
PreACT & PSAT

— What to Expect —

PreACT Thursday, October 6th

Who: Mandatory state-required pre-assessment for all NC 10th graders

What: Multiple Choice Test with Sections: English, Math, Reading, Science
(shorter than actual ACT)

When: 7:10 am - 10:30 am

Where: Upper School Academic Building

Why: Measures Academic Skills You'll Need for College, Gives Targeted Feedback on Performance & Suggestions For Improvement, and Provides Direct Score Predictions

English & Math Sections

English

- ❖ Measures *mechanics* (grammar, punctuation, usage, and sentence structure) & *rhetorical skills* (strategy, organization and style)
- ❖ Spelling & Vocab are not tested
- ❖ Asks students to correct and improve essays

Math

- ❖ Covers algebra, pre-algebra, geometry, and coordinate geometry
- ❖ Don't get discouraged you may have not learned all math areas just yet!
- ❖ Bring Calculator (four function, scientific or graphing calculator)

Reading & Science Sections

Reading

- ❖ Presents with several long passages and asks reading comprehension on things such as main idea, author's purpose, tone and meaning of words in context

Science

- ❖ Descriptions of experimental set-ups or hypotheses and asks you to interpret data and trends from tables, graphs, and info provided
- ❖ Looking to measure problem-solving skills

How is the PreACT Scored

- ❖ Based on the number of questions answered correctly
- ❖ No deductions for incorrect answers
- ❖ Each subject area gives a scores 1-36
- ❖ Composite is the average of all four subject tests

There is No Scholarship Competition Associated with PreACT

What to Know About PSAT?

- ❖ **You Must Register Through [Orgsonline.com](https://orgsonline.com) and pay \$18 to test**
- ❖ Total Time Is About 2 hours 45 minutes
- ❖ No penalties for wrong answers; make educated guesses
- ❖ Reading 60 minutes, 48 questions
- ❖ Writing & Language 35 minutes, 44 questions
- ❖ Math 70 minutes, 47 questions
- ❖ Scored on a scale of 320 to 1520
 - Reading/Writing scores from 160 to 760
 - Math scores from 160 to 760

Reading

- ❖ Interpreting words & phrases in context
- ❖ Analyzing word choices, text structure, point of view, purpose, arguments
- ❖ Reading closely
- ❖ Citing textual evidence
- ❖ Determining central ideas and themes
- ❖ Summarizing
- ❖ Understanding relationships

Writing

- ❖ Command of evidence-improving passages
- ❖ Words in context
- ❖ Analyses in passages, making editorial decisions
- ❖ Expression of ideas
- ❖ Standard english conventions-structure, usage & punctuation

Math

- ❖ Algebra: Linear equations & systems
- ❖ Problem-solving & data analysis
- ❖ Manipulation of complex equations
- ❖ Bring Calculator (four function, scientific or graphing calculator)

Test Preparation Tips

- ❖ Read all of the directions
- ❖ Work at a steady pace
- ❖ Do scratch work in the test booklet
- ❖ Read all of the answer choices
- ❖ If you skip a question, note it in the test, leave it blank on the answer sheet and return to it if there is time
- ❖ Get a good night's sleep
- ❖ Bring #2 pencils
- ❖ Dress comfortably
- ❖ Eat breakfast

Test Prep Resources

❖ Naviance Prep Me for ACT & SAT

❖ PSAT:

<https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/psat-nmsqt-psat-10/practice>

❖ PreACT:

<http://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/the-act/test-preparation.html>