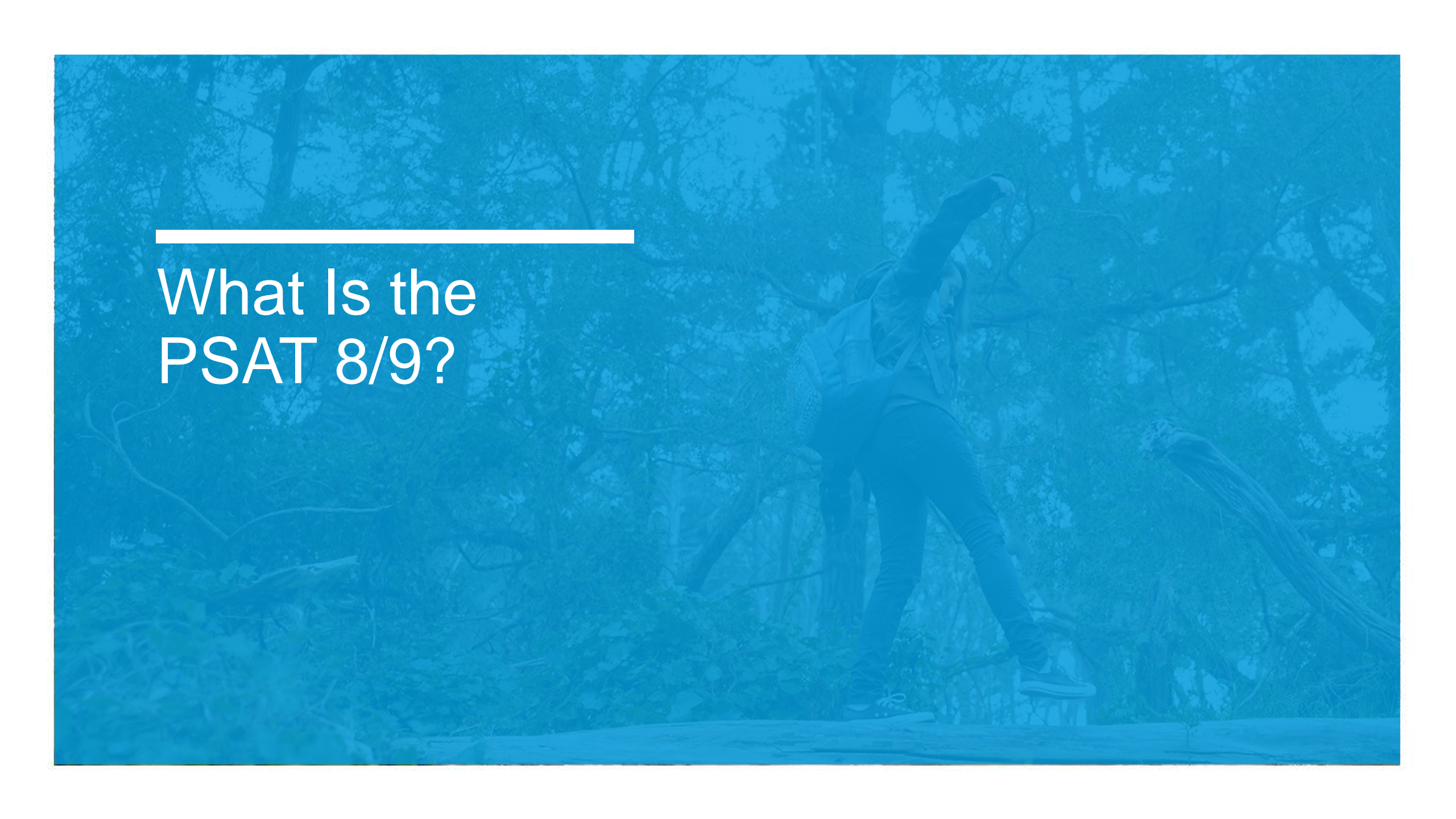

Prepare for the 2018-19 PSAT™ 8/9



Contents

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- What Is the PSAT 8/9?
 - Benefits of the PSAT 8/9
 - When Is the PSAT 8/9?
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What Is the PSAT 8/9?

A person with a backpack is hiking through a forest. The person is wearing a light-colored jacket and dark pants, and is captured in a dynamic pose as if climbing or stepping over a log. The background is filled with trees and foliage, creating a sense of a natural, outdoor environment. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter.

Some Key Facts

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- The PSAT™ 8/9 is designed for **8th-** and **9th-grade students**.
 - The PSAT 8/9 is a test that will help educators and students figure out **what students need to work on most** so that they are ready for college when they graduate from high school.
 - Scores for the SAT® Suite of Assessments (SAT, PSAT/NMSQT®, PSAT™ 10, and PSAT 8/9) are reported on a common vertical scale, allowing educators and students to **measure progress**.
 - Test length: 2 hours and 25 minutes.
 - There's **no penalty for guessing** or blank responses, also known as “rights-only scoring.”

Benefits of the PSAT 8/9



The PSAT 8/9 establishes a baseline measurement of college and career readiness.



The PSAT 8/9 tests the same skills and knowledge as the SAT, PSAT/NMSQT, and PSAT 10—in a way that makes sense for each grade level.



Personalized practice on Khan Academy® gives students age 13 and over the opportunity to upload their test results to receive targeted learning plans that students can use to learn more about and practice the skills they need to improve.



The score reports will give students comprehensive, personalized feedback on test performance, allowing students to see which questions were answered incorrectly (with exceptions) and which academic skills they should work to improve.



Information on college majors and career exploration is offered by the College Board and Roadtrip Nation.

PSAT 8/9
2018-19
Test Dates

The PSAT 8/9 is given in two testing
periods:

SEPT. 24, 2018 – MARCH 29, 2019

APRIL 1 – APRIL 26, 2019

Skills Tested on the PSAT 8/9



Skills Tested



Reading Test



Writing and Language Test



Math Test

- Each test assesses the academic skills that students developed over the years, primarily through coursework.
- These skills are considered essential for success in high school, college, and career.

Reading Test

- 42 passage-based questions;
55 minutes
- 4 single passages and
1 pair of passages



Quick Facts

- 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.
- No mathematical computation is required.
- Prior topic-specific knowledge is never tested.

Reading Test



What to Expect

The Reading Test always includes:

- One passage from a classic or contemporary work of U.S. or world literature
- One passage or a pair of passages from either a U.S. founding document or a text in the great global conversation they inspired. The U.S. Constitution or a speech by Nelson Mandela, for example
- A selection about economics, psychology, sociology, or some other social science
- Two science passages (or one passage and one passage pair) that examine foundational concepts and developments in Earth science, biology, chemistry, or physics

Writing and Language Test

- 40 passage-based questions; 30 minutes
- 4 passages

Quick Facts

- All questions are multiple choice and based on passages.
- Some passages are paired with informational graphics such as charts, graphs, and tables.
- No mathematical computation is required.
- Prior topic-specific knowledge is never tested.
- The Writing and Language Test is part of the Evidence-Based Reading and Writing section.



Writing and Language Test

What to Expect

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



Math Test

- 2 test sections; 60 minutes
- 38 questions
(31 multiple choice, 7 grid-ins)



Quick Facts

- 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 a scenario and then ask several questions about it.

Math Test

What to Expect

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



Math Section

Math Test – Calculator



Students: Know Your Calculator

- A scientific or graphing calculator is recommended.
- Students should bring a familiar calculator. Test day is not the time to figure out how to use a new calculator.

Math Section

Math Test – Calculator



Additional Calculator Tips for Students

- Don't try to use the calculator on every question—no question requires one.
- Decide how to solve each problem; then decide whether to use a calculator.
- Make sure your calculator is in good working order and that batteries are fresh.
- Students will not be permitted to use laptops or other computers, tablets, cell phones, or smartphones, etc. Please reference the student guide for a complete list.

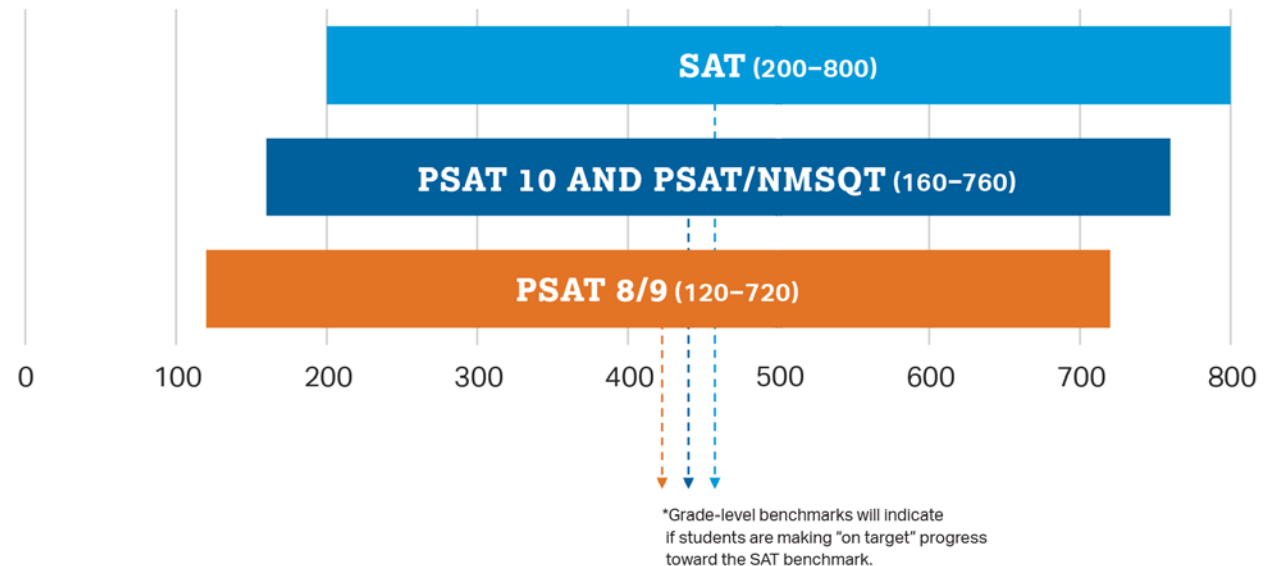
How Does the PSAT 8/9 Connect to the PSAT 10, the PSAT/NMSQT, and the SAT?

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.

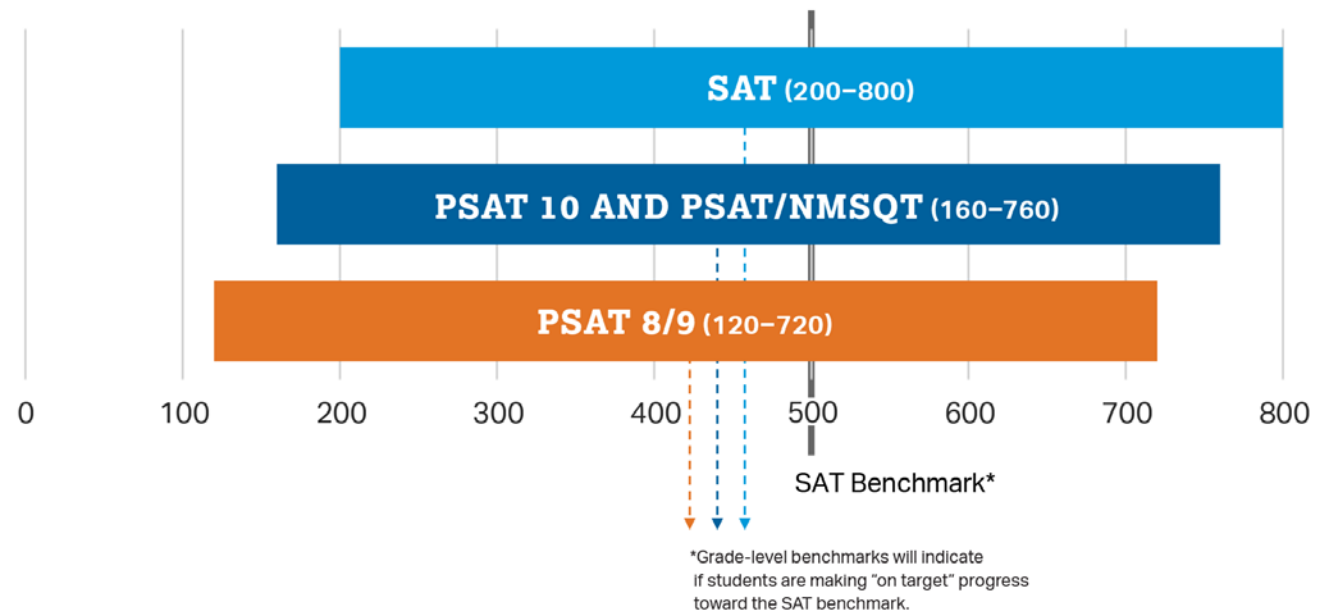
Scoring

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.




How Does the PSAT 8/9 Connect to the PSAT 10, the PSAT/NMSQT, and the SAT?

The score students get on the PSAT 8/9 is the same score they would have gotten on the PSAT10, PSAT/NMSQT, or SAT if they'd taken it on the same day.



How to Prepare for the PSAT 8/9



Know How the PSAT 8/9 Is Scored

Rights-Only Scoring

- 1 point for each correct answer
- 0 points deducted for each incorrect or blank question

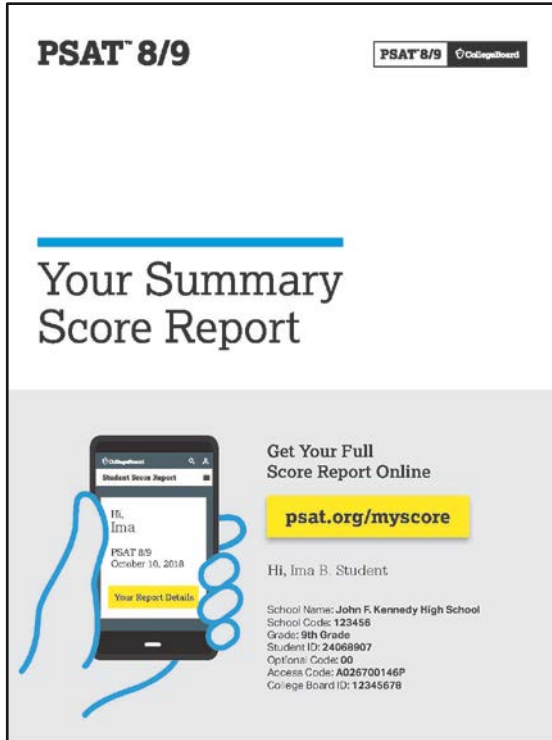
Math Grid-ins

- Enter answers as (reduced) fractions or decimals.
- If rounding a decimal, make sure to use every box.

Scale

- 120–720 for each test section
- 240–1440 for the total score

Personalized Skills Information



The PSAT 8/9 Score Report

- Contains information **to help students improve their academic skills.**
- **Lists skills** that students have the best chance of improving with additional work.
- Connects students to **personalized practice recommendations on Khan Academy.**

Preparation Starts in School

Read

Continuous reading improves vocabulary and develops essential skills.

Take Challenging Courses

This will help students to develop and strengthen their critical thinking skills.

Take the 2018-19 PSAT 8/9

How to Sign Up: _____

Test Day/Date: _____

Time: _____

Location: _____

Make sure you bring:

- Two No. 2 pencils
- Calculator (optional)

Resources





Good luck!