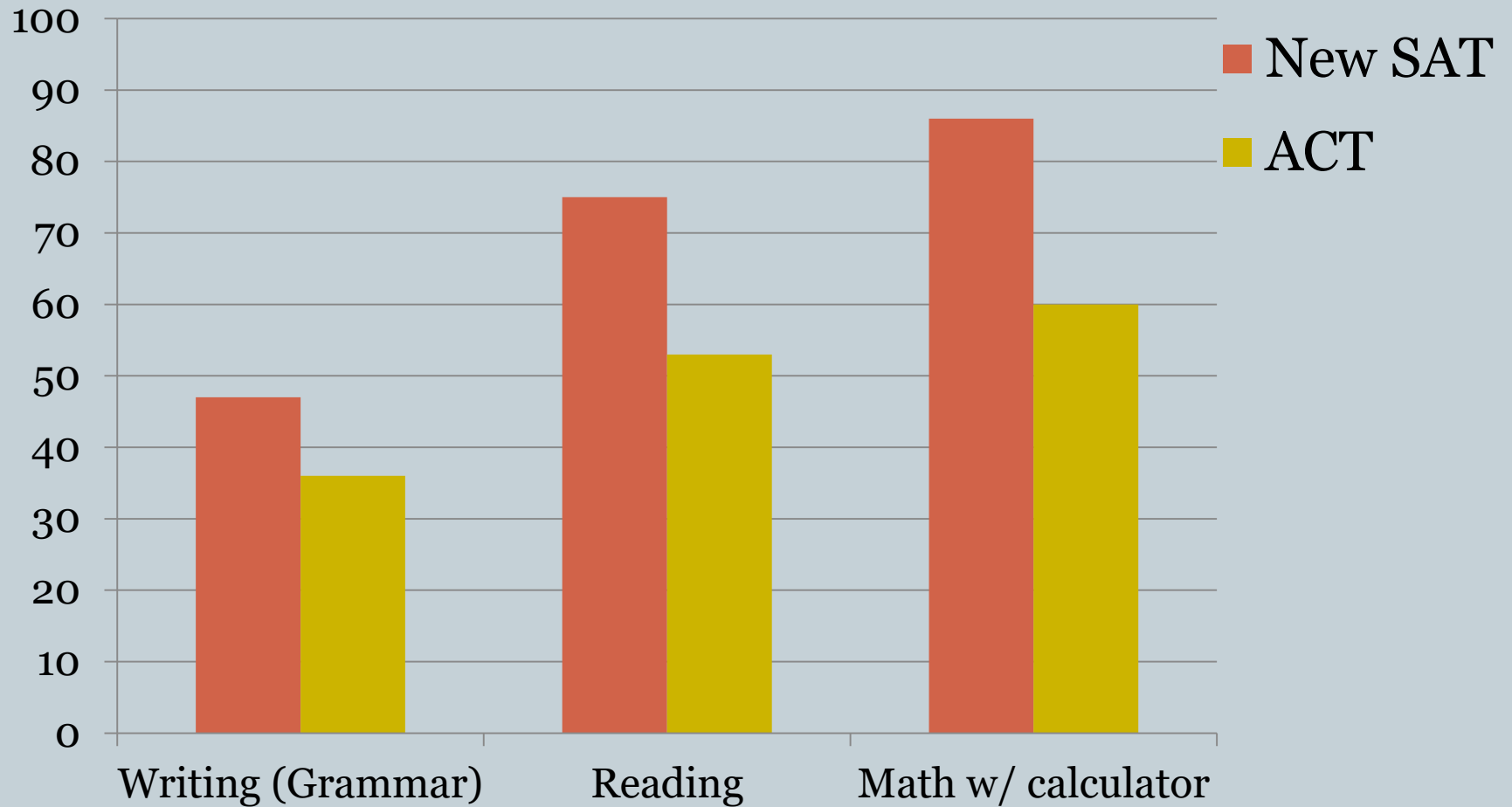
- Timing
- Material
 - Reading
 - ✦ Complexity of Passages
 - ✦ Types of Questions
 - Math
 - Science
- Scaled Scores

Timing



	New SAT			ACT		
	Questions	Time	Time Per Question	# Questions	Time	Time Per Question
Writing (Grammar)	44	35	47 sec.	75	45	36 sec.
Reading	52	65	75 sec.	40	35	53 sec.
Math w/ Calculator	38	55	86 sec.	60	60	60 sec.
Math no calculator	20	25	75 sec.	N/A	N/A	N/A
Science	N/A	N/A	N/A	40	35	53 sec.
Essay	1 prompt	50 min.	50 min.	1 prompt	40 min.	40 min.

Seconds Per Question



Reading Complexity



- **SAT**
 - **More complex**
 - But... more time per question
- **ACT**
 - **More straightforward**
 - But... less time per question

SAT Reading: Showing Evidence



13

The authors indicate that people value gift-giving because they feel it

- A) functions as a form of self-expression.
- B) is an inexpensive way to show appreciation.
- C) requires the gift-recipient to reciprocate.
- D) can serve to strengthen a relationship.

14

Which choice provides the best evidence for the answer to the previous question?

- A) Lines 10-13 (“Many . . . peers”)
- B) Lines 22-23 (“People . . . own”)
- C) Lines 31-32 (“Research . . . perspectives”)
- D) Lines 44-47 (“Although . . . unfounded”)

Math



	ACT	SAT
Calculator Allowed	All questions	On 1 of 2 sections
Multiple Choice	All questions	Most questions

New SAT: More Reading, even on Math Section



SAT Grid-in Math Question

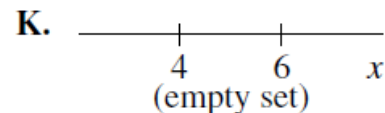
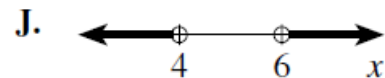
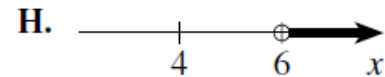
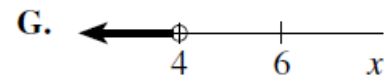
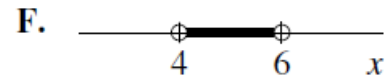
38

Jessica's friend Tyshaun found an account that earns 2.5 percent interest compounded annually. Tyshaun made an initial deposit of \$100 into this account at the same time Jessica made a deposit of \$100 into her account. After 10 years, how much more money will Tyshaun's initial deposit have earned than Jessica's initial deposit? (Round your answer to the nearest cent and ignore the dollar sign when gridding your response.)

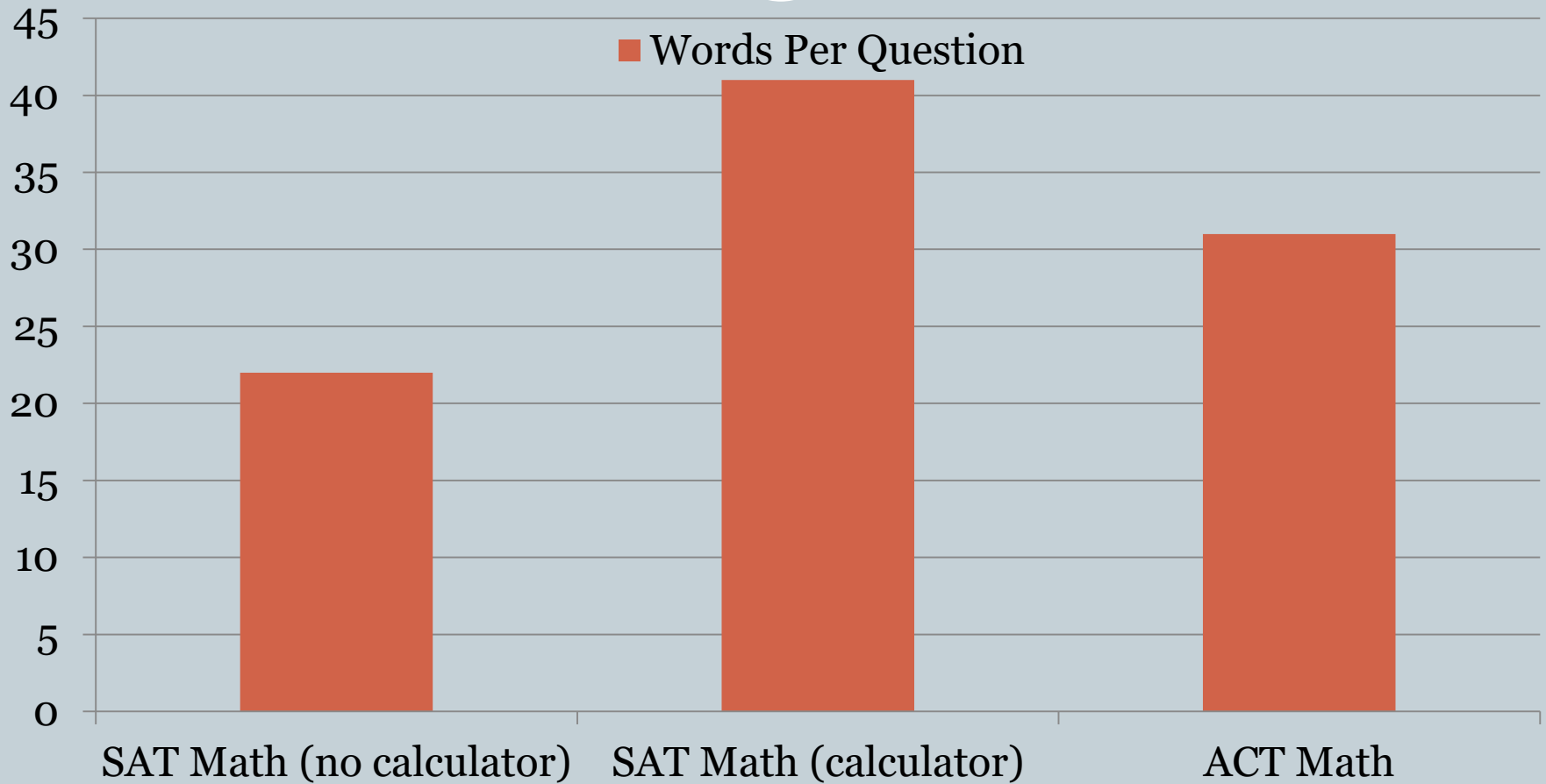


ACT Multiple Choice Question

58. Which of the following number line graphs shows the solution set to the inequality $|x - 5| < -1$?



Reading... on the Math section?



New SAT: Math



- More Algebra
- Less Geometry

Science Section



- **Science**
 - ACT: A separate section for science
 - ✦ Most information given in the passage
 - ✦ Less time
 - ✦ A separate score provided
 - SAT: Science integrated into all reading and writing
 - ✦ Questions simpler
 - ✦ Separate sub-scores provided

Essays



- Both essays changed dramatically
 - ACT revised essay in September
 - SAT revised entire test in March
- Using material written in advance won't be possible with the new formats
- However, we help students develop a design, or template, for the essays
- A template makes it easier to write the essay

New SAT and ACT Scoring



- The raw score is the sum of correct answers
- The raw score is converted to a scaled score

Scaled Scores

- ACT
 - Four sections: 1 to 36 points each section
 - Total score: Average of all four sections (1 to 36 points)
- SAT
 - Two sections: 200 to 800 points each section
 - Total Score = Sum of both scores (400 to 1600 points total)

SAT Scoring

RAW SCORE CONVERSION TABLE 1 SECTION AND TEST SCORES

Raw Score (# of correct answers)	Math Section Score	Reading Test Score	Writing and Language Test Score
0	200	10	10
1	200	10	10
2	210	10	10
3	230	11	10
4	240	12	11
5	260	13	12
6	280	14	13
7	290	15	13
8	310	15	14
9	320	16	15
10	330	17	16
11	340	17	16
12	360	18	17
13	370	19	18
14	380	19	19
15	390	20	19
16	410	20	20
17	420	21	21
18	430	21	21
19	440	22	22
20	450	22	23
21	460	23	23
22	470	23	24
23	480	24	25
24	480	24	25
25	490	25	26
26	500	25	26
27	510	26	27
28	520	26	28
29	520	27	28

Raw Score (# of correct answers)	Math Section Score	Reading Test Score	Writing and Language Test Score
30	530	28	29
31	540	28	30
32	550	29	30
33	560	29	31
34	560	30	32
35	570	30	32
36	580	31	33
37	590	31	34
38	600	32	34
39	600	32	35
40	610	33	36
41	620	33	37
42	630	34	38
43	640	35	39
44	650	35	40
45	660	36	
46	670	37	
47	670	37	
48	680	38	
49	690	38	
50	700	39	
51	710	40	
52	730	40	
53	740		
54	750		
55	760		
56	780		
57	790		
58	800		




ACT Scoring

Scale Score						Scale Score
	Test 1 English	Test 2 Mathematics	Test 3 Reading	Test 4 Science	Writing	
36	75	60	40	40	47-48	36
35	72-74	58-59	39	39	46	35
34	71	57	38	38	44-45	34
33	70	55-56	37	37	42-43	33
32	68-69	54	35-36	—	41	32
31	67	52-53	34	36	40	31
30	66	50-51	33	35	38-39	30
29	65	48-49	32	34	37	29
28	63-64	45-47	31	33	35-36	28
27	62	43-44	30	32	34	27
26	60-61	40-42	29	30-31	33	26
25	58-59	38-39	28	28-29	32	25
24	56-57	36-37	27	26-27	31	24
23	53-55	34-35	25-26	24-25	29-30	23
22	51-52	32-33	24	22-23	28	22
21	48-50	30-31	22-23	21	26-27	21
20	45-47	29	21	19-20	25	20
19	43-44	27-28	19-20	17-18	24	19
18	41-42	24-26	18	16	23	18
17	39-40	21-23	17	14-15	21-22	17
16	36-38	17-20	15-16	13	20	16
15	32-35	13-16	14	12	—	15
14	29-31	11-12	12-13	11	18-19	14
13	27-28	8-10	11	10	17	13
12	25-26	7	9-10	9	16	12
11	23-24	5-6	8	8	—	11
10	20-22	4	6-7	7	14-15	10
9	18-19	—	—	5-6	13	9
8	15-17	3	5	—	12	8
7	12-14	—	4	4	—	7
6	10-11	2	3	3	10-11	6
5	8-9	—	—	2	9	5
4	6-7	1	2	—	—	4
3	4-5	—	—	1	—	3
2	2-3	—	1	—	—	2
1	0-1	0	0	0	8	1





Mock Exams



- **ACT**

- Years of previously administered exams available 
- Few changes, so old exams are very useful 
- Timing of old exams still applies 

- **SAT**

- Only four official new SAT practice exams released 
- 1 previously administered real exams 
- Old exams useful for reading and math multiple choice 
- Timing of old exams no longer applies 

Which Test Should You Take?



- **Students Preparing This Year**
 - Should have an ACT / SAT diagnostic
 - Your Score Booster can help you decide which test would be better for you
 - Focus on that exam
- **We don't recommend taking both exams**
 - Too much time studying
 - Not enough time for school

When Should You Start Preparing



- Reading Comprehension: Now
- SAT / ACT Prep Course: 10th or 11th grade

This Year



I do think that during this transition you're going to see more students taking the ACT, which has already been on the rise.

-- Eric Furda, Dean of Admissions at University of Pennsylvania

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- Strategies
- Mnemonics
- Curricular material

The method is demonstrated to produce significant score increases.

All Your Score Booster tutors and instructors are trained in The PointsBooster Method™.

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- WebBooster™ video solutions related to tutoring lessons
- Up to 4 Practice Exams with analysis
- Up to 4 PointsBooster™ analysis of test results
- Up to 10 Just4You™ customized quizzes
- Personal Academic Concierge
- 30 hours of one-on-one tutoring