

SAT / ACT

Get the Right Answers

February 9, 2022



Keep Perspective

Test scores are just one part of admissions

Test scores don't indicate how smart you are



SAT Going Digital in 2024

- Shorter Test (2-hrs)
- Shorter Reading Passages
- More test locations
- Quicker Results
- Top score will remain 1600
- No word from ACT
- Likely more ACT testers at first

Will affect Freshman/
Class of 2025+

Has no affect on current
Sophomores or Juniors

More Changes



Currently No Online Testing

No SAT Subject Tests

No SAT Essay

ACT Section Retesting on Hold

Most Schools are Test Optional but Wording is Key



... due to the pandemic

... for now (for 1 year)

... those who can submit

*...we welcome other
scores*

To Test or Not to Test

YES!

- Nothing to lose
- Scores are private
- Take it and then choose to share it or not.
- Some State Schools use an index of GPA and scores for scholarships and/or placement out of English or Math Classes

Maybe Not if

- Schools of interest are test blind
- Strong GPA, Essays, Extra-Curriculars, etc.
- Scores currently below 1000 or 20
- Mental health could suffer



Prepare to Test with a Mask

ACT or SAT?

Take a Practice Test in both

- 3-hour Tests
- Private Information

Use your PSAT

Schools have NO preference



ACT (1-36)

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------|
| 1. English | 45 min |
| 2. Math | 60 min |
| 3. Reading | 35 min |
| 4. Science (<i>Reasoning</i>) | 35 min |

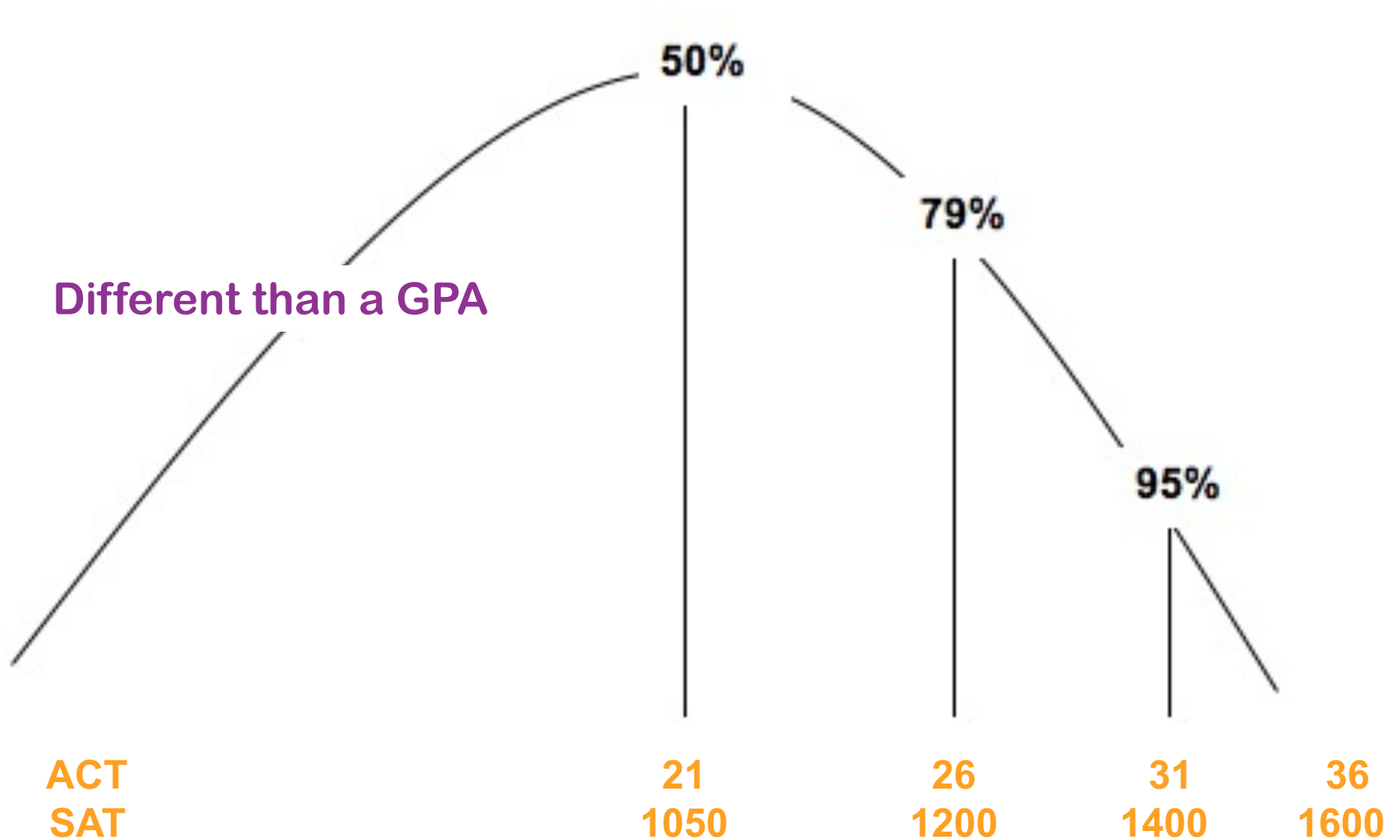
SAT (400-1600)

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------|
| 1. Reading | 65 min |
| 2. Writing | 35 min |
| 3. Math (<i>no calc</i>) | 25 min |
| 4. Math (<i>calc</i>) | 55 min |

- Schools have NO preference/the tests are interchangeable
- Many schools Superscore (*take the highest scores from multiple tests*)
- No scoring penalty on either test



The Bell Curve



When Should You Take the Test?



2022 Test Dates

7 ACTs

Feb 12th
Apr 2nd
Jun 11th
Jul 16th
Sep 10th
Oct 22nd
Dec 10th

7 SATs

Mar 12th
May 7th
Jun 4th
Aug 27th
Oct 1st
Nov 5th
Dec 3rd

PSAT

Oct. 12th or Oct. 15th

AP Tests

May 2nd – May 13th

IB Exams

May, June

PLAN/EXPLORE

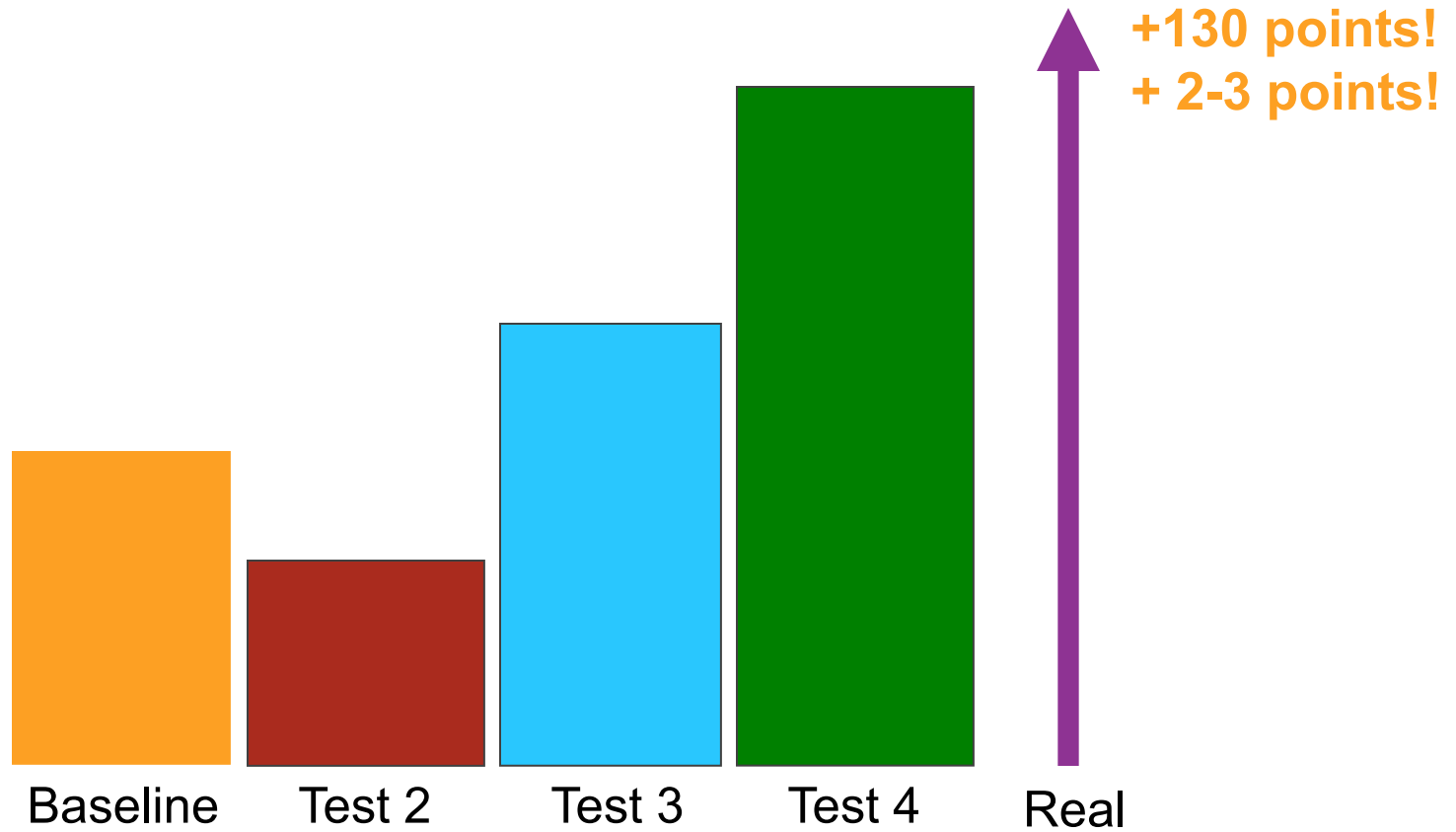
Spring Sophomore Yr

Irrelevant What Others Are Doing

- Some take first test **fall** of junior year
- Many take first test **winter/spring** of junior year
- Some take first test **fall** of senior year
- Plan 2-3 months to prep
- It's common to take the test twice



The 2nd Test Dip



Pillars to Master



CONTENT

BEHAVIOR

MINDSET



Overall Advice

Slow Down

Fight the temptation to finish.
Aim for clean, accurate work.

Write all over the test booklet

Solve problems on the page, not in your head.
Cross off wrong answers to stay on track.

Read. Read. Read.

Practice reading for main idea.
Especially topics you don't find interesting.

Take Practice Tests



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