

Colleges and universities that consider SAT and ACT in the college admission process will accept scores from either exam with no preference for one over the other. This gives students the opportunity to pick the better test format based on which allows them to maximize their scores.

On a general level:

Students tend to find the ACT to be more straightforward in terms of content and question types and thus typically find it more feasible to increase their scores. There are four sections with corresponding scores: English, Math, Reading, and Science. All questions are multiple choice. The ACT is faster paced than the SAT, however, and time allotment is sometimes a struggle for more deliberately paced testers.

The SAT, while more complex, is more generous with time per question. There are four sections with two corresponding scores: The Verbal score is comprised of two sections: the first is Writing and Language and the second is Reading. All the verbal questions are multiple choice. The Math score is also comprised of two sections: a non-calculator section and a calculator section, and both Math sections include multiple choice and fill-in-the-blank questions.

Some students will have a preference in terms of the “personality” and/or pacing of the tests, and students often naturally score higher on one test or the other.

Unsure which test is the ideal for your student? At LGC, we are happy to help your student discover their best-fit test. We offer diagnostic testing every weekend and provide detailed, full-color test reports and a recommendation for the better test and the appropriate tutoring package that will empower a student to maximize their score. Contact us today for more information.