

# THE SAT

# VS

# THE ACT

- Fewer Geometry Questions
- More Time per Question
- No-calculator Math Section

## KEY Differences

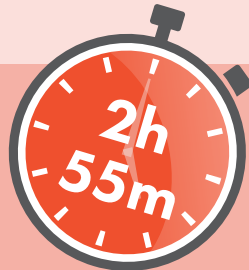
- Lots of Geometry
- Faster Paced
- Tough Science Section



Overall Time

## TIMING & SCORING

Overall Time



Reading

65m

Writing

35m

Math  
(No Calculator)

25m

Math  
(Calculator)

55m

200 - 800 points

200 - 800 points

1-36

1-36

1-36

1-36

35m

Reading

45m

English

60m

Math

35m

Science

Total Points

400 - 1600

1 - 36

Total Points

### Time per Question



Reading



Writing



Math



Reading



English



Math



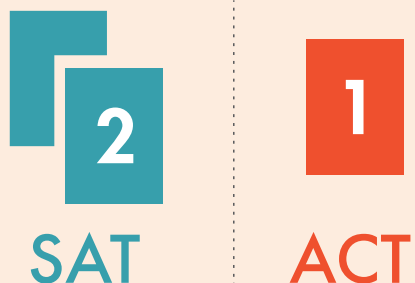
Science

# MATH

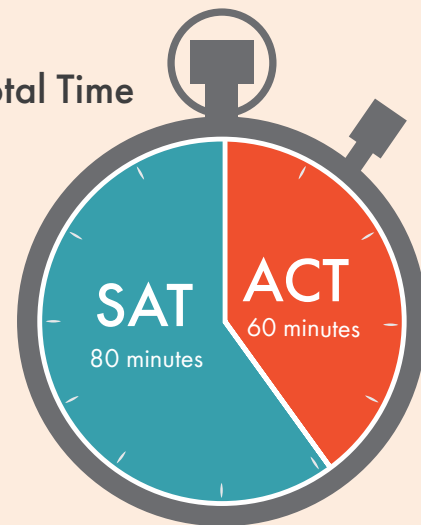
## Number of Questions



## Number of Sections



## Total Time



## Time Per Question



## Formulas

The **SAT** provides a reference table of common formulas.

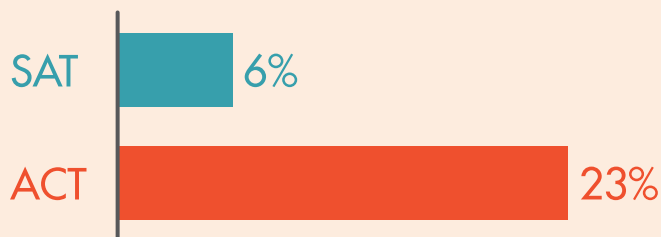
The **ACT** does not provide formulas for reference.



The SAT Math sections include **45** multiple choice questions and **13** student-produced response questions (i.e., grid-in questions).

## Geometry Focus

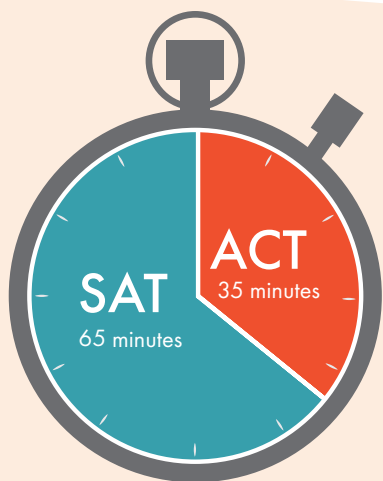
The ACT has a much greater emphasis on Geometry. In contrast, the SAT focuses more on Algebra, word problems, and Data Analysis questions that ask you to incorporate information from tables and charts into your calculations.



The **ACT** Math section allows the use of calculators.

The **SAT** has one **NO CALCULATOR** section and one calculator section.

# READING



Total Time

## Time Per Question

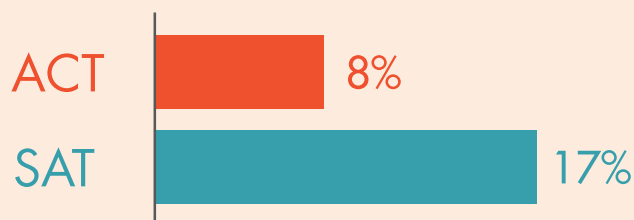


## Number of Questions



## Vocabulary

What percentage of questions test vocabulary?



## Do the Reading sections have **Graphs and Charts?**

SAT



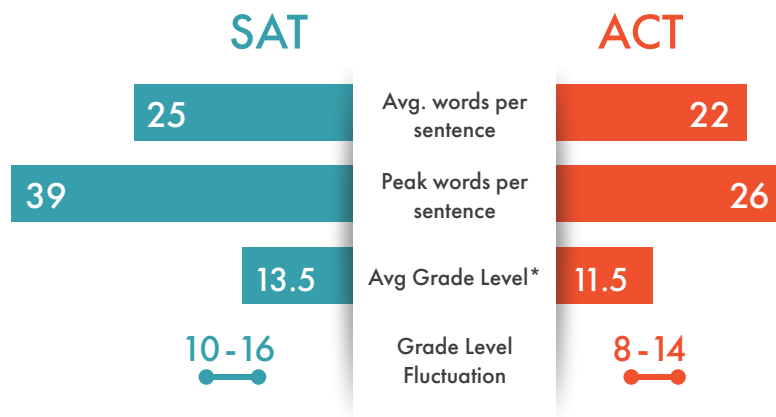
Yes, relating to two passages

ACT



No, only on the Science section

## Passage Complexity



\*Flesch-Kincaid readability assessment

## Number of Passages

SAT

5



ACT

4



## Topics Covered

- Literature
- Science (2)
- History/Soc. Studies (2)
- Prose Fiction
- Humanities
- Social Science
- Natural Science

# WRITING/ENGLISH

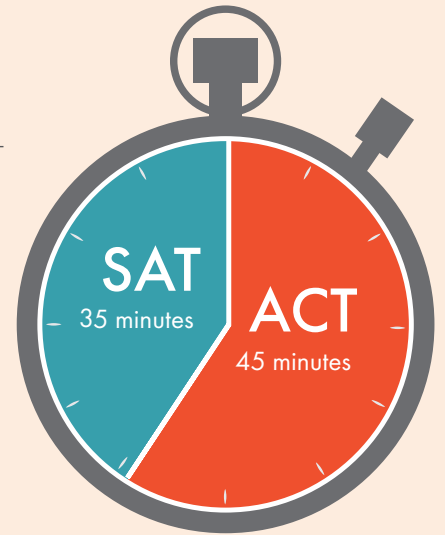
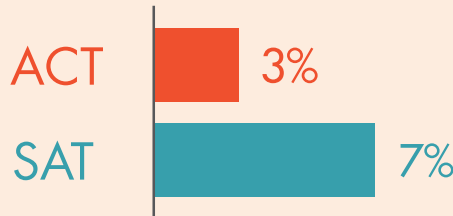
## Number of Questions

SAT  
**44**

ACT  
**75**

## Vocabulary

What percentage of questions test vocabulary?



Total Time

## Time Per Question



## Do the Writing/English sections have Graphs and Charts?

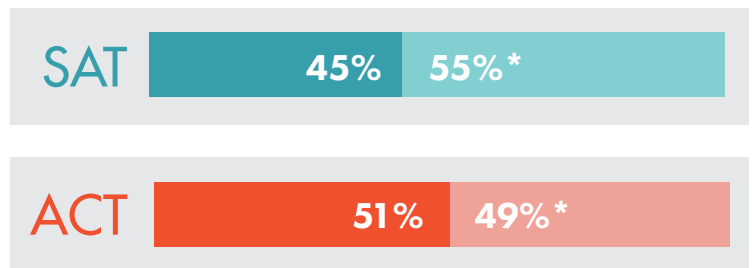


Yes, relating to one or two passages



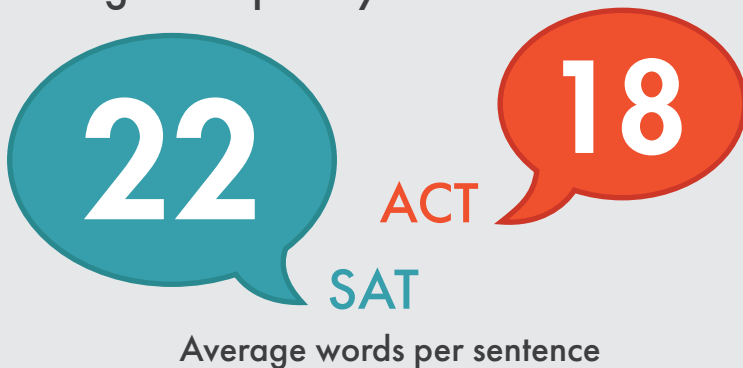
No, only on the Science section

## GRAMMAR VS. RHETORICAL SKILLS



\*The difference between the 49% Rhetorical Skills on the ACT and 55% on the SAT feels even greater in practice, as the questions on the SAT require a fuller understanding of the passage.

## Passage Complexity



Average grade level\*

\*Flesch-Kincaid readability assessment