

NEW SAT VS ACT

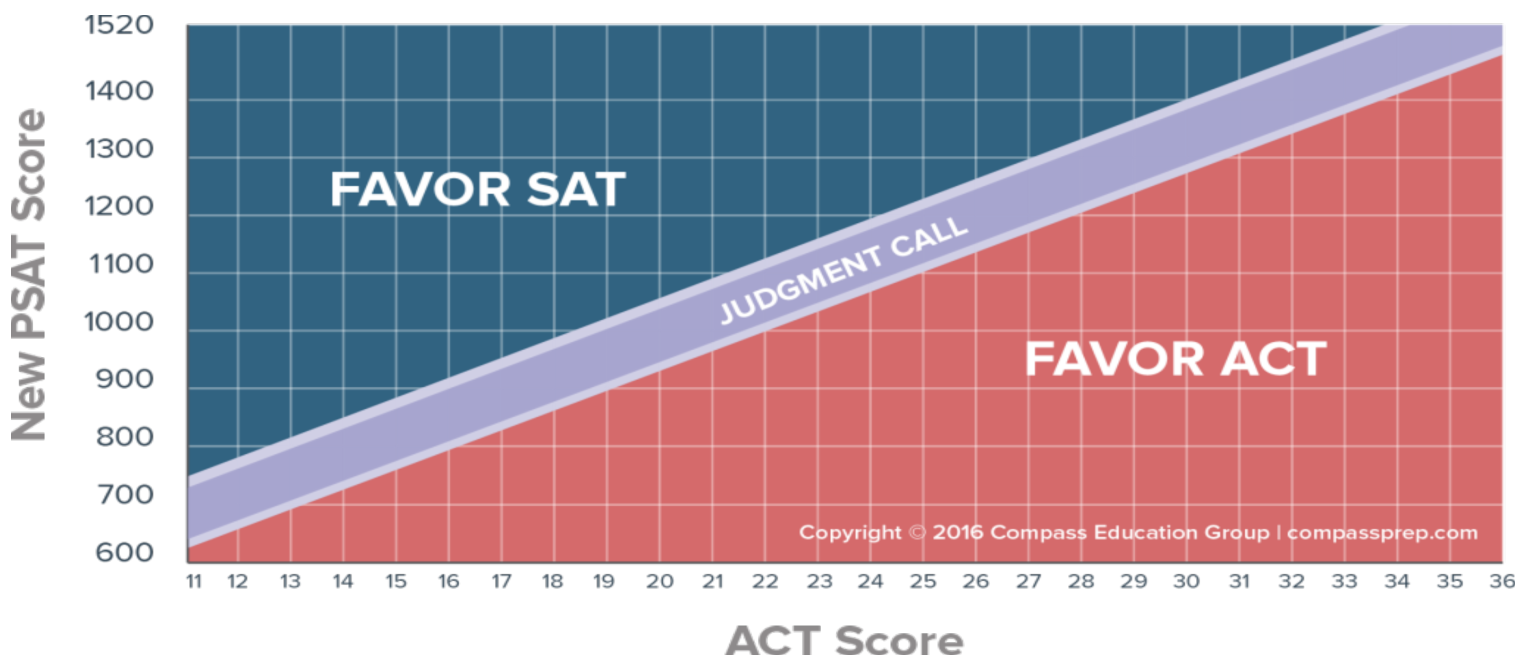
WHICH IS BETTER FOR YOU?

Most JHHS juniors have taken **both** the ACT Plan and the PSAT 10. Use these scores to forecast whether you might score higher on the ACT or SAT. Start by converting your ACT Plan score to a single point estimate of your ACT scores:

ACT PLAN Score	Estimated ACT
10-12	15
13	17
14	18
15	19
16	20
17	21
18	22
19	23
20	25

ACT PLAN Score	Estimated ACT
21	26
22	27
23	28
24-25	30
26	31
27	32
28	33
29-30	34
31-32	35

Then compare your forecasted ACT score to your PSAT 10 score in this chart:



ACT or SAT:

WHAT IF ESTIMATED SCORES ARE SIMILAR?

With the recent revision of the SAT, the two tests are very similar. Both tests are achievement tests. Both tests cover similar material. Both tests are accepted at **every** college admissions office. Often students score comparably on the two tests. If you want to take a second test and your forecasted ACT and SAT scores are similar, which should you take? You can choose to take both tests or you can use the differences highlighted below to choose the best test for you:

	SAT	ACT
College Acceptance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">All Colleges accept the SAT with the optional essay for admissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">All Colleges accept the ACT with the optional writing section
Timing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Exam length is similar, 3 hours without the essay.154 questions means more time per problem.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Exam length is similar, 2 hours and 55 minutes without writing.215 questions means less time per problem.
Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none">5 contemporary, historical and scientific passagesAnalysis of graphs includedMore vocabulary (17%)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">4 contemporary reading passagesMinimal vocabulary (8%)
Writing/Language or ACT English	<ul style="list-style-type: none">45% grammar	<ul style="list-style-type: none">51% grammar
Math	<ul style="list-style-type: none">13 questions have you fill in an answer – no possibility of guessing.There are questions with no calculator allowed.There are more word problems required.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">All multiple choice questions.There is no guessing penalty.A calculator can be used for all questions.
Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none">No Science section	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Science questions test critical thinking skills not science knowledge
Optional Essay/Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">50 minutesThe new SAT essay asks you to evaluate an argument someone else has written.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">45 minutesThe ACT Writing Test asks you to write your own argument and support it.