



# PSAT/NMSQT® Parent Night

Timothy Guy, Coordinator of Assessment

Kami Wagner, Instructional Facilitator for School Counseling

# Agenda

- + New Assessment Design
- + Skills Tested
- + Score Report & Online Tools
- + AP Potential
- + Q & A





# Assessment Design

- + Aligned with curriculum standards
- + Emphasis on skills needed for success in college
  - Critical thinking
  - Clear writing
  - Problem solving
  - Vocabulary in context
- + No penalty for wrong answers
- + Standard scale



The background image shows two women in a classroom or meeting setting. One woman, in the foreground, is pointing with a blue marker at a whiteboard. Another woman is visible in the background, looking towards the whiteboard. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter.

# **Skills Tested on the New PSAT/NMSOT<sup>®</sup>**

 Reading Test

 Writing and Language Test

 Math Test

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

# Reading Test

» **5 Passages**

» **47 Passage-Based Questions; 60 minutes**

## **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.

# Writing and Language Test

» **4 Passages**

» **44 Passage-Based Questions; 35 minutes**

## **QUICK FACTS**

- › All questions are multiple choice and based on passages.
- › Some passages are paired with informational graphics such as charts, graphs, and tables.
- › Prior topic-specific knowledge is never tested.
- › No mathematical computation is required.

# Math Test

» 2 Test Sections

» 48 Questions

(40 multiple choice, 8 grid-ins, 2 sections, 70 minutes)

## QUICK FACTS

- › Most math questions are multiple choice, but some will be student-produced responses (grid-ins).
- › The MathTest is divided into two portions:  
MathTest – Calculator and MathTest – No Calculator.
- › Some parts of the test will present students with a scenario and then ask several questions about it.



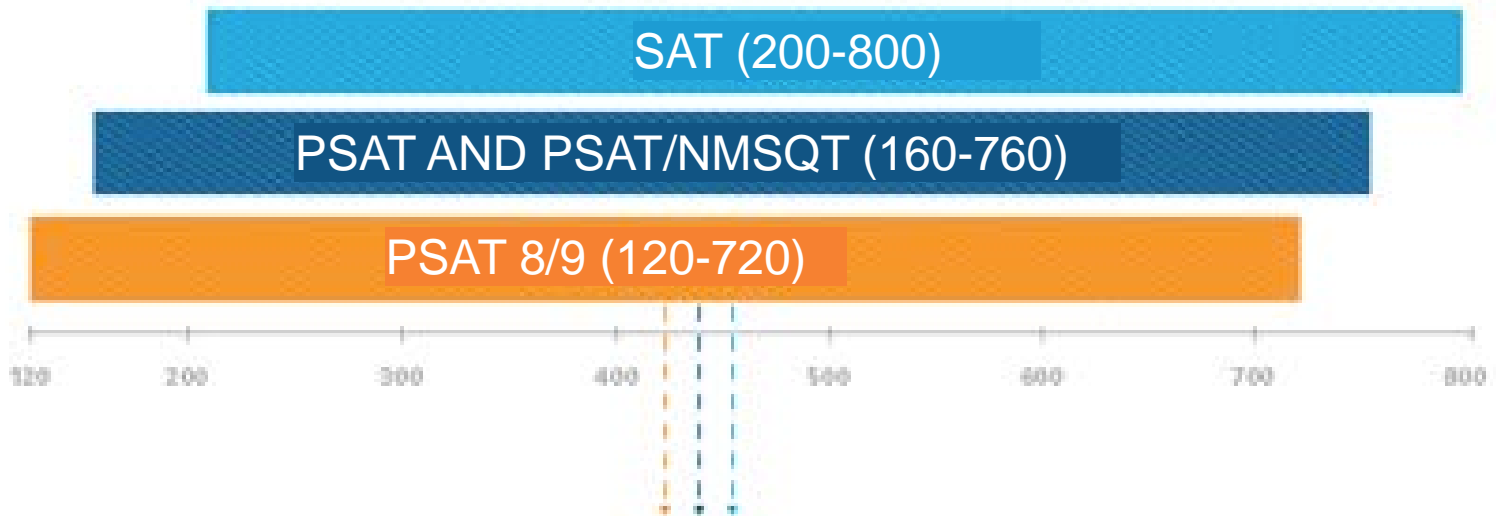
# How Does the New PSAT/NMSQT Connect to the New SAT?

## 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:

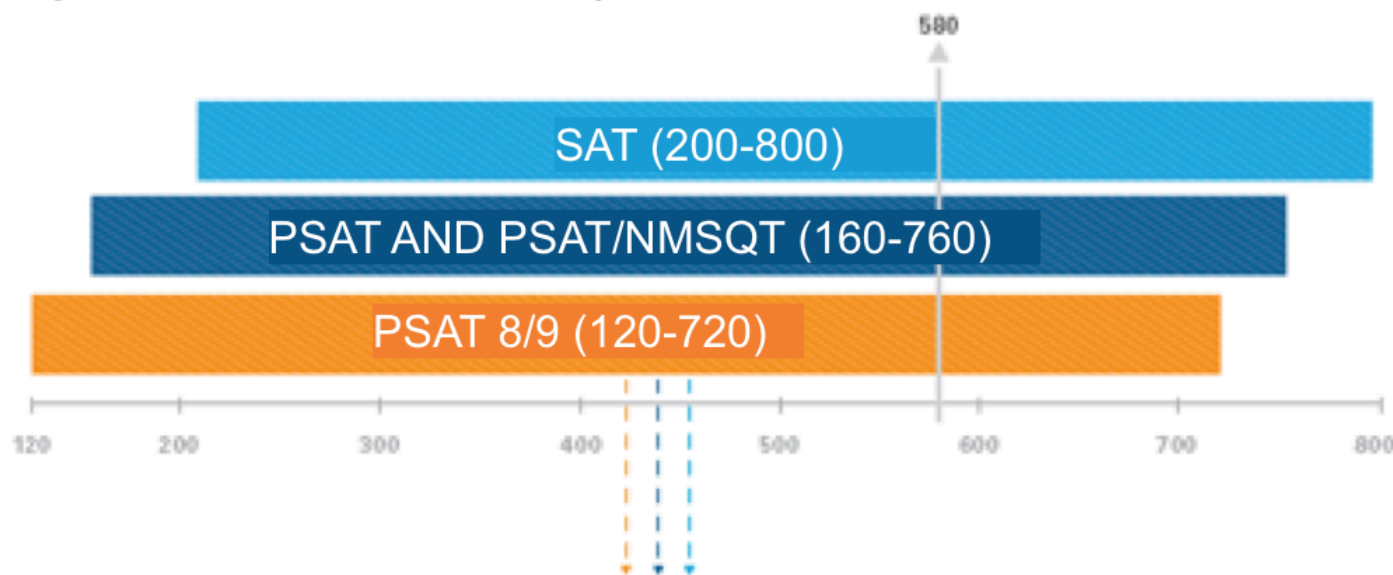
All tests in the SAT Suite of Assessments are on a common score scale that provides consistent feedback, enabling teachers to adjust instruction to better support students who are ahead or behind.



Grade-level benchmarks will indicate if students are making “on target” progress toward the SAT benchmark

# How Does the New PSAT/NMSQT® Connect to the New SAT®?

That means the score you get on the PSAT/NMSQT is the same score you would have gotten on the SAT if you had taken it on the same



Grade-level benchmarks will indicate if students are making "on target" progress toward the SAT benchmark

# How Does the New PSAT/NMSQT® Compare to the New SAT®?

## PSAT/NMSQT

## SAT

2 hours 45 minutes



Time

3 hours 50 minutes

X



Essay

Optional

160 – 760



Section Score Range

200 – 800

Take control of your learning by working on the skills you choose at your own pace with free online courses.

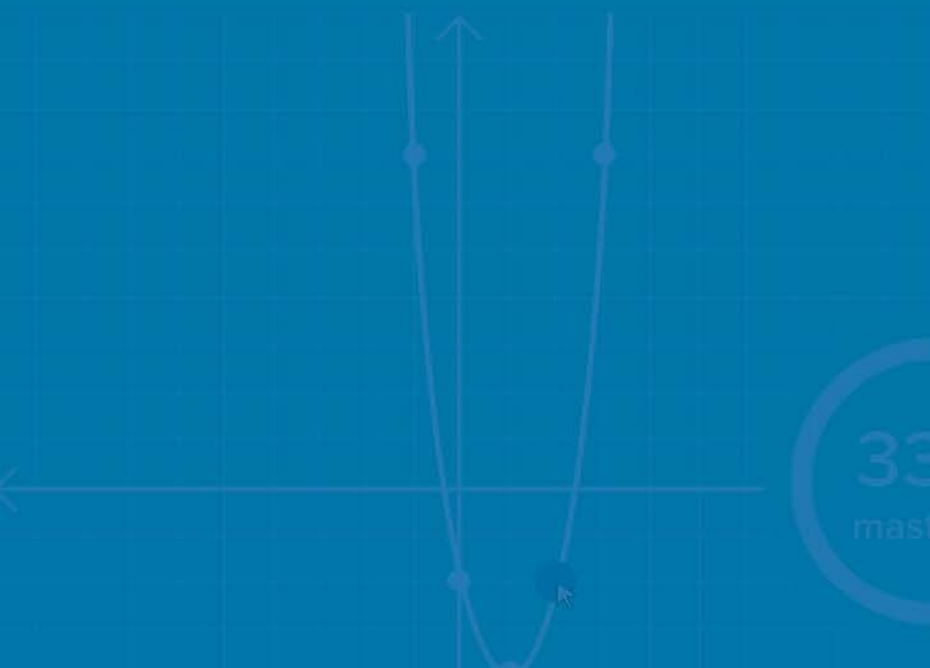


Algebra

UP NEXT: Parabolas



# Score Report and Online Tools



Sharpen your skills with over 100,000 interactive exercises.

# Understanding the Paper Score Report

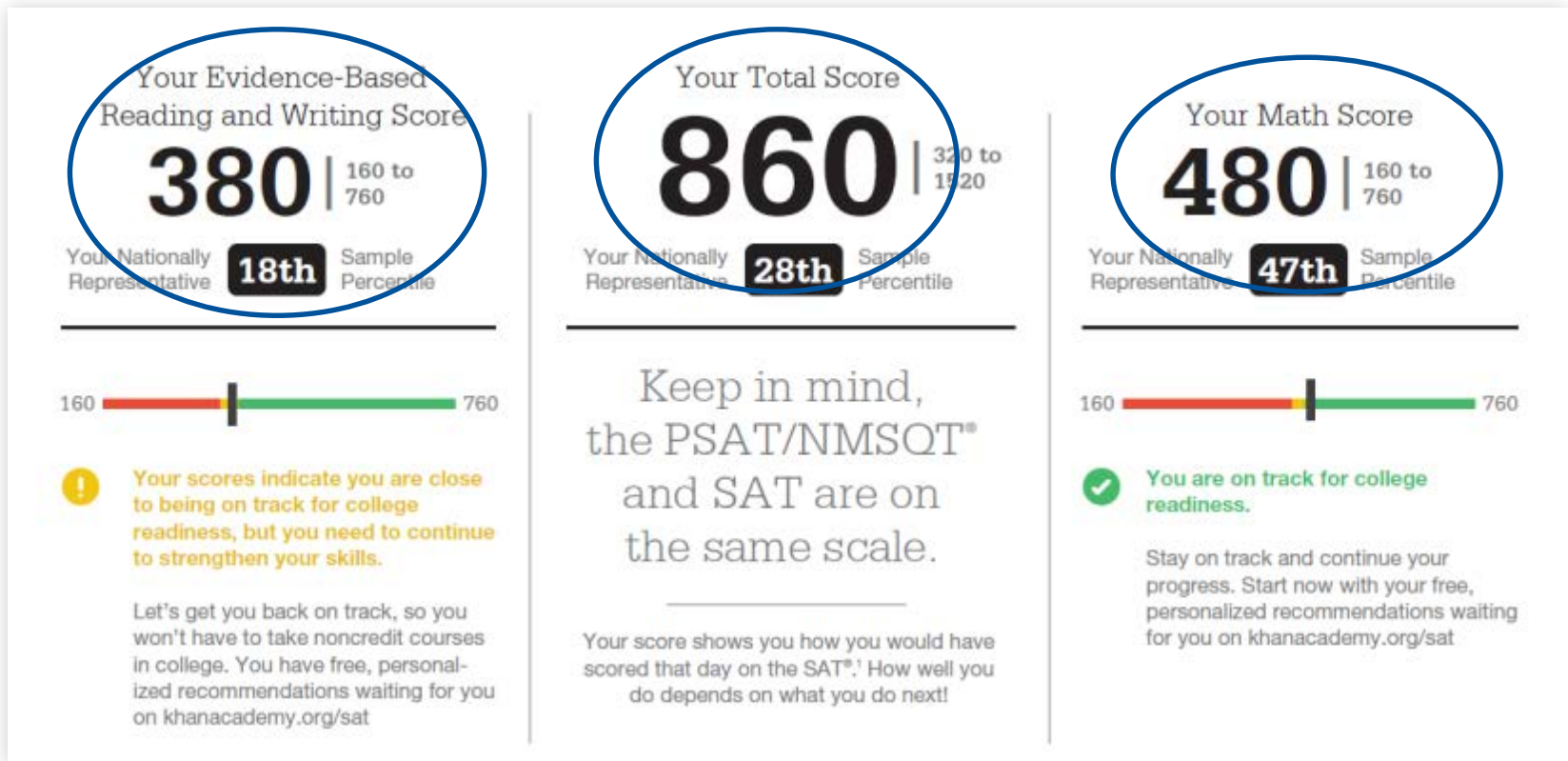
 CollegeBoard /  NATIONAL MERIT  
SCHOLARSHIP CORPORATION

# PSAT/NMSQT®

Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test

## Your Score Report

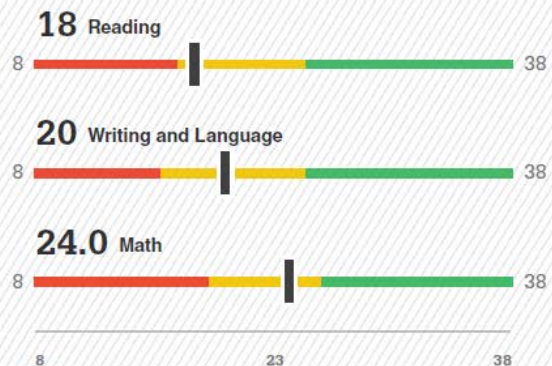
# Student Scores





# Student Scores (cont.)

## Test Scores 8 to 38 range\*



## Cross-Test Scores 8 to 38 range

- 19 Analysis in History/Social Studies
- 18 Analysis in Science

When you take tests more than once, your scores may differ slightly upon each testing occasion. This expected variation is considered your score range, and reflects the range your scores will likely fall in upon retesting. For the PSAT/NMSQT®, these ranges are approximately:

**Total:** Your score  $\pm$  40 points.

**Section:** Your score  $\pm$  30 points.

**Test Scores and Cross-Test Scores:** Your score  $\pm$  3 points.

**Subscores:** Your score  $\pm$  2 points.

Remember that you will receive scores in the same areas when you take the SAT.

1. Beginning in March 2016

## Subscores 1 to 15 range\*



**Ima B. Student**

John F. Kennedy High School, 123456, 2015, Grade 10, I.D. #24068907

# Student Score Percentiles

Your Evidence-Based  
Reading and Writing Score

**380** | 160 to 760

Your Nationally  
Representative **18th** Sample  
Percentile



Your scores indicate you are close to being on track for college readiness, but you need to continue to strengthen your skills.

Let's get you back on track, so you won't have to take noncredit courses in college. You have free, personalized recommendations waiting for you on [khanacademy.org/sat](https://khanacademy.org/sat)

Your Total Score

**860** | 320 to 1520

Your Nationally  
Representative **28th** Sample  
Percentile

Keep in mind,  
the PSAT/NMSQT®  
and SAT are on  
the same scale.

Your score shows you how you would have scored that day on the SAT®. How well you do depends on what you do next!

Your Math Score

**480** | 160 to 760

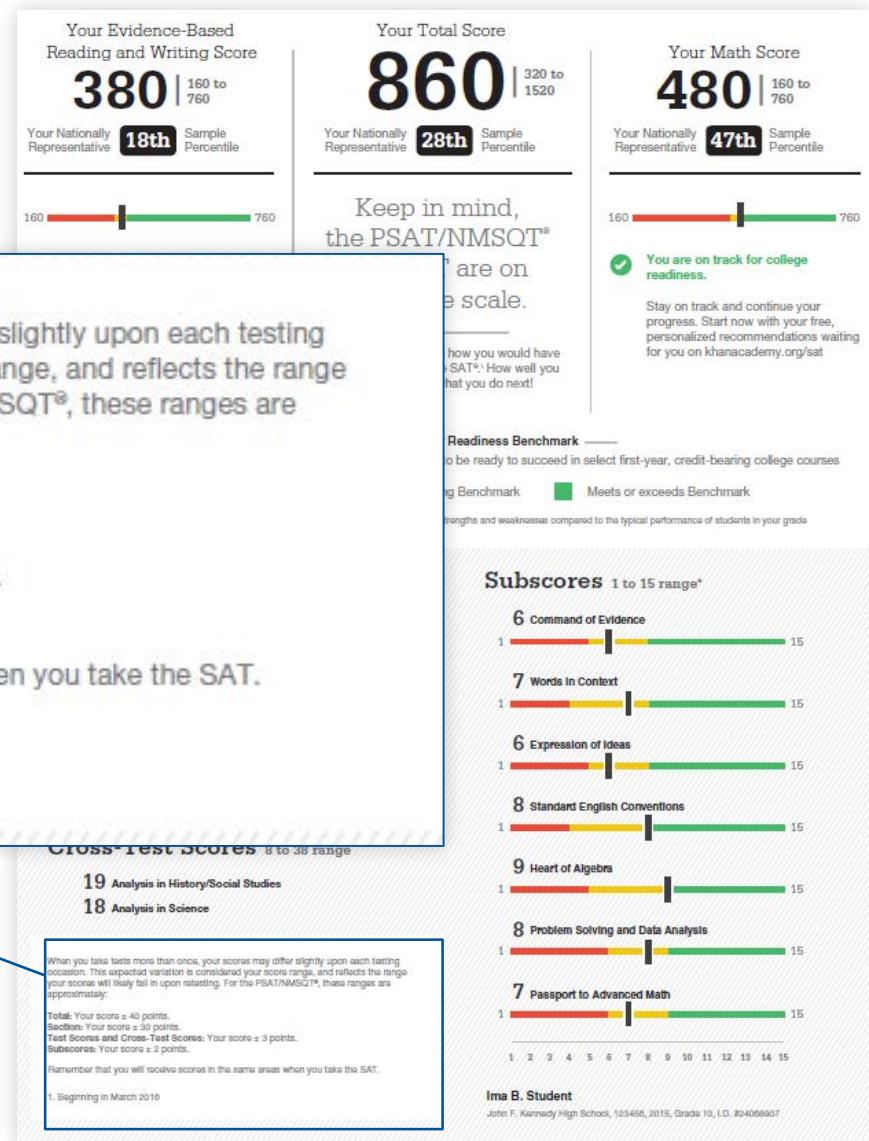
Your Nationally  
Representative **47th** Sample  
Percentile



You are on track for college readiness.

Stay on track and continue your progress. Start now with your free, personalized recommendations waiting for you on [khanacademy.org/sat](https://khanacademy.org/sat)

# Understanding Score Range





# National Merit® Scholarship Program



## National Merit Scholarship Corporation

National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) conducts the National Merit® Scholarship Program, an academic competition for recognition and college scholarships. To designate students who qualify for recognition in its 2017 competition, NMSC will consider the 2015 PSAT/NMSQT® Selection Index scores of some 1.5 million test-takers (usually high school juniors) who meet program entry requirements. For more information, please visit: [www.nationalmerit.org](http://www.nationalmerit.org).

If any of your responses to NMSC's "Entry Requirements" questions (see right-hand column) are inaccurate or there has been a change in plans that may affect program entry, write immediately to:

**National Merit Scholarship Corporation**  
**Attn: Scholarship Administration**  
**1560 Sherman Avenue, Suite 200**  
**Evanston, IL 60201-4897**

Include your name and home address along with your high school name, address, and six-digit code number.

### Your NMSC Selection Index

## 124\*

NMSC uses a Selection Index based on PSAT/NMSQT scores as an initial screen of students who enter its scholarship programs. To calculate your Selection Index, double the sum of your Reading, Writing and Language, and Math Test scores.

### Eligibility Information

\*The asterisk (\*) next to your Selection Index means you **do not** meet entry requirements for the 2017 National Merit Scholarship Program. See your responses to entry requirements to the right.

NOTE: Students leaving high school and entering college in 2018 or later must take the PSAT/NMSQT again in their 3<sup>rd</sup> year (junior year) of grades 9–12 to enter the National Merit Scholarship Program.

### Entry Requirements


(Information you provided on your answer sheet)

High school student:  
**YES**

Year to complete high school and enroll full-time in college:  
**2018**

Years to be spent in grades 9–12:  
**4**

U.S. Citizenship:  
**NO, but I am a U.S. lawful permanent resident (or have applied for permanent residence, the application for which has not been denied) and I intend to become a U.S. citizen at the earliest opportunity allowed by law.**



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### Test Scores: Next Steps

**Reading Test** Improve your skills by focusing on:

- Identify and add information or ideas to a piece of text to support claims or points in a challenging text.
- Use a variety of sentence structures to accomplish a rhetorical purpose such as persuading an audience.
- Revise text as needed to improve the effectiveness or content appropriateness of word choices within challenging texts.

**Writing and Language Test**


- Draw measurable inferences and logical conclusions from challenging texts.
- Analyze information presented quantitatively in such forms as graphs, tables, and charts and relate that information to information presented in somewhat challenging text.
- Determine how the selection of specific words shapes meaning and tone in a challenging passage.

**Math Test**


- Interpret a linear inequality in one variable with rational coefficients that represents a context. Select the equation of a line of best fit and interpret the slope and intercept of this line in the context of the situation (when a linear model is appropriate).
- Interpret sample statistics understanding and using margin of error.
- Solve and interpret a quadratic function or equation that represents a context and requires multiple steps.
- Calculate and interpret frequency distributions using tables and other representational methods.
- Determine how a graph may be affected by a change to its equation.
- Determine the value of a constant or coefficient for an equation with no solution or infinitely many solutions.
- Using a specified model, make a prediction and compare the predicted value with the actual values in the data set.
- Within a context, compare the center of two separate data sets with different spreads.
- Determine whether two events are independent given their probabilities.

### Get more next steps online


[student.scores.collegeboard.org](http://student.scores.collegeboard.org)



**SAT Practice**  
 Connect to FREE, world-class SAT practice online on [khanacademy.org/sat](http://khanacademy.org/sat)

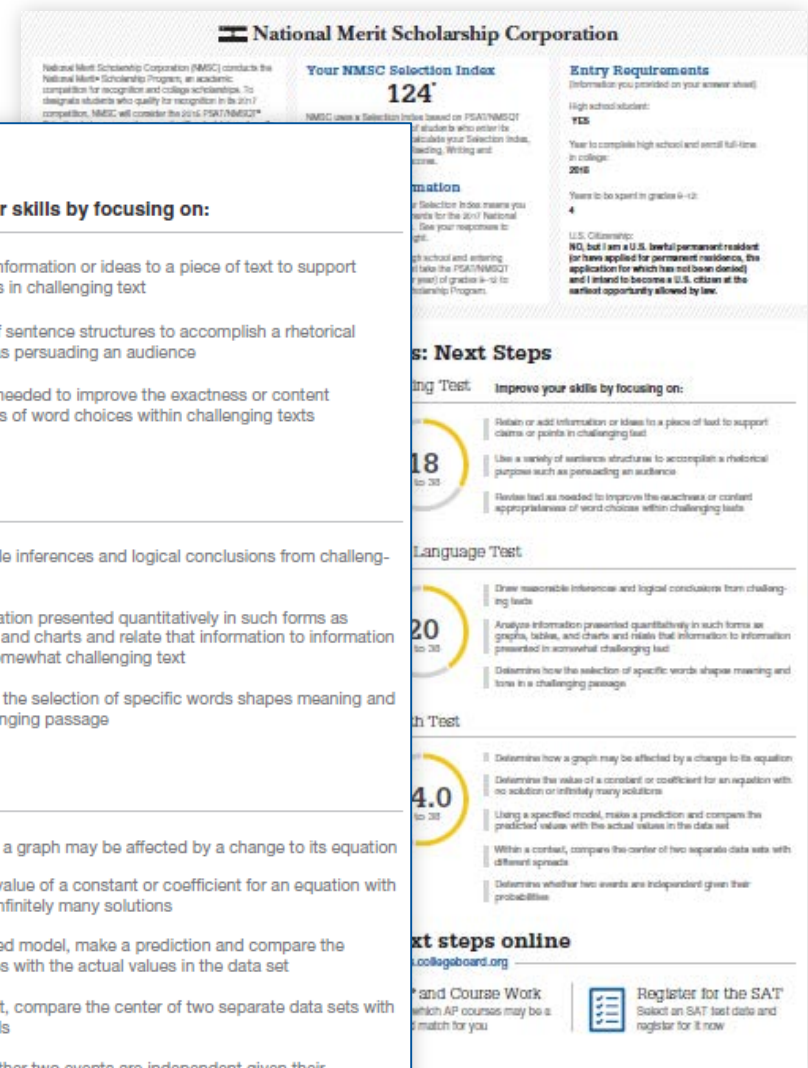
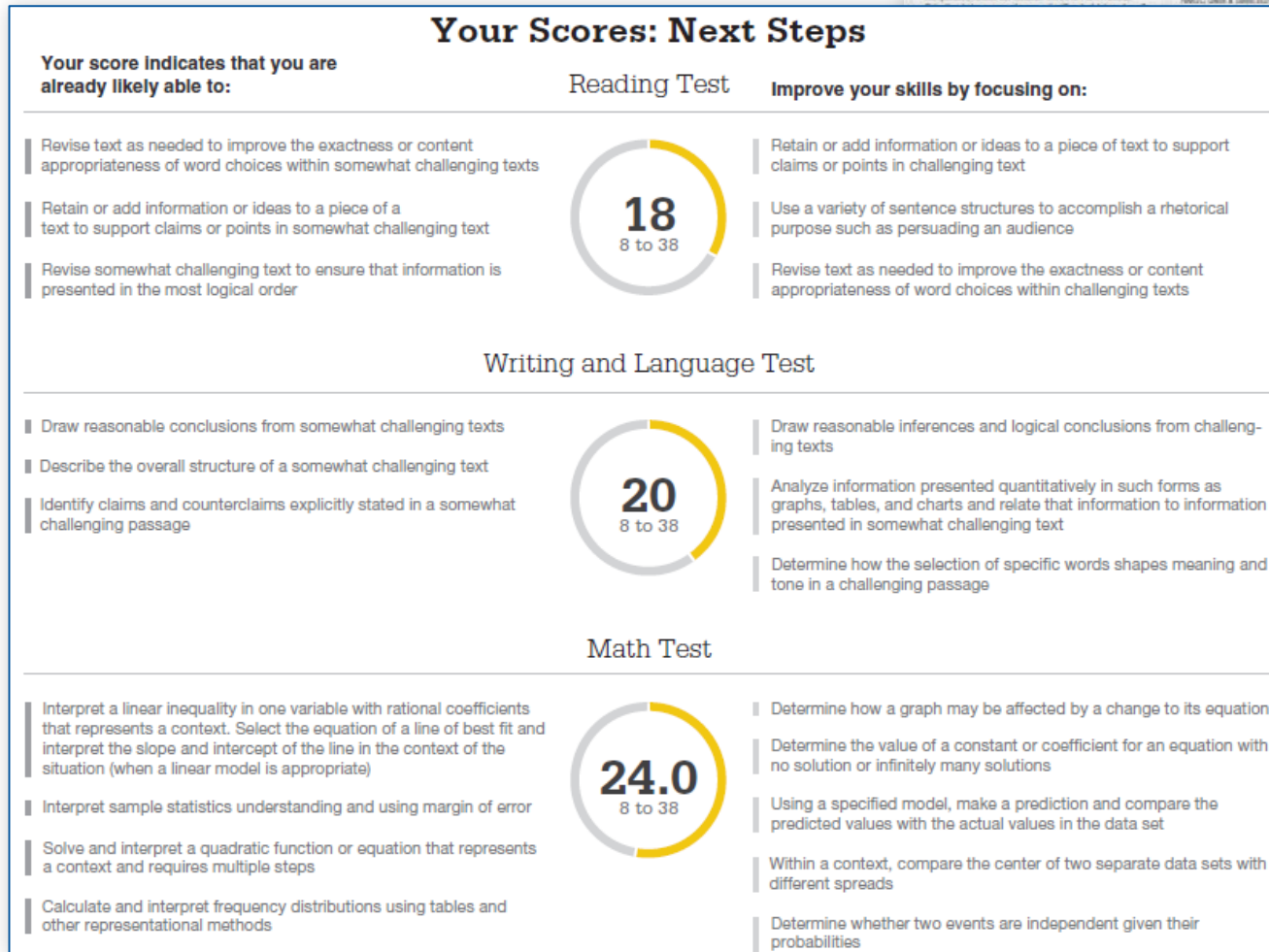


**AP® and Course Work**  
 See which AP courses may be a good match for you



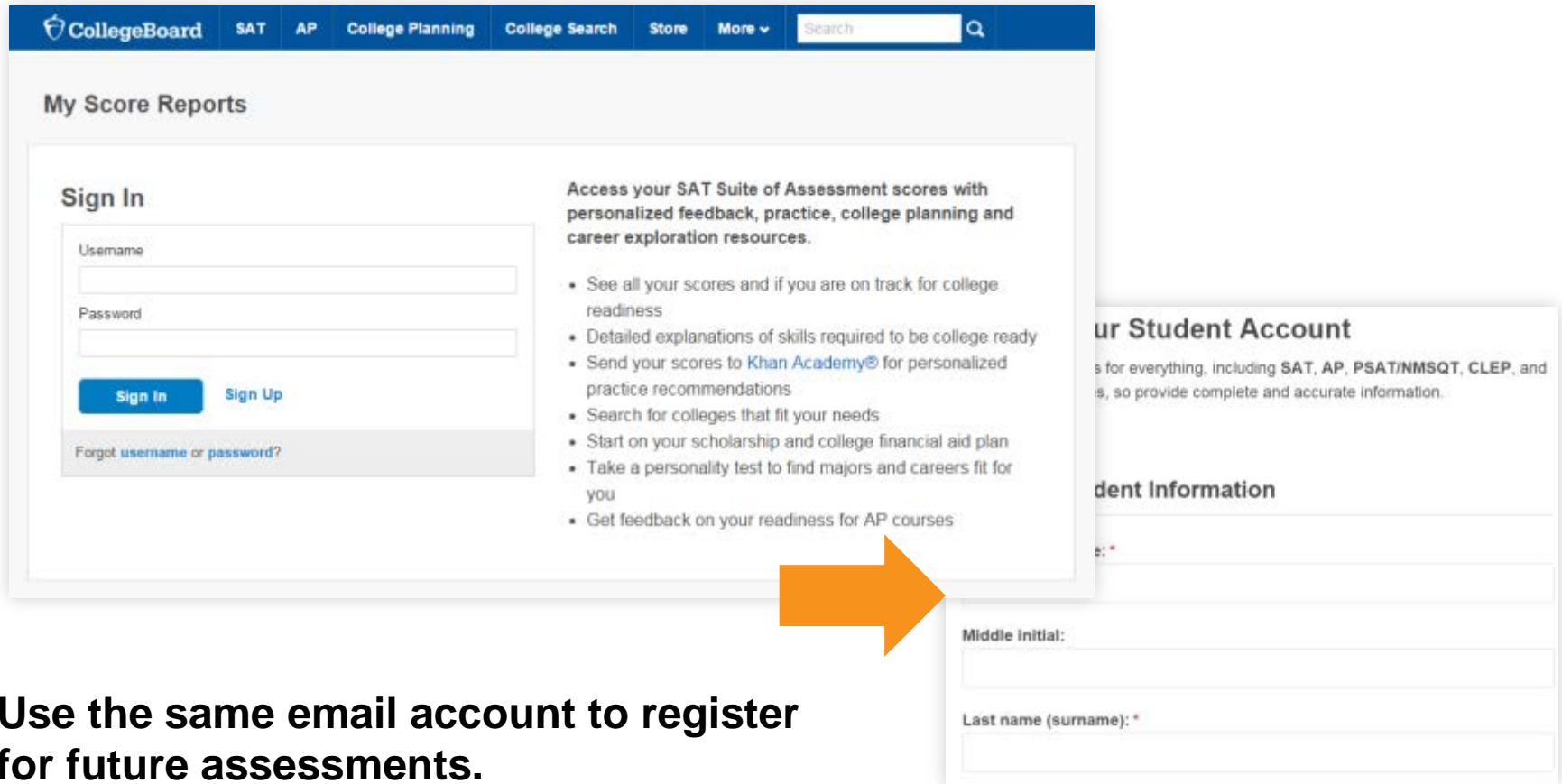
**Register for the SAT**  
 Select an SAT test date and register for it now

# Strengths and Areas of Improvement



# Online PSAT/NMSQT® Scores and Reports

Use an existing College Board account or create a new one at [studentscores.collegeboard.org](https://studentscores.collegeboard.org)



The screenshot displays the 'My Score Reports' section of the CollegeBoard website. On the left, there is a 'Sign In' form with fields for 'Username' and 'Password', and buttons for 'Sign In' and 'Sign Up'. Below the form is a link for 'Forgot username or password?'. To the right of the form, a text block states: 'Access your SAT Suite of Assessment scores with personalized feedback, practice, college planning and career exploration resources.' Below this text is a bulleted list of benefits:

- See all your scores and if you are on track for college readiness
- Detailed explanations of skills required to be college ready
- Send your scores to Khan Academy® for personalized practice recommendations
- Search for colleges that fit your needs
- Start on your scholarship and college financial aid plan
- Take a personality test to find majors and careers fit for you
- Get feedback on your readiness for AP courses

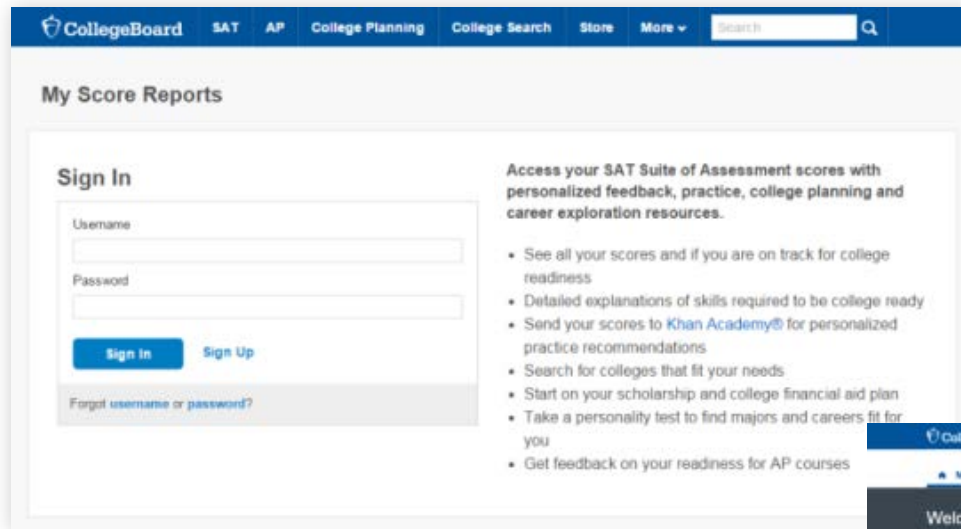
An orange arrow points from the 'Sign Up' button to the 'Create Student Account' form on the right. This form includes a title 'Create Student Account', a paragraph 'We need information for everything, including SAT, AP, PSAT/NMSQT, CLEP, and more, so provide complete and accurate information.', and a section titled 'Student Information' with fields for 'First name', 'Middle initial', and 'Last name (surname): \*'.

**Use the same email account to register for future assessments.**



# Online PSAT/NMSQT® Scores and Reports

## 1. Log in to Your Account

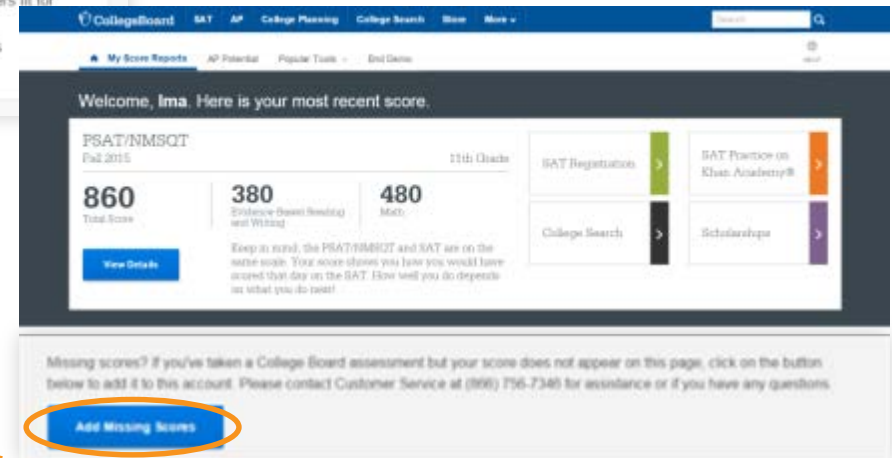


The image shows the 'My Score Reports' login page on the CollegeBoard website. The page has a blue header with the CollegeBoard logo and navigation links for SAT, AP, College Planning, College Search, Store, and More. A search bar is also present. The main content area is titled 'My Score Reports' and features a 'Sign In' section with fields for Username and Password, and buttons for 'Sign In' and 'Sign Up'. A link for 'Forgot username or password?' is also visible. To the right of the login section, there is a list of benefits for logging in, such as 'See all your scores and if you are on track for college readiness' and 'Get feedback on your readiness for AP courses'.

## 2. Select PSAT/NMSQT Scores

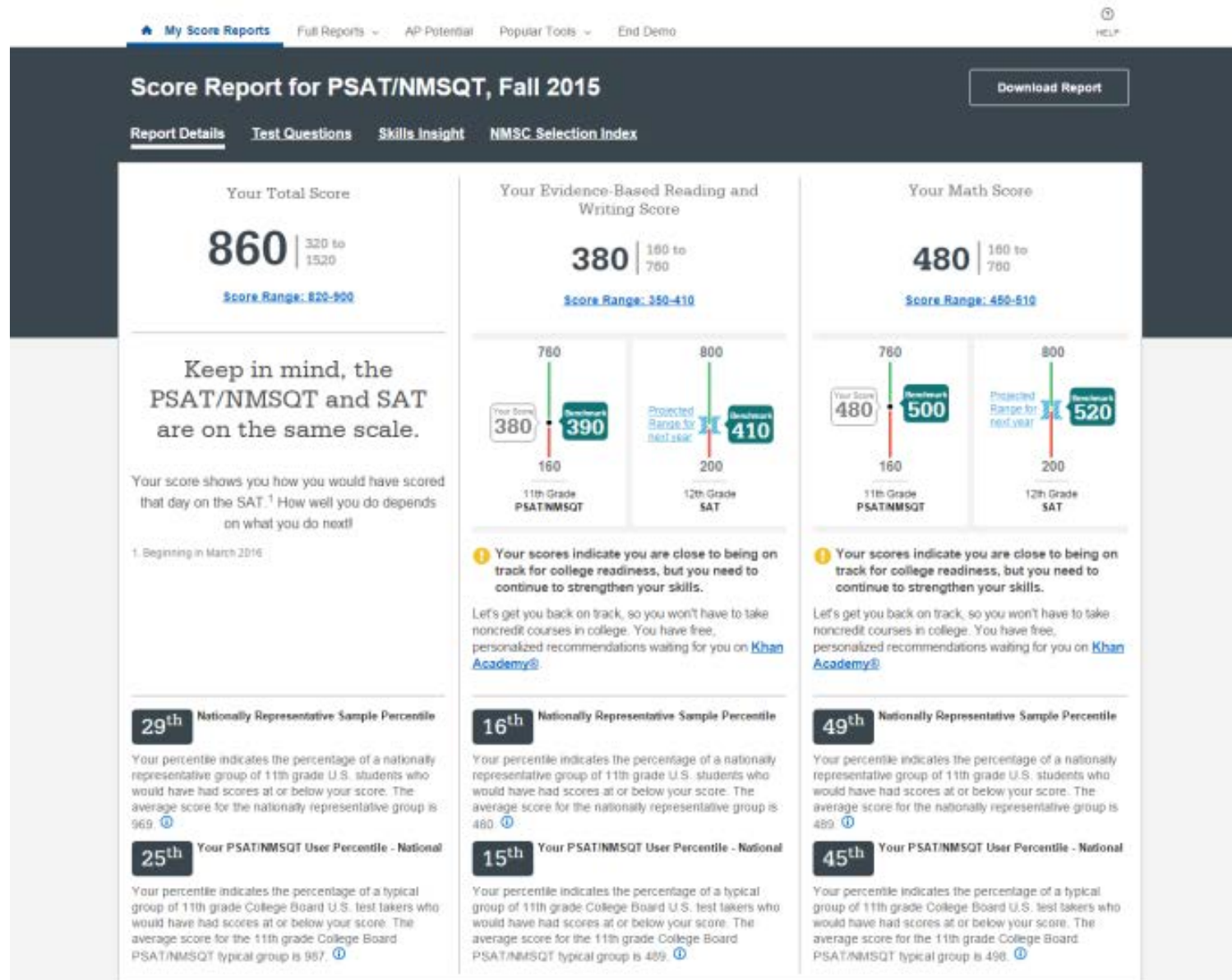
\*Or\*

## 3. Use “Missing Scores” to locate scores



The image shows the 'My Score Reports' dashboard on the CollegeBoard website. The dashboard displays the user's most recent PSAT/NMSQT score for Fall 2015, which is 860. It also shows the Evidence-Based Reading and Writing score (380) and the Math score (480). The dashboard includes links to 'View Details', 'SAT Registration', 'SAT Practice on Khan Academy®', 'College Search', and 'Scholarships'. At the bottom, there is a section for 'Missing scores?' with a button labeled 'Add Missing Scores' circled in orange.

# Detailed Scores

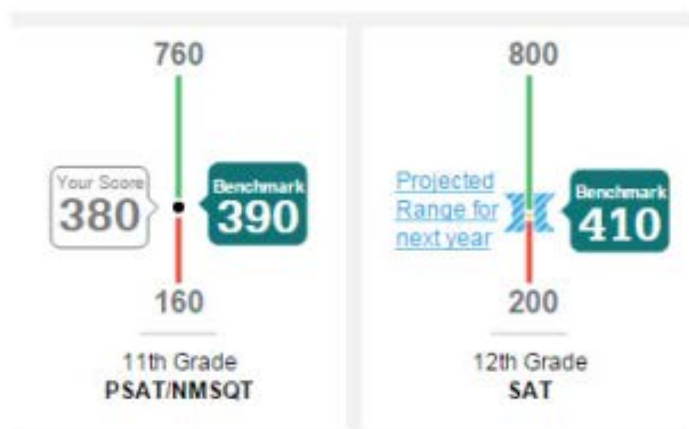


# Projected SAT® Performance

Your Evidence-Based Reading and Writing Score

**380** | 160 to 760

Score Range: 350-410



! Your scores indicate you are close to being on track for college readiness, but you need to continue to strengthen your skills.

Your Math Score

**480** | 160 to 760

Score Range: 450-510

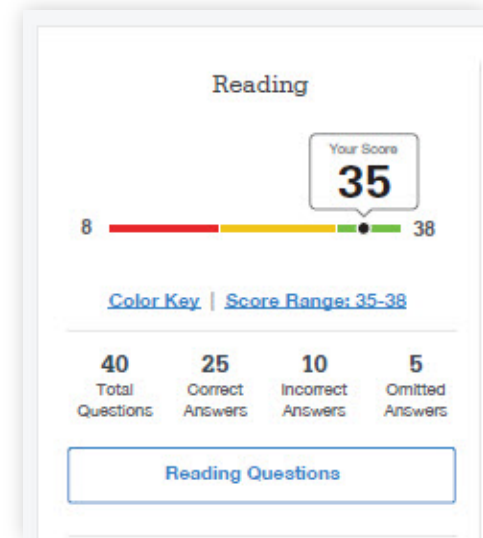


! Your scores indicate you are close to being on track for college readiness, but you need to continue to strengthen your skills.

# College Readiness Benchmarks

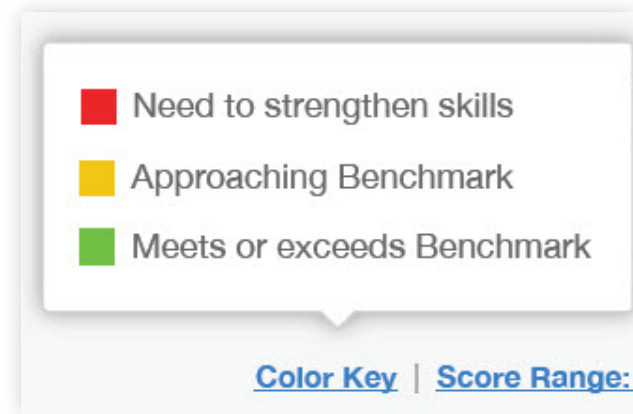
## + For section scores

- **Need to Strengthen Skills** = below grade-level benchmark by more than one year
- **Approaching Benchmark** = below grade-level benchmark by one year or less
- **Meets or exceeds Benchmark** = at or above grade-level benchmark



## + For test scores and subscores,

- Reflect areas of strengths and weaknesses compared to the typical performance of students



# Review Answers

- + Look at the online score report

- Identify the questions I answered incorrectly
- Find the correct answer and read the answer explanation
- Explain why the error was made
- Ask questions about answer explanations that are not clear

[illegible]

# Review Answers (cont.)

- + Look at the types of questions I answered incorrectly and skipped:
  - Identify the level of difficulty. How many questions did I miss at each level?
  - Was I more likely to skip questions associated with any subscore or cross-test score?
  - What inferences can I make about areas for improvement based on the types of questions I missed and skipped?

Score Report for PSAT/NMSQT, Fall 2015 Test Questions [Download Report](#)

Reading Writing & Language Math with Calculator Math without Calculator

Questions Overview

40 Total Questions	25 Correct Answers	10 Incorrect Answers	5 Omitted Answers
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Test Questions Key

■ ■ ■ Easy ■ ■ ■ Medium ■ ■ ■ Hard ✓ Correct ✗ Omitted U Unscorable

Reading Test Questions

Select a test question below to review in detail.

Filters Response Difficulty Subscores/Cross-test Score

Question ↑↓	Correct Answer	Your Answer	Difficulty ↑↓	Subscores/ Cross-test Score
1	D	D	■ ■ ■	Command of Evidence Relevant Words in Context
2	B	✓	■ ■ ■	Expression of Ideas
3	C	✓	■ ■ ■	Standard English Conventions
4	A	✓	■ ■ ■	Analysis in History/Social Studies
5	A	✗	■ ■ ■	Analysis in Science
6	C	✓	■ ■ ■	Expression of Ideas
7	B	✓	■ ■ ■	
8	D	✓	■ ■ ■	Analysis in History/Social Studies



# AP Potential™

+ AP Potential™ uses scores from the PSAT/NMSQT to provide predictions for 21 AP Exams.

### AP Potential and Coursework

#### What is AP?

Advanced Placement is a College Board program that enables students to pursue college-level studies - with the opportunity to earn college credit, advanced placement or both - while still in high school. The program offers courses in more than 30 subjects. For a full list of courses, click here. If you've taken a College Board assessment in 9th grade or higher, see below for a list of AP courses that you are likely to succeed in. If you've taken an assessment in 9th grade or higher but don't see any AP courses listed below, click here to link the scores to this account or contact Customer Service at (800)756-7346 for assistance and questions.

#### High School Core Coursework

Colleges have different high school course requirements, but all expect you to take classes that challenge your skills. Try to take a core course load of 4 years of English and at least 3 years of Math, Science, and Social Studies. As you work towards your high school diploma, you should consider taking courses that align with your future career interest and college major, which may require more than the standard core course load. You may also want to think about taking Advanced Placement courses in your later years of high school.

[View all AP Courses](#)

#### AP Potential Key

**●●●●**  
**Potential**  
Your scores show that you have the potential for success in this course. Speak with your teachers or school counselor to see if you have the appropriate prerequisite courses and find out how you can enroll.

**●●●○**  
**Some Potential**  
Your scores show that you have some potential for success in this AP course. Having interest in the course subject as well as dedication to working hard will increase your chances for success. Speak with your teachers or school counselor to see if you have the appropriate prerequisite courses and find out how you can enroll.

**●○○○**  
**Potential Not Yet Indicated**  
Your scores show that you may need more preparation and support to be successful in this course. Share your goals and interests with your teachers and school counselor, and learn which high school courses can prepare you for AP courses in the future. If you're already taking an AP course, you can still succeed through hard work and motivation. Talk to your teachers regularly so they can support you.

#### AP Courses

Your score on the PSAT/NMSQT can identify your potential for success in specific AP courses. Below is a list of those AP courses. The chart identifies your potential for each of these AP courses and if these AP courses are offered in your school. You may also look to see if these AP courses match your college major.

Select a Major ▼

Subject	AP Potential	Your School Offers this Course	Matches Major
Art History	●●●●		✓
Biology	●●●○	✓	
Calculus AB	●○○○	✓	
Calculus BC	●○○○	✓	✓

# Official SAT Practice with Khan Academy®

- + Sign up for Official SAT Practice for free
  - [satpractice.org](https://satpractice.org)
- + Complete practice problems and diagnostic quizzes
- + Link your College Board and Khan Academy accounts.
  - All SAT Suite results will be sent to further customize practice on Khan Academy using actual results.



# Next Steps



- + Encourage students to take challenging courses in high school
- + Link scores with Khan Academy
- + Set up a practice plan and stick to it
- + Use Naviance for additional tools and information

A photograph of three students in a school locker room, overlaid with a blue tint. A young woman on the left is smiling and holding a book titled 'The Chemistry of...'. A young man in the background is also smiling. A young woman on the right is gesturing with her hand. The text 'Q & A' is centered in white.

Q & A