

# PSAT/NMSQT

## October 10, 2018

**WHO:** All 10th and 11th grade students

**WHAT:** The PSAT/NMSQT

The Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT®) is a vital step toward reaching your college goals. It measures the reading, writing and language, and math skills you need for college and a career. After the test, you'll receive feedback on how ready you are for college along with tools to help you improve.

**WHEN:** Wednesday, October 10<sup>th</sup> from 8:00-12:30

**WHERE:** An assigned classroom with your English class

**WHY:** What are the benefits of taking the PSAT/NMSQT

It's FREE!

It's great practice for taking the SAT.

It's at school with your own teachers.

You will get free, personalized SAT® practice on Khan Academy based on your answers.

You will learn about your AP Potential.

You will have increased access to college scholarships, admissions information, and financial aid.

You will have college and career planning tools.

### Test Content

<u>Section</u>	<u>Sub-Section</u>	<u>Total Testing Time &amp; Breakdown</u>	<u>Number of Questions</u>	<u>Content/Skills Covered</u>
<b>Evidence-Based Reading &amp; Writing</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>60 minutes</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>reading and vocabulary in context</b>
	<b>Writing</b>	<b>35 minutes</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>grammar and usage</b>
<b>Math</b>		<b>70 minutes;</b> <b>1 45-minute calculator-option al section and</b> <b>1 25-minute no-calculator section</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>heart of algebra, problem solving &amp; data analysis, passport to advanced math, additional topics (geometry, trigonometry and precalculus)</b>

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

» 5 Passages

» 47 Passage-Based Questions; 60 minutes

- › 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.
- › Prior topic-specific knowledge is never tested.

**Writing and Language Test:** The Writing and Language Test puts you in the active role of an editor who is improving a written passage. Most questions ask you to decide which, if any, of the three alternatives to an underlined part of a passage most improves it.

» 4 Passages

» 44 Passage-Based Questions; 35 minutes

- › 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.

**Math Test:** The Math Test focuses on the math that matters most to college and career readiness. To succeed on the Math Test, you will need to demonstrate mathematical practices, such as problem solving and using appropriate tools strategically.

» 2 Test Sections

» 48 Questions (40 multiple choice, 8 grid-ins, 2 sections); 70 minutes

- › 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.

\*Rights-only scoring (no penalty for guessing)

### Important Information

**Schedule:** Our school will be on a special schedule on October 10, 2018. Only 10th and 11th grade students report to school. You will be told which room to report to by your English teacher. When the test is over at 12:30 you will be allowed to go home, as it is a minimum day.

#### Specific Details:

The test is timed. It is a pencil/paper test. Please bring a calculator.

Make sure you know personal information about yourself, like address, phone number, etc.

### Test Results

In mid-December, scores will be available online for students.

In January, schools will receive paper score reports. A Score Back Night to interpret results will be held in the auditorium at CVHS in the spring of 2019. The date TBD.

## The PSAT/NMSQT® Score Report

- » Contains information to help you improve your academic skills.
- » Lists skills that you have the best chance of improving with additional work.
- » Connects to personalized practice recommendations on Khan Academy.
- » Scores will be reported on a shared common score scale with the SAT: The scale ranges for the PSAT/NMSQT are 320–1520 for the total score, 160–760 for each of two section scores, and 8–38 for test scores.

## How Does the New PSAT/NMSQT® Connect to the SAT®?

The score you get on the PSAT/NMSQT is the same score you would have gotten on the SAT if you had taken it on the same day.

**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.

### More on Benefits and Resources

#### -Free SAT® Practice Powered by Khan Academy

You'll receive a unique SAT study plan based on your performance on the PSAT/NMSQT that features:

- + Personalized online practice tailored to your strengths and weaknesses.
- + SAT practice questions and full-length tests.
- + Detailed feedback on your progress.

\*Visit [khanacademy.org/sat](https://khanacademy.org/sat) to learn more.

#### -Discover Your AP® Potential

After you take the PSAT/NMSQT, you'll receive free feedback on your readiness for 20+ AP® courses.

#### -Enter Scholarship Competitions

By taking the PSAT/NMSQT and meeting published entry requirements, you may enter the National Merit® Scholarship Program conducted by National Merit Scholarship Corporation. Go to [www.nationalmerit.org](https://www.nationalmerit.org) to learn more.

In addition, students taking the exam now have increased access to nearly \$180 million in combined annual awards for low-income and minority students through leading scholarship providers. You should opt into Student Search Service® when you take the PSAT/NMSQT to benefit from these opportunities. Learn more at [collegeboard.org/sat-suite-scholarships](https://collegeboard.org/sat-suite-scholarships).

#### -Access to College Planning Resources

Your PSAT/NMSQT results will connect you to valuable resources that include:

- + An interactive score report with answer explanations to help you practice for the SAT.
- + A detailed personality test to help you find majors and careers that fit your talents and interests.
- + Tools allowing you to search for and explore colleges, majors, scholarships, and more.

Connect with Colleges That Are Interested in You

Through the Student Search Service, you can receive free information about admission and financial aid from colleges, universities, and scholarship programs that are interested in you. **Just say “Yes” to the Student Search Service when you take the PSAT/NMSQT.**