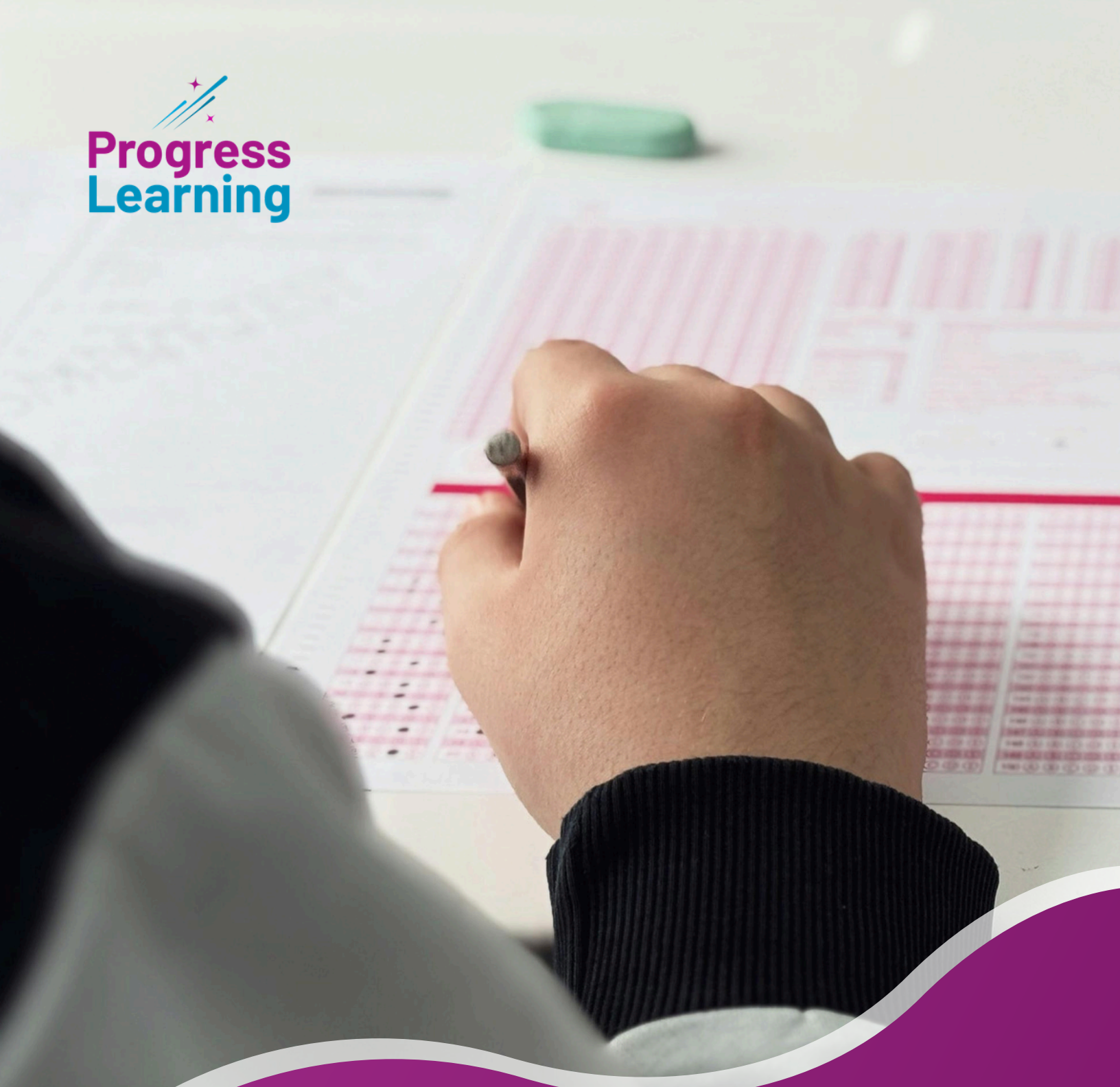




PreACT[®] and the ACT[®] Test: Assessment Overview

The ACT Test: Assessment Overview

As a Preferred Test Prep Provider of the ACT test, Progress Learning is integrating official, released test content directly into our platform. This relationship allows us to offer three premium assessments for the ACT test featuring past released test forms, complete with official scoring matrices. These assessments provide schools with a reliable way to gauge student readiness and track growth throughout the year against official benchmarks for the ACT test, all within the comprehensive Progress Learning ecosystem.

In addition to these premium assessments, Progress Learning offers three PreACT® 10 and three PreACT® 9 practice assessments. These PreACT assessments are developed exclusively by Progress Learning and are not part of our Preferred Test Prep Provider relationship with ACT Education Corp.

The following tables provide an overview of the structure, item counts, and time allocations for the ACT test, PreACT 10, and PreACT 9 assessments.



ACT		
Section	Number of Items	Time
English	50	35 min
Math	45	50 min
Reading	36	50 min
Science	40	40 min
TOTAL		165 min

PreACT 10		
Section	Number of Items	Time
English	48	35 min
Math	36	45 min
Reading	33	40 min
Science	36	40 min
TOTAL		160 min

PreACT 9		
Section	Number of Items	Time
English	44	35 min
Math	34	45 min
Reading	33	40 min
Science	32	35 min
TOTAL		155 min

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Exam Information by Section



ENGLISH

The English section of the ACT test evaluates a student's ability to revise and edit texts through questions embedded in real-world passages. Students are asked to apply the conventions of standard written English (grammar, punctuation, and usage), improve overall topic development, and refine language choice, tone, and sentence structure. Rather than testing isolated vocabulary or rote grammar rules, all questions require students to make strategic editorial decisions within the context of the passage.

English Content Blueprint for the ACT Test	
Reporting Category	Percent of Scored Items
Production of Writing	38% – 43%
Knowledge of Language	18% – 23%
Conventions of Standard English	38% – 43%



MATH

The Math section of the ACT test assesses a student's quantitative reasoning and problem-solving skills across essential high school mathematics topics, including algebra, geometry, functions, and statistics. Students are required to solve multi-step problems, interpret graphs and data, build mathematical models, and integrate foundational skills to tackle complex scenarios. While standard calculators are permitted, the test emphasizes reasoning, conceptual understanding, and practical application over heavy computation.

Math Content Blueprint for the ACT Test	
Reporting Category	Percent of Scored Items
Preparing for Higher Math	80%
Number & Quantity	10% – 12%
Algebra	17% – 20%
Functions	17% – 20%
Geometry	17% – 20%
Statistics & Probability	12% – 15%
Integrating Essential Skills	20%
Modeling*	≥ 20%

**Modeling is a secondary tag, and all questions reported under Modeling are also reported with either PHM or IES.*



READING

The Reading section of the ACT test evaluates a student's ability to read closely, reason logically using textual evidence, and integrate information across both literary and informational passages. Students are asked to locate key details, determine main ideas, analyze an author's tone and perspective, interpret context-dependent vocabulary, and synthesize data from paired passages or accompanying charts and graphs. All questions rely strictly on the provided text, requiring critical thinking and comprehension rather than outside subject-matter knowledge.

Reading Content Blueprint for the ACT Test	
Reporting Category	Percent of Scored Items
Key Ideas and Details	44% – 52%
Craft and Structure	26% – 33%
Integration of Knowledge and Ideas	19% – 26%



SCIENCE

The Science section of the ACT test measures a student's ability to interpret, analyze, evaluate, and solve problems using scientific data and reasoning. Students are presented with data representations (tables and graphs), experimental research summaries, and conflicting scientific hypotheses across biology, chemistry, physics, and earth sciences. While most questions rely directly on extracting evidence from the provided stimulus, a few questions require foundational outside science content knowledge typically taught in standard high school courses.

Science Content Blueprint for the ACT Test	
Reporting Category	Percent of Scored Items
Interpretation of Data	38% – 50%
Scientific Investigation	17% – 32%
Evaluating Scientific Arguments and Models with Evidence	23% – 38%

PreACT® Assessment Overview

Designed to prepare students for the ACT test, the PreACT tests offer early indicators of college readiness. While these tests align with the 1–36 scoring scale of the ACT test, they are scaled to match the grade-level expectations of students in grades 8–10.

Consequently, the assessments omit the most advanced content. For instance, PreACT 9 excludes complex trigonometry and matrices, and reading passages are calibrated to a 9th–10th grade level. Due to this content adjustment, the maximum possible scores are 35 for PreACT 10 and 32 for PreACT 9.

PreACT Blueprints

Progress Learning practice PreACT tests are written according to the following blueprints:

English Content Blueprint		
Reporting Category	PreACT 9 Percent of Scored Items	PreACT 10 Percent of Scored Items
Production of Writing	33% – 39%	33% – 39%
Knowledge of Language	12% – 18%	14% – 19%
Conventions of Standard English	42% – 48%	42% – 47%

Math Content Blueprint		
Reporting Category	PreACT 9 Percent of Scored Items	PreACT 10 Percent of Scored Items
Preparing for Higher Math	77%	78%
Number & Quantity	10% – 13%	9% – 13%
Algebra	17% – 23%	16% – 22%
Functions	17% – 23%	16% – 22%
Geometry	10% – 13%	16% – 22%
Statistics & Probability	10% – 13%	9% – 13%
Integrating Essential Skills	23%	22%
Modeling*	≥ 20%	≥ 22%

Reading Content Blueprint		
Reporting Category	PreACT 9 Percent of Scored Items	PreACT 10 Percent of Scored Items
Key Ideas and Details	52% – 60%	46% – 48%
Craft and Structure	24% – 32%	28% – 36%
Integration of Knowledge and Ideas	12% – 20%	12% – 20%

Science Content Blueprint		
Reporting Category	PreACT 9 Percent of Scored Items	PreACT 10 Percent of Scored Items
Interpretation of Data	38% – 50%	20% – 40%
Scientific Investigation	17% – 32%	17% – 40%
Evaluating Scientific Arguments and Models with Evidence	23% – 38%	20% – 40%

PreACT Scoring

Scaled score charts for Progress Learning’s practice PreACT tests are informed by item analysis and schoolwide assessment data. Equating methods were used to create a distribution similar to official assessments for each section.

Please note that these are estimates developed by Progress Learning and are not official score reports from ACT Education Corp. Scoring charts are periodically reviewed based on student assessment results. These charts provide students and educators with an approximate picture of progress toward benchmarks for the ACT test.

[View PreACT Score Chart](#)



CSEM Charts

On official score reports generated by ACT Education Corp., scaled scores appear with score ranges. Score ranges are equal to the particular scaled score a student attains on a given test plus or minus the conditional standard error of measurement for that point on the scale. For example, the CSEM for a score of 22 on the English section is 2. The score range for a student who attains a scaled score of 22 would therefore be 22 ± 2 , or 20–24.

The following table of data published by ACT Education Corp. shows CSEM values for scores for the ACT test and PreACT:

	Eng.	Math	Rea.	Sci.
1	2	1	2	2
2	2	1	2	2
3	2	1	2	2
4	2	1	2	2
5	2	1	2	2
6	2	1	2	2
7	2	1	2	2
8	2	1	2	2
9	2	1	2	2
10	2	1	2	2
11	2	1	2	2
12	2	1	2	2
13	2	1	2	2
14	2	1	2	2
15	2	1	2	2
16	2	1	2	2
17	2	1	2	2
18	2	2	2	2

	Eng.	Math	Rea.	Sci.
19	2	2	2	2
20	2	2	2	2
21	2	2	3	2
22	2	2	3	2
23	2	2	3	2
24	2	2	3	2
25	2	2	3	3
26	2	2	3	3
27	3	2	3	3
28	3	3	3	3
29	3	3	3	3
30	3	3	3	3
31	3	3	3	3
32	3	3	3	3
33	3	3	3	3
34	2	2	2	2
35	1	1	1	1

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