

# COLLEGE ADMISSIONS TESTING

A Roadmap for the SAT and  
ACT

Brookline High School



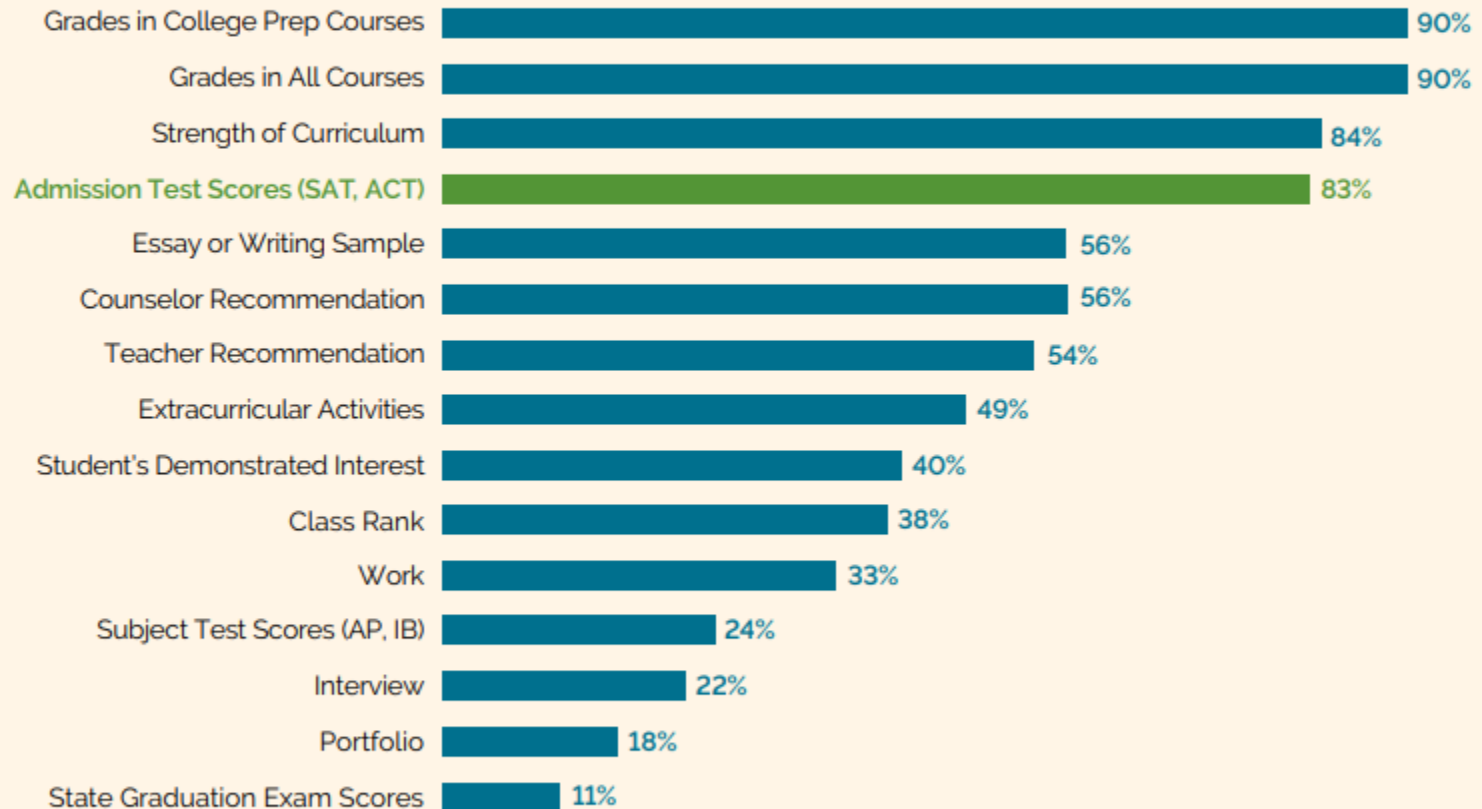
SUMMIT  
EDUCATIONAL  
GROUP

*Focusing on the Individual Student*

# ADMISSION FACTORS

## ADMISSION FACTORS

Percentage of Colleges Reporting "Considerable Importance" and "Moderate Importance"



# TEST OPTIONAL SCHOOLS

American University	Connecticut College	Mills College	Union College
Arizona State University	Denison University	Mount Holyoke College	University of Arizona
Bard College	DePaul University	Muhlenberg College	University of Chicago
Bates College	Dickinson College	Pitzer College	University of Puget Sound
Beloit College	Franklin and Marshall College	Providence College	Ursinus College
Bennington College	George Washington University	Quinnipiac University	Wake Forest University
Bowdoin College	Gettysburg College	Rollins College	Wesleyan University (CT)
Brandeis University	Hampshire College	Sarah Lawrence College	Wheaton College
Bryn Mawr College	Kalamazoo College	Skidmore College	Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Bucknell University	Lawrence University	Smith College	
Clark University	Lewis and Clark College	St. Lawrence University	
College of the Holy Cross	Loyola University Maryland	The New School	
Colby College		Trinity College (CT)	

# TEST OPTIONAL SCHOOLS DURING COVID

- Almost all colleges and universities were test optional for the Class of 2021 and Class of 2022
- For the class of 2023 some uncertainty in what the test optional landscape will look like
- Encourage students to see the tests as a chance to show-off and have an everything to win, nothing to lose mindset

# CAVEATS FOR TEST OPTIONAL

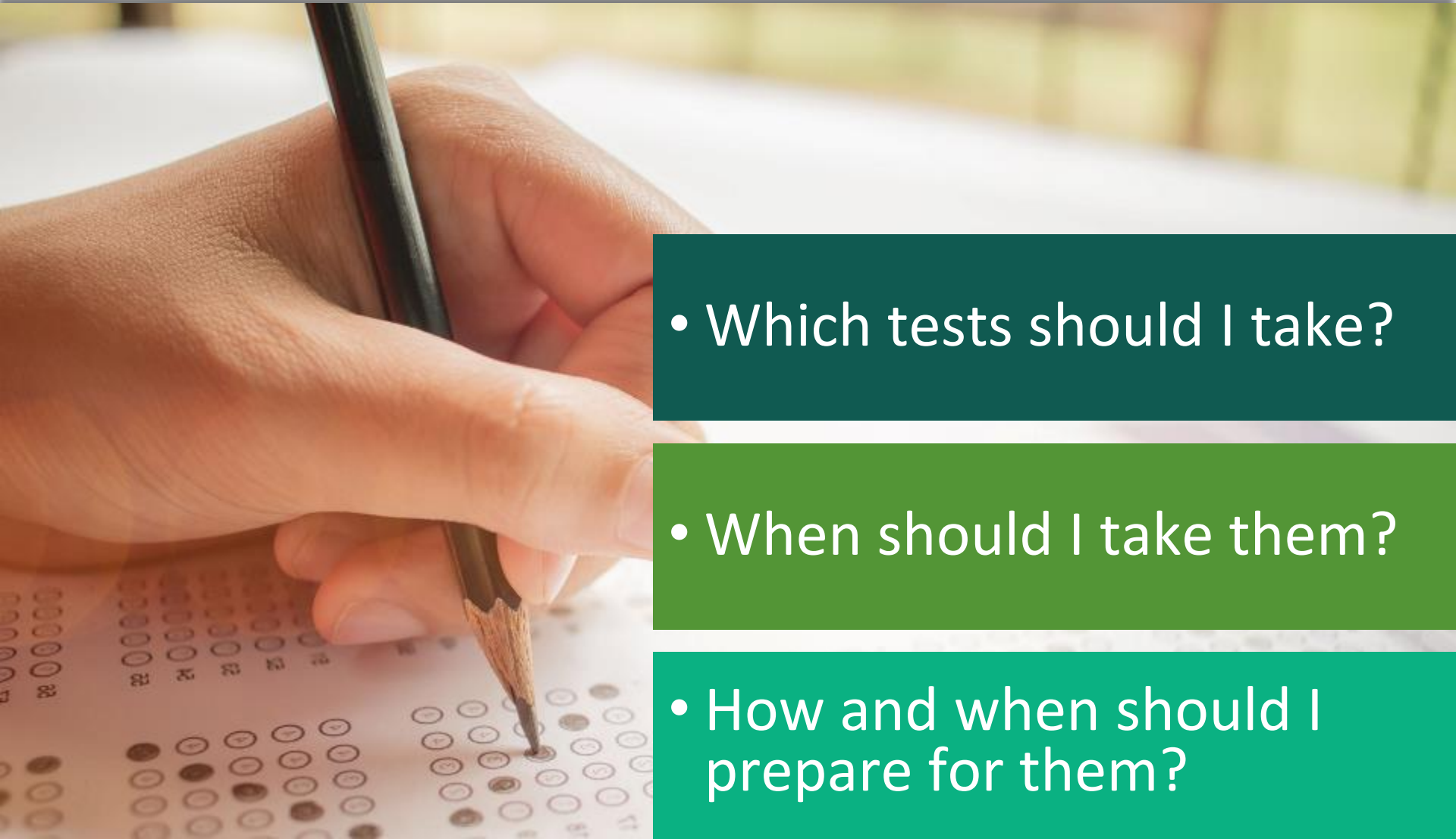
- Applying to the more selective colleges
- Recruited athletes
- Consideration for Merit Scholarship Awards

# MERIT AID

Strong standardized test scores and strong GPA can lead to merit aid.

TEST SCORE	HS GPA (4.0 SCALE)	OH RESIDENT SCHOLARSHIP RANGE*	NON RESIDENT SCHOLARSHIP RANGE*
ACT: 33+ SAT: 1450+	3.50+	Half-Full Tuition \$32,000-\$64,000 (\$8,000-\$16,000 Annually)	Half-Full Tuition \$72,000-\$144,000 (\$18,000-\$36,000 Annually)
ACT: 30-32 SAT: 1360-1440	3.50+	\$20,000-\$48,000 (\$5,000-\$12,000 Annually)	\$44,000-\$88,000 (\$11,000-\$20,000 Annually)
ACT: 28-29 SAT: 1300-1350	3.50+	\$8,000-\$32,000 (\$2,000-\$8,000 Annually)	\$28,000-\$60,000 (\$7,000-\$15,000 Annually)
ACT: 27 SAT: 1260-1290	3.50+	\$4,000-\$12,000 (\$1,000-\$3,000 Annually)	\$16,000-\$40,000 (\$4,000-\$10,000 Annually)

# CREATE A TESTING PLAN



- Which tests should I take?

- When should I take them?

- How and when should I prepare for them?

# WHICH TESTS?

- PSAT

- PreACT

- SAT

- ACT

- ~~Subject Tests~~

- AP



# PSAT IS PRACTICE FOR THE SAT

SAT (200-800)

PSAT 10, PSAT/NMSQT (160-760)

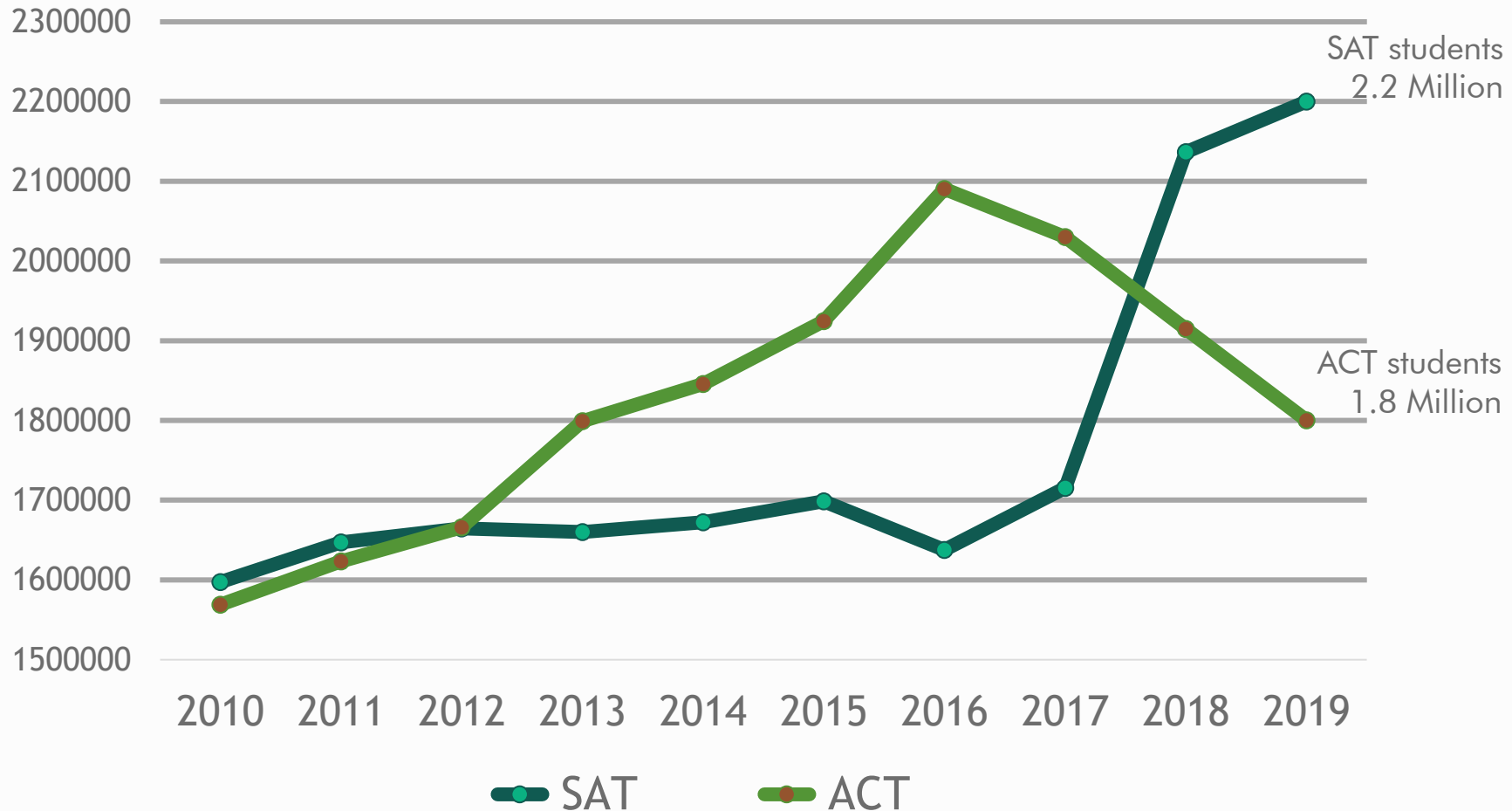
PSAT 8/9 (120-720)



PSAT scores show what you would have scored on the SAT on that same day.

# THE COLLEGE BOARD vs. ACT, INC

## SAT/ACT Test-Takers 2010-2019



# SAT/ACT – SIMILAR IN STRUCTURE

← SAT (3 hours 50 minutes) →

200 - 800

Reading  
(65 min)

Writing &  
Language  
(35 min)

200 - 800

Math  
(No Calc)  
(25 min)

Math  
(Calc)  
(55 min)

optional

Essay  
(50 min)

← ACT (3 hours 35 minutes) →

1 - 36

English  
(45 min)

1 - 36

Math  
(60 min)

1 - 36

Reading  
(35 min)

1 - 36

Science  
(35 min)

optional

Writing  
(40 min)

# SAT WRITING & LANGUAGE/ACT ENGLISH



R u coming 2 pick me up

Coming 

# SAT WRITING & LANGUAGE/ACT ENGLISH

In 2009, Libbrecht and Arnold's experiments revealed that triangular snowflakes begin with the same process of chemical bonding and forms<sub>8</sub> a hexagonal shape. The triangular shape is an illusion resulting from one significant addition to the process<sub>9</sub> dust.

8. F. NO CHANGE  
G. were they to form  
H. if they formed  
J. form
9. A. NO CHANGE  
B. process is  
C. process:  
D. process;

# SAT READING/ACT READING

## SAT

What can reasonably be **inferred** about gliding animals from the passage?

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

## ACT

The **passage points** to which of the following as a characteristic of trap-jaw ants' mandibles that prevents the ants from harming themselves with their powerful bite?

# SAT MATH/ACT MATH

## SAT

The graph of the linear function  $f$  has intercepts at  $(a, 0)$  and  $(0, b)$  in the  $xy$ -plane. If  $a + b = 0$  and  $a \neq b$ , which of the following is true about the slope of the graph of  $f$ ?

- A) It is positive.
- B) It is negative.
- C) It equals zero.
- D) It is undefined.

## ACT

If two lines in the standard  $(x, y)$  coordinate plane are perpendicular and the slope of one of the lines is 3, what is the slope of the other line?

- A.  $-3$
- B.  $-1$
- C.  $-1/3$
- D.  $1/3$
- E.  $3$

# SAT MATH/ACT MATH

## SAT

Narrow and Deep

Algebra – about 60% of Math

1 Calculator Section

1 No-Calculator Section

83 seconds / question

## ACT

Broad and Shallow

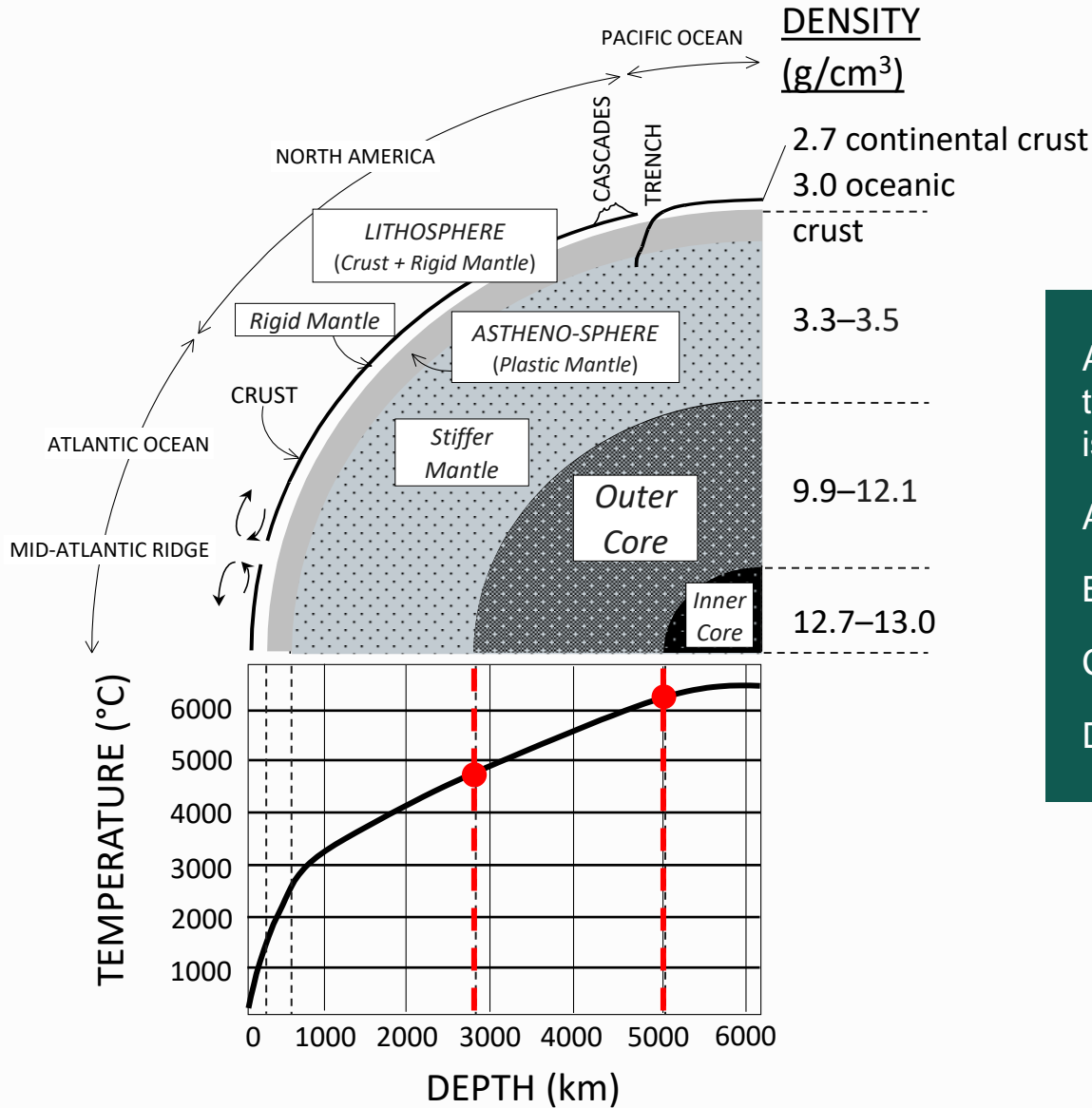
Algebra – about 30% of Math  
Relatively even spread

Calculator allowed throughout

60 seconds / question



# ACT SCIENCE

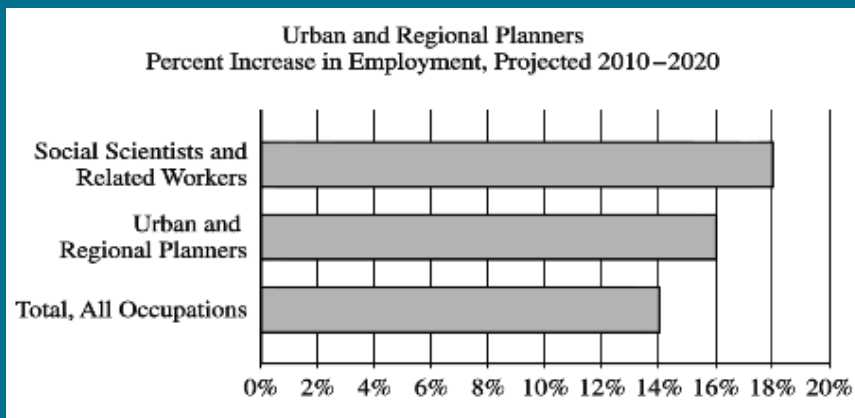


According to Figure 1, the temperature of the Outer Core is approximately between:

- A. 1000° C and 2500° C
- B. 2500° C and 5000° C
- C. 4800° C and 6300° C
- D. 6200° C and 6500° C

# SAT DATA GRAPHICS QUESTIONS

... As of 2010, there were approximately 40,300 urban and regional planners employed in the United States. The United States Bureau of Labor Statistics forecasts steady job growth in this field, projecting that 16 percent of new jobs in all occupations will be related to urban and regional planning. Population growth and concerns about environmental sustainability are expected to spur the need for transportation planning professionals.



Which choice completes the sentence with accurate data based on the above graph?

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) warning, however, that job growth in urban and regional planning will slow to 14 percent by 2020.
- C) predicting that employment of urban and regional planners will increase 16 percent between 2010 and 2020.
- D) indicating that 14 to 18 percent of urban and regional planning positions will remain unfilled.

# COMPARING THE SAT AND ACT

## SAT Questions

More challenging

Require deep understanding

Narrower focus of skills

More time per question

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## ACT Questions

Straightforward

Require instant recognition

Broader scope of skills

Require constant, rapid pace

# CHOOSING SAT or ACT



*We were originally thinking **SAT**, but then Noah's admissions advisor told us left-handed students born on Tuesdays do better on the **ACT**.*

# CHOOSING SAT or ACT

The best way to make this decision is by taking each one and comparing scores using a Concordance Table.

# CONCORDANCE TABLES

SAT	ACT	SAT	ACT
1600	36	1340*	29
1590*			
1580			
1570			
1560			
1550			
1540*	24	1330	
1530			
1520			
1510			
1500*			
1490			
1480			
1470			
1460*			
1450			
1440			
1430*			
1420			
1410			
1400*	31	1130	22
1390			
1380			
1370*	30	1110*	
1360			
1350	29	1100	
		1090	
		1080*	
		1070	
		1060	

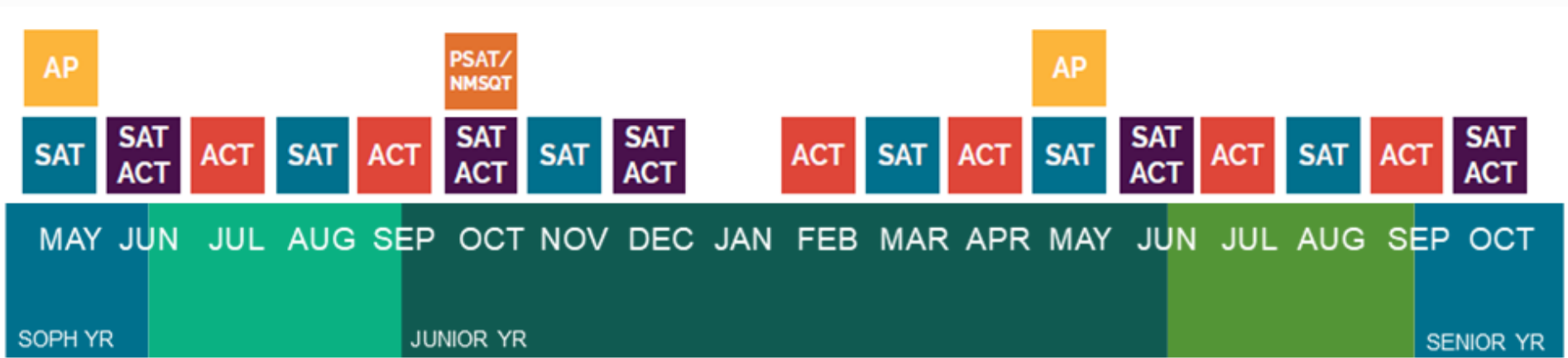
SAT	ACT	SAT	ACT	
1050	20	800*	14	
1040*				
1030				
1020				
1010*				
	19	790	13	
		780		
		770		
		760*	11	
			12	
			30	
			10	
880	15	630*	09	
870				
860				
850*				
840				
830				
820				
810		14	580	N/A
			570	N/A
			560	N/A

# CREATE A TESTING PLAN

A close-up photograph of a hand holding a dark pencil, poised to write on a document. The document has some text and a green highlight. In the background, another person is blurred. A green rectangular box is overlaid on the right side of the image, containing white text.

When should I take them?

# THE TESTS





# SAMPLE TESTING PLANS

DIAGS

PSAT/  
NMSQT

SAT

AP

SAT

SAT

MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT NOV DEC JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT

SOPH YR

JUNIOR YR

SENIOR YR

TEST PREPARATION

REVIEW

# SCORE CHOICE

## All Scores Required

Georgetown

*Yale*

*Barnard College*

*Elon University*

## Score Choice Allowed

Almost all other schools!

# SUPERSCORING – SAT

March	
Reading & Writing	Math
580	570
1150	

May	
Reading & Writing	Math
580	650
1230	

August	
Reading & Writing	Math
640	620
1260	

Superscore	
Reading & Writing	Math
1290	

# SUPERSCORING – ACT

	FEB 2018	JUNE 2018	SEPT 2018	SUPERSCORE
ENGLISH	28	<b>32</b>	30	
MATH	27	28	<b>30</b>	
READING	<b>33</b>	29	28	
SCIENCE	27	<b>30</b>	28	
<b>COMPOSITE</b>	29	30	29	<b>31</b>

# CREATE A TESTING PLAN

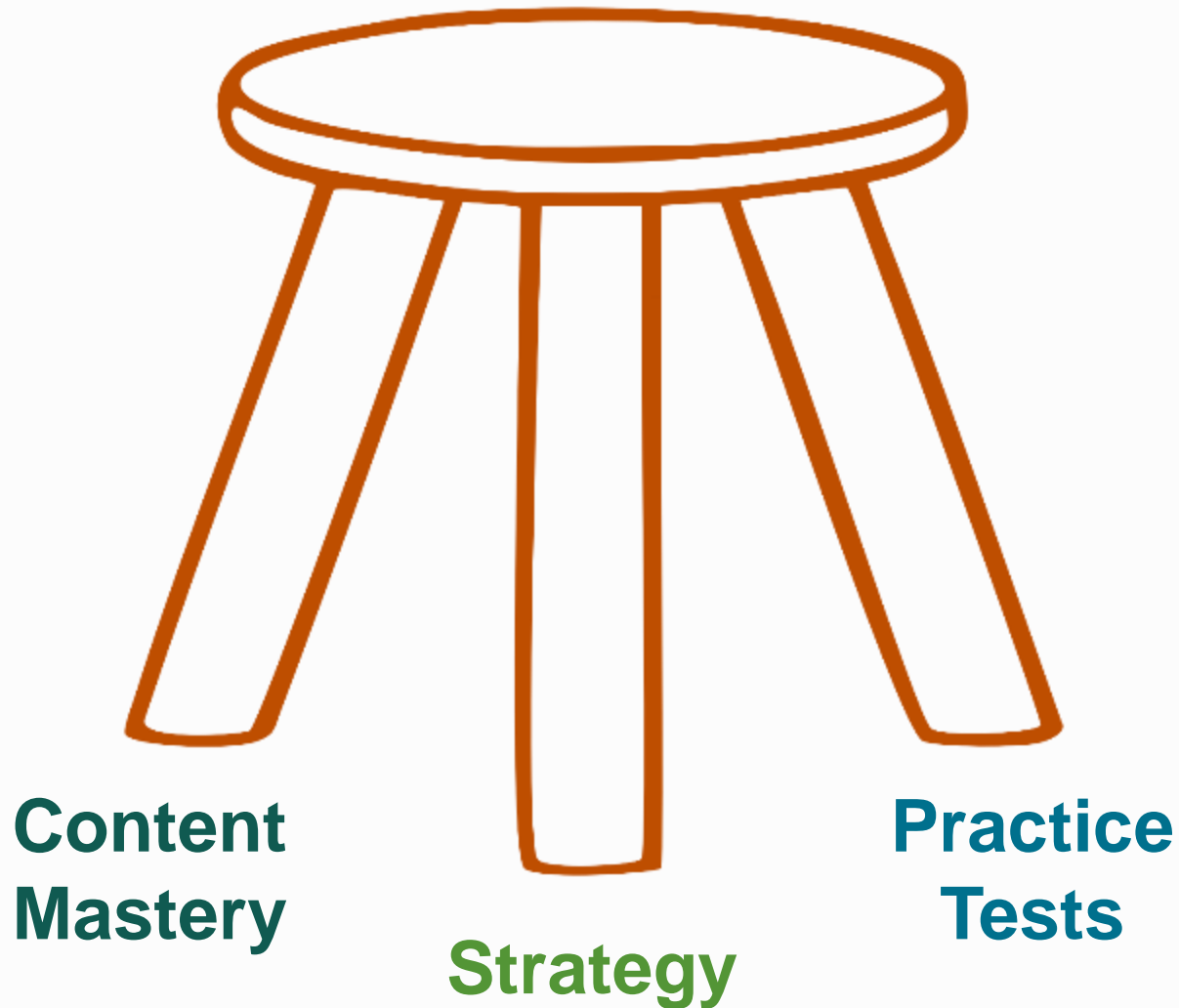
A close-up photograph of a hand holding a dark pencil, poised to write on a document. The document has some text and a green highlight. In the background, a person's face is blurred, suggesting a classroom or office setting.

How and when should I prepare for them?

# CHOOSE A START DATE

Test prep should **allow** for at least 6-15 weeks of study and practice before the official test date.

# FOUNDATIONS OF TEST PREPARATIONS



# GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Most students will score the same, no matter what tests they take, but it's worth looking for a student's best test.

A good testing plan prioritizes school work over test prep. Testing early and often is generally not sensible.

Prepping for one test helps prepare for the other.

Students score their best at end of junior year and fall of senior year. It is the RARE student who is finished by December of junior year, even high scorers.



# LAST, BUT NOT LEAST

Maintain perspective.  
It's just a test.



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# SUMMIT EDUCATIONAL GROUP

## Grades 4-12 Test Preparation and Academic Support

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