

Prepare for the 2017 PSAT™ 10



- » What Is the PSAT 10?
- » When Is the 2017 PSAT 10?
- » Skills Tested on the PSAT 10
- » How to Prepare for the PSAT 10
- » Sample PSAT 10 Questions
- » Resources



What Is the PSAT 10?

Some Key Facts

- » 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 to measure students progress
 - › Propels you toward **college** and **career readines**
 - › Used by scholarship programs, but not considered for the National Merit® Scholarship Program.
 - › The PSAT 10 contains the same content areas as the PSAT/NMSQT
 - › The PSAT/NMSQT and PSAT 10 test the same skills and knowledge as the SAT — in a way that makes sense for your grade level
- » **4+**
MILLION students took the PSAT/NMSQT in 2015 to get feedback on their skills and practice for the SAT

What to know about the PSAT 10?



2 hours 45 minutes



No penalty for guessing or blank responses
also known as “rights-only scoring”



Personalized SAT practice through Khan Academy[®]
with students own PSAT 10 scores



Scale ranges for the scores are 320 – 1520
for the total score

Benefits of the PSAT 10:



Personalized SAT practice on Khan Academy based on students' PSAT 10 answers



Aligned to the SAT



Increased access to additional scholarship providers



Online college and career planning tools



Admission and financial aid information from colleges

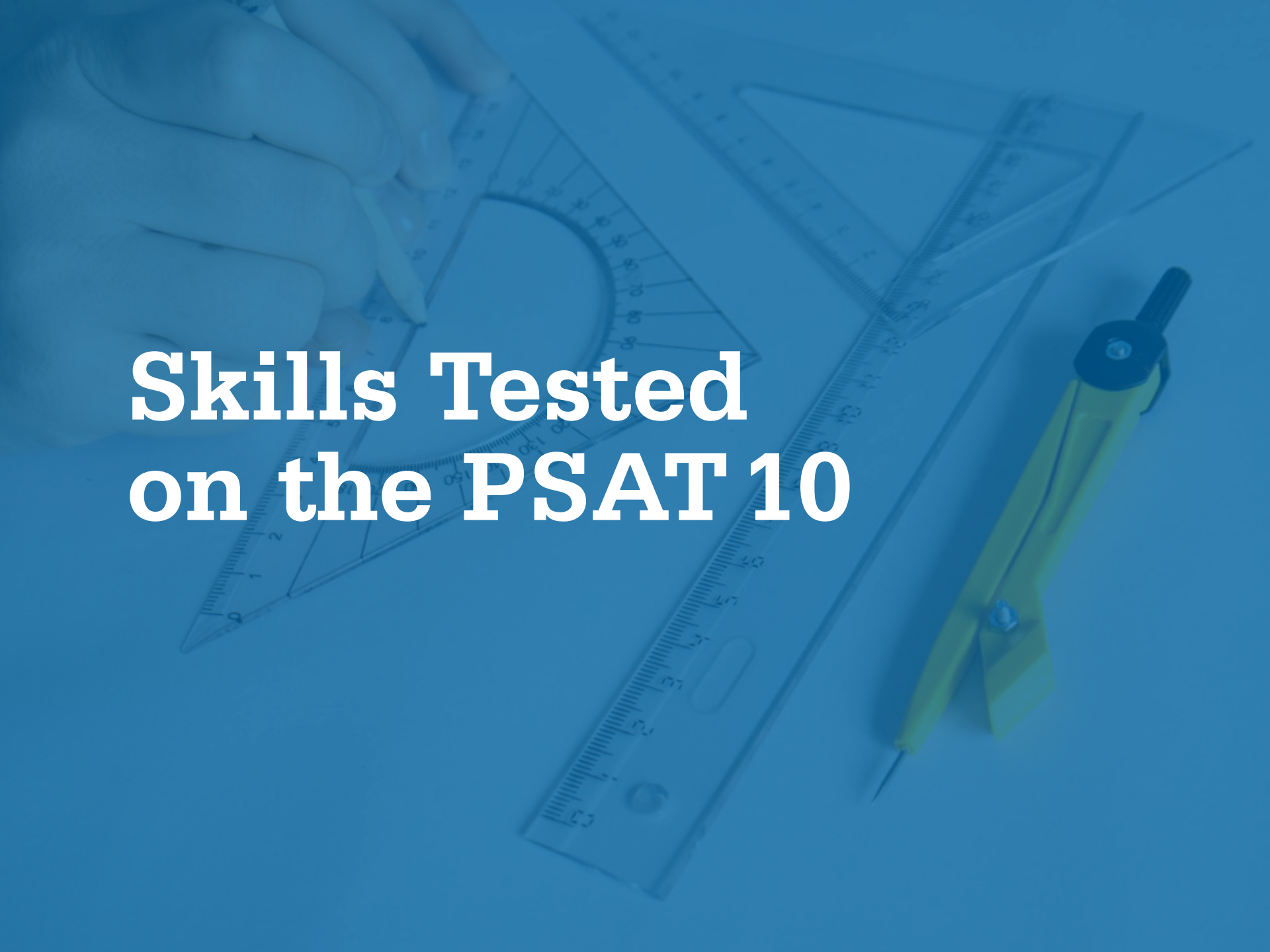


Majors and career exploration with College Board and Roadtrip Nation

PSAT 10 2017 Test Dates:

The PSAT 10 is given in the spring

Testing window: Feb. 21 to April 14, 2017



Skills Tested on the PSAT 10

 Reading Test

 Writing and Language Test

 Math Test

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

Reading Test

» **5 Passages**

» **47 Passage-Based Questions; 60 minutes**

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?

In the Reading Test, students will encounter questions like those asked in a lively, thoughtful, evidence-based discussion.

Writing and Language Test

» **4 Passages**

» **44 Passage-Based Questions; 35 minutes**

QUICK FACTS

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

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

- » 48 Questions (40 multiple choice, 8 grid-ins,
- » 2 sections, 70 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 you with 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.

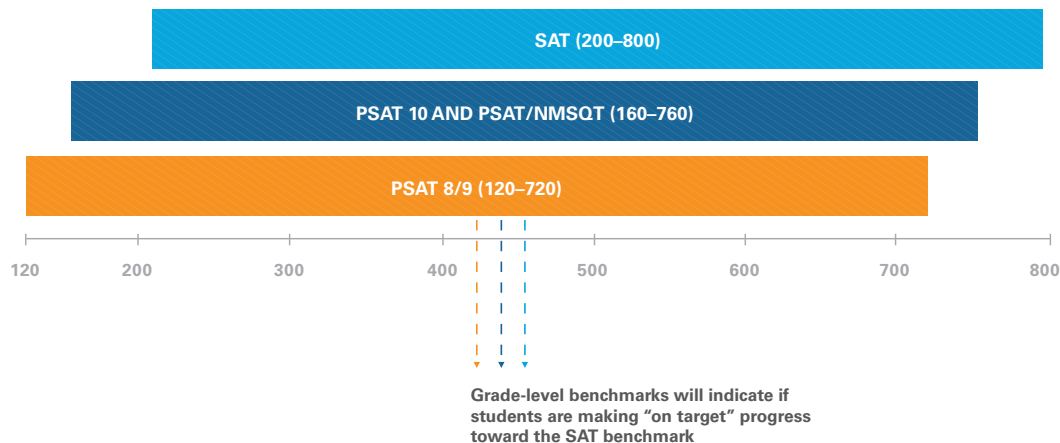
How Does the PSAT 10 Connect to the SAT?

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.

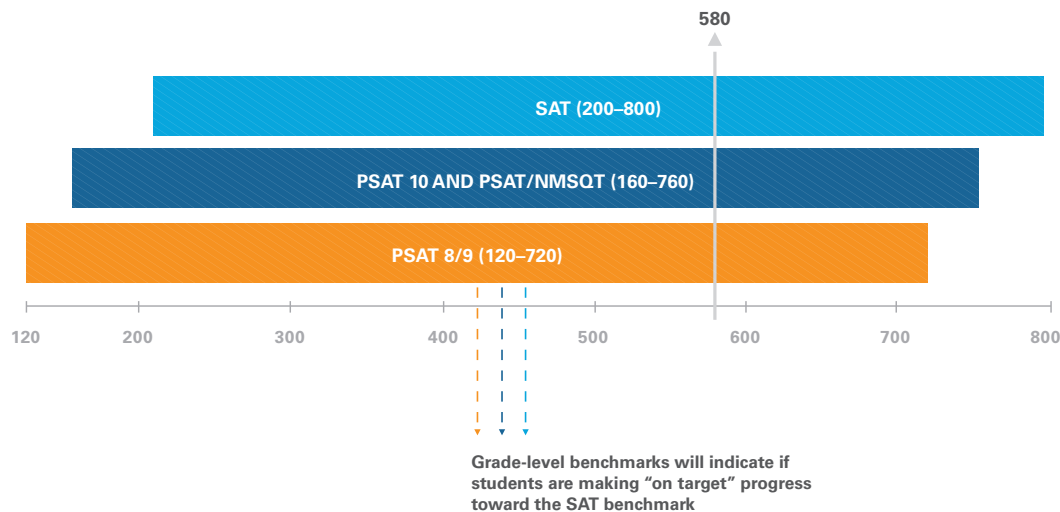
Scoring:

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/NMSQT and PSAT 10 Connect to the SAT?

That means the score students get on the PSAT/NMSQT or PSAT 10 is the same score they would have gotten on the SAT if it was taken on the same day.



How Does the PSAT 10 Compare to the SAT?

PSAT/NMSQT and PSAT 10

SAT

2 hours 45 minutes



Time

3 hours 50 minutes

X



Essay

Optional

160 – 760



Section Score Range

200 – 800

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

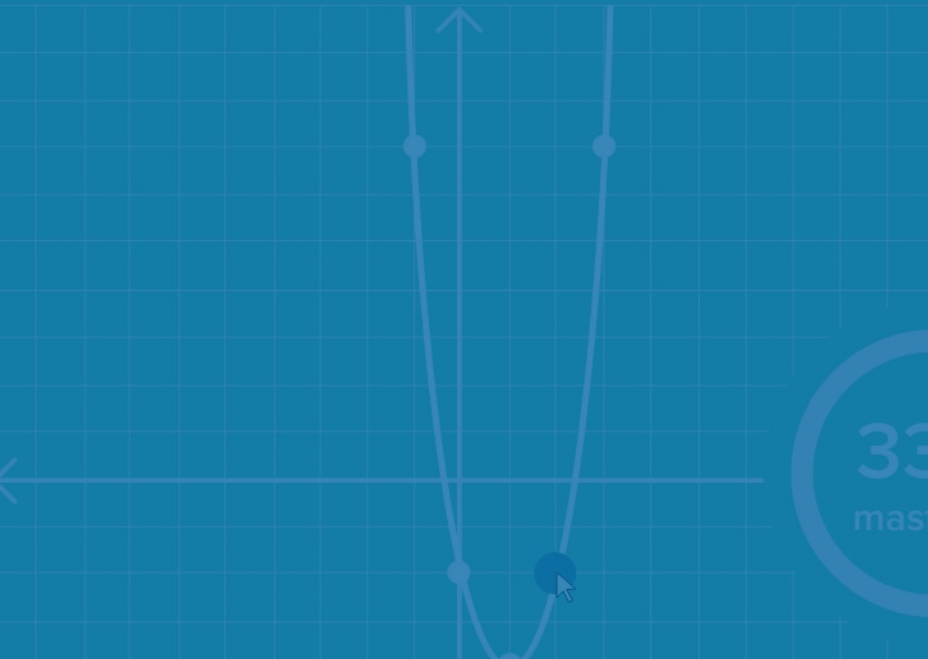


Algebra

UP NEXT: Parabolas

Practice

How to Prepare for the PSAT 10



Sharpen your skills with over 100,000 interactive exercises.

Know How the PSAT 10 Is Scored

Rights-Only Scoring:

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

Math Grid-ins

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

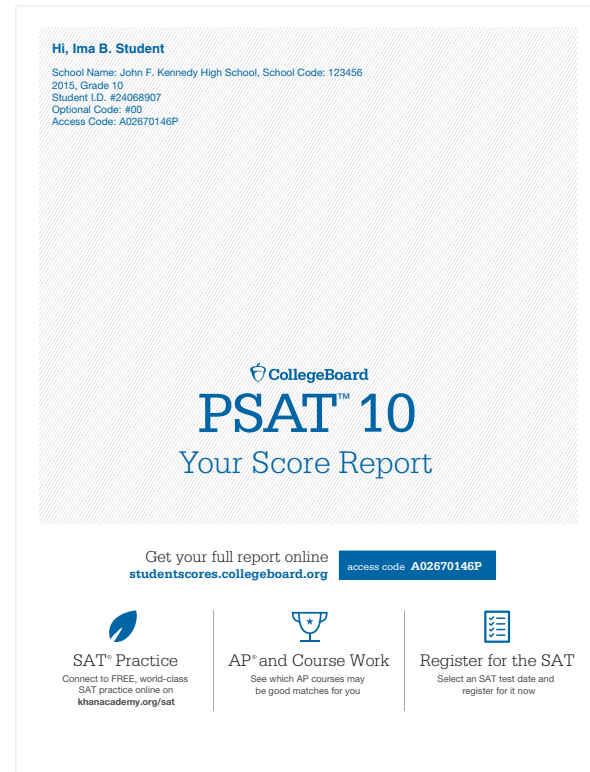
Scale

- » 160 – 760 for each test section
- » 320 – 1520 for the total score

Personalized Skills Information

The PSAT 10 Score Report

- » Contains information **to help students improve academic skills.**
- » **Lists skills** that students have the best chance of improving with additional work.
- » Connects 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.

A young person with dark hair, wearing a plaid shirt, is focused on writing in a notebook with a pencil. The scene is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter. In the background, another student is partially visible, also working. The overall mood is studious and concentrated.

Sample PSAT 10 Questions



READING TEST

Passage-Based Questions

Passage Excerpt:

[. . .]The coming decades will likely see more intense clustering of jobs, innovation, and productivity in a smaller number of bigger cities and city-regions. Some regions could end up bloated beyond the capacity of their infrastructure, while others struggle, their promise stymied by inadequate human or other resources.

Adapted from Richard Florida, The Great Reset.

© 2010 by Richard Florida.

As used in line 2, “intense” most nearly means

- (A) emotional.
- (B) concentrated.
- (C) brilliant.
- (D) determined.



READING TEST

Passage-Based Questions

Passage Excerpt:

[. . .]The coming decades will likely see more intense clustering of jobs, innovation, and productivity in a smaller number of bigger cities and city-regions. Some regions could end up bloated beyond the capacity of their infrastructure, while others struggle, their promise stymied by inadequate human or other resources.

Adapted from Richard Florida, The Great Reset.

© 2010 by Richard Florida.

As used in line 2, “intense” most nearly means

- (A) emotional.
- (B) concentrated.**
- (C) brilliant.
- (D) determined.



READING TEST

Passage-Based Questions

This question asks students to determine word meaning within a social science context. While students may frequently use the word “intense” to describe personalities or emotions, the context of this sentence requires students to recognize that “intense” can also mean “concentrated.” The best answer here is choice B because the context makes clear that the clustering of jobs, innovation, and productivity is expected to be denser, or more concentrated in a smaller number of bigger cities and city-regions, over the coming decades. In these ways, the question draws students back to the text rather than rewarding only isolated vocabulary knowledge.



WRITING AND LANGUAGE TEST

Passage-Based Questions

Passage Excerpt:

[. . .] As Kingman developed as a painter, his works were often compared to paintings by Chinese landscape artists dating back to CE 960, a time when a strong tradition of landscape painting emerged in Chinese art. Kingman, however, **5** vacated from that tradition in a number of ways, most notably in that he chose to focus not on natural landscapes, such as mountains and rivers, but on cities. [. . .]

5

- (A) NO CHANGE
- (B) evacuated
- (C) departed
- (D) retired



WRITING AND LANGUAGE TEST

Passage-Based Questions

Passage Excerpt:

[. . .] As Kingman developed as a painter, his works were often compared to paintings by Chinese landscape artists dating back to CE 960, a time when a strong tradition of landscape painting emerged in Chinese art. Kingman, however, **5** vacated from that tradition in a number of ways, most notably in that he chose to focus not on natural landscapes, such as mountains and rivers, but on cities. [. . .]

5

- (A) NO CHANGE
- (B) evacuated
- (C) departed**
- (D) retired



WRITING AND LANGUAGE TEST

Passage-Based Questions

This question asks students to determine which word makes the most sense in the context of a sentence. “**Departed**” is the most contextually appropriate way to indicate that Kingman had deviated from the tradition of Chinese landscape painting in a number of ways. In this sort of question, students must demonstrate not only facility with language in general but also skill in using language in particular contexts to convey meaning clearly and precisely.



MATH TEST

Calculator: Permitted

Aaron is staying at a hotel that charges \$99.95 per night plus tax for a room. A tax of 8% is applied to the room rate, and an additional one-time untaxed fee of \$5.00 is charged by the hotel. Which of the following represents Aaron's total charge, in dollars, for staying x nights?

(A) $(99.95 + 0.08x) + 5$

(B) $1.08(99.95x) + 5$

(C) $1.08(99.95x + 5)$

(D) $1.08(99.95 + 5)x$



MATH TEST

Calculator: Permitted

Aaron is staying at a hotel that charges \$99.95 per night plus tax for a room. A tax of 8% is applied to the room rate, and an additional one-time untaxed fee of \$5.00 is charged by the hotel. Which of the following represents Aaron's total charge, in dollars, for staying x nights?

(A) $(99.95 + 0.08x) + 5$

(B) $1.08(99.95x) + 5$

(C) $1.08(99.95x + 5)$

(D) $1.08(99.95 + 5)x$



MATH TEST

Calculator: Permitted

This problem asks students to interpret a situation and formulate a linear expression that represents the situation mathematically. The construction of mathematical models that represent real-world scenarios is a critical skill.

The total charge is the room rate, the 8% tax on the room rate, and a fixed fee. If Aaron stayed x nights, then the total charge is $99.95x + (0.08 \times 99.95x) + 5$, which can be rewritten as $1.08(99.95x) + 5$.



MATH TEST

Calculator: Not Permitted

In this equation, what is the value of k ?

$$\frac{5(k+2)-7}{6} = \frac{13-(4-k)}{9}$$

- (A) $\frac{9}{7}$
- (B) $\frac{9}{13}$
- (C) $\frac{33}{17}$
- (D) $\frac{33}{13}$



MATH TEST

Calculator: Not Permitted

In this equation, what is the value of k ?

$$\frac{5(k+2)-7}{6} = \frac{13-(4-k)}{9}$$

In this problem, students will demonstrate their fluency in solving equations in one variable.

Choice B is correct. Simplifying the numerators yields

$$\frac{5k+3}{6} = \frac{9+k}{9}$$

and cross-multiplication gives $45k + 27 = 54 + 6k$.

Solving for k yields $k = \frac{9}{13}$

(A) $\frac{9}{7}$

(B) $\frac{9}{13}$

(C) $\frac{33}{17}$

(D) $\frac{33}{13}$

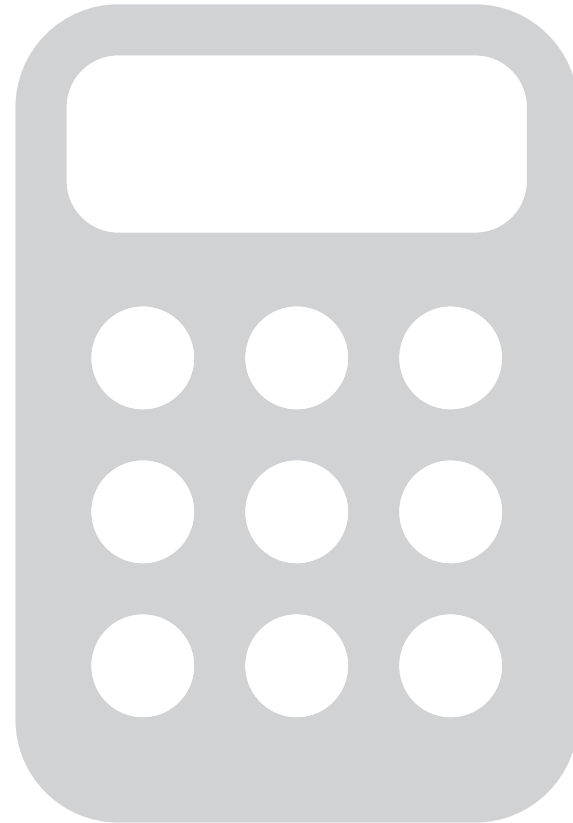


MATH SECTION

Math Test – Calculator

Students: Know Your Calculator

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



MATH SECTION

× Math Test – 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.
- » You will not be permitted to use laptops or other computers, tablets, cell phones, or smartphones, etc. Please reference the PSAT 10 Student Guide for a complete list.

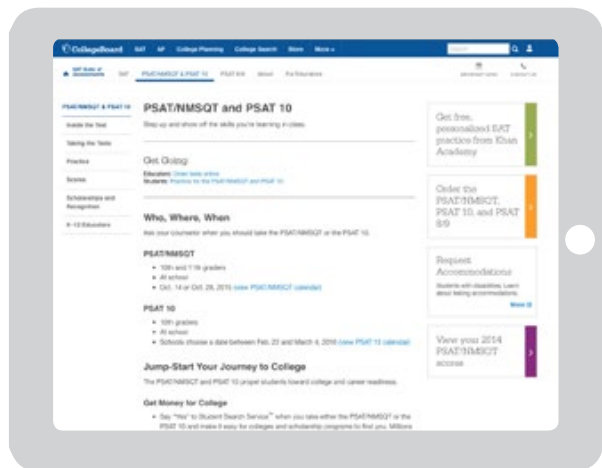
A photograph of two young women sitting at a desk in a classroom, smiling and looking at a smartphone together. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter. The woman on the left has long dark hair and is wearing a light blue top. The woman on the right has her hair pulled back and is wearing a red and white patterned top. They are both looking at a smartphone held by the woman on the left. The background shows a classroom with a computer monitor and other students.

Resources



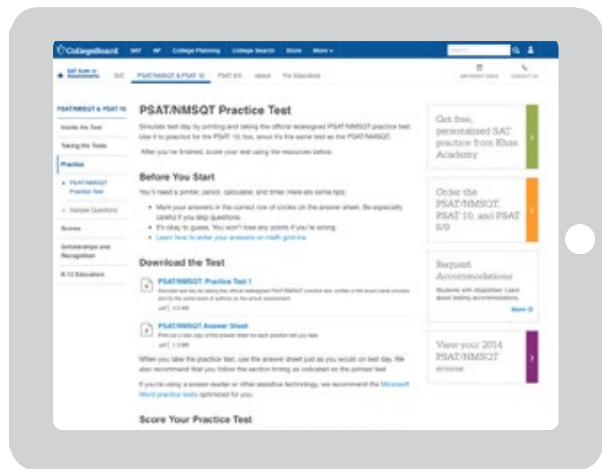
For personalized resources aligned to the SAT Suite of Assessments (including the PSAT/NMSQT and PSAT 10), please visit:

khanacademy.org/sat



For general information about the PSAT 10, please visit:

psat.org



Take the practice test in the *PSAT 10 Student Guide*, available through your counselor or at:

collegeboard.org/psatpractice

Take the PSAT 10

How to Sign Up: _____

Test Day/Date: _____

Time: _____

Location: _____

Make sure you bring:

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



Good Luck!