

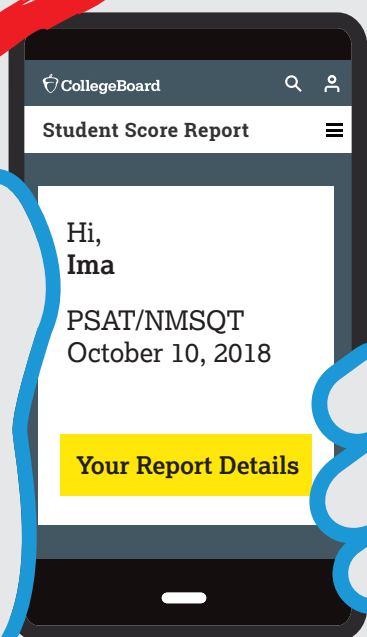


SIGNET
EDUCATION

HOW TO MAKE SENSE OF THE PSAT SCORE REPORT

*A guide for parents, prepared by
the experts at Signet Education.*

Your Summary Score Report



Get Your Score Report

Use this link to obtain an online version of this report as well as a copy of the actual test the student took. This is invaluable for assessing a student's strengths and weaknesses and developing a plan for studying for the SAT.

psat.org/myscore

Hi, Ima B. Student

School Name: **John F. Kennedy High School**

School Code: **123456**

Grade: **11th Grade**

Student ID: **24068907**

Optional Code: **00**

Access Code: **A02670146P**

College Board ID: **12345678**

YOUR SCORE TODAY

Your Total Score

960 | 320 to 1520

The combined score is out of 1520.

You are in the **51st** percentile

These three scores are the most important information in the report.

Your Evidence-Based Reading and Writing Score

430 | 160 to 760

You are in the **31st** percentile

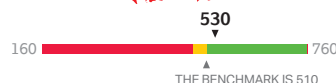
Section scores are out of 760.

! Your score shows that you're almost on track to be ready for college, but you need to keep building your skills.

Your Math Score

530 | 160 to 760

You are in the **69th** percentile



✓ Your score shows that you're on track to be ready for college.

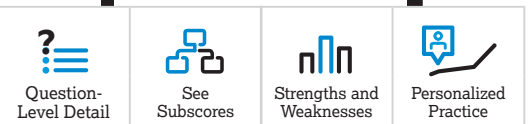
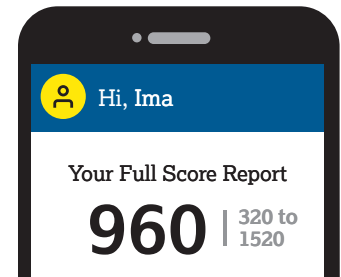
Your Test Scores*

Reading
23 | 8 to 38

Writing and Language
20 | 8 to 38

Math
26.5 | 8 to 38

* Additional detailed scores, like test scores, provide students with a deeper understanding of their performance. Test scores are also used to calculate your NMSC Selection Index.



psat.org/myscore

Go online for your full report

Ima,
this was your score when you took the test; it is not a measure of how far you can **grow!**

Use the individual test scores to get a sense of which of the three sections was the hardest for your student. This tells you where your student should start studying.

YOUR PATH TOMORROW

Here's what else is waiting for you online:

1

A link to your personal Khan Academy profile

Share your Khan Academy personal

The National Merit Selection Index is derived by doubling the sum of the student's individual test scores. Each state has a different cut off. If your student is above the cut off score, he or she will receive additional information and an application for the scholarship program.

2

A list of the challenging courses you're ready for

Congrats! Your scores show you're ready to succeed in AP® courses.

3

Your customized starter college list

Check out the tools at BigFuture™ to kick-start your college plans.

SAT®

Don't forget!

Register to take the SAT ahead of college application deadlines in spring of junior year and fall of senior year.



NATIONAL MERIT
SCHOLARSHIP CORPORATION

Your NMSC Selection Index

139

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

Eligibility Information

You meet entry requirements for the 2020 National Merit Scholarship Program and your Selection Index score will be considered among 1.6 million program entrants.

If your Selection Index places you among the 50,000 high scorers who qualify for National Merit Scholarship Program recognition, you will be notified next September when qualifying Selection Index scores will be made available.

Entry Requirements

Information you provided on your answer sheet:

High school student: **YES**

Year to complete high school and enroll full time in college: **2020**

Total years to be spent in grades 9–12: **4**

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 2020 competition, NMSC will consider the 2018 PSAT/NMSQT® Selection Index scores of some 1.6 million test takers (usually high school juniors) who meet program entry requirements. For more information, please visit: www.nationalmerit.org.

If any of your responses to NMSC's "Entry Requirements" questions 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 Question-Level Feedback

QUESTIONS OVERVIEW

READING

47
Total Questions

21
Correct Answers

25
Incorrect Answers

1
Omitted Answers

WRITING AND LANGUAGE

44
Total Questions

17
Correct Answers

26
Incorrect Answers

1
Omitted Answers

MATH – CALCULATOR

31
Total Questions

15
Correct Answers

14
Incorrect Answers

2
Omitted Answers

MATH – NO CALCULATOR

17
Total Questions

10
Correct Answers

7
Incorrect Answers

0
Omitted Answers

*Tip: A great way to start improving: check out the easy questions you missed first.

KEY

✓ Correct

○ Omitted

U Unscorable

X Multi-Grid/Incorrect

■ Easy Question

■ Medium Question

■ Hard Question

Easy Question Missed*

READING

Question #	Correct	Your Answer	Difficulty
1	A	✓	■
2	B	A	■
3	B	✓	■
4	B	A	■
5	C	✓	■
6	D	✓	■
7	B	✓	■
8	A	✓	■
9	D	✓	■
10	A	✓	■
11	D	C	■
12	D	B	■
13	D	A	■
14	A	X	■
15	C	B	■
16	B	C	■
17	D	C	■
18	B	D	■
19	A	✓	■
20	C	✓	■
21	B	D	■
22	D	✓	■
23	B	D	■
24	D	✓	■
25	C	✓	■
26	A	✓	■
27	B	C	■
28	A	C	■
29	D	A	■
30	B	A	■
31	D	✓	■
32	A	✓	■
33	C	✓	■
34	A	B	■
35	A	B	■
36	C	○	■
37	B	C	■
38	C	D	■
39	C	✓	■
40	C	✓	■
41	B	✓	■
42	B	✓	■
43	A	B	■
44	A	✓	■
45	A	C	■
46	D	A	■
47	C	B	■

WRITING AND LANGUAGE

Question #	Correct	Your Answer	Difficulty
1	D	C	■
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12	B	✓	■
13	C	✓	■
14	C	B	■
15	D	✓	■
16	B	A	■
17	B	D	■
18	A	✓	■
19	B	✓	■
20	C	D	■
21	A	✓	■
22	A	B	■
23	C	B	■
24	D	C	■
25	C	D	■
26	A	✓	■
27	A	D	■
28	B	✓	■
29	D	A	■
30	C	B	■
31	D	✓	■
32	B	✓	■
33	D	✓	■
34	D	B	■
35	D	✓	■
36	B	A	■
37	C	D	■
38	A	✓	■
39	C	✓	■
40	D	A	■
41	D	B	■
42	A	○	■

MATH – CALCULATOR

Question #	Correct	Your Answer	Difficulty
1	B	✓	■
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12	A	✓	■
13	B	✓	■
14	C	✓	■

Question #

Correct

Your Answer

Difficulty

28

65

60

■

29

0, 12

2

■

30

1368

0

■

31

85

75

■

MATH – NO CALCULATOR

Question #	Correct	Your Answer	Difficulty
8	B	C	■
9	C	✓	■
10	D	✓	■
11	A	C	■
12	C	✓	■
13	B	A	■

Question #

Correct

Your Answer

Difficulty

14

2

0

■

15

90

80

■

✓

■

Here you can see all of the questions your student missed, the correct answers, and the difficulty level.

Look for patterns, like if your student missed questions at the ends of sections or missed mostly hard or easy questions (i.e. content gaps vs. careless mistakes).

Don't miss this: you can pull up all of the questions and answers online! This is incredibly helpful for diagnosing your student's errors at a more detailed level.

Question-Level Detail

See Subscores

320 to 1520

960

psat.org/myscore

Go online for your full report

Strengthen Weaknesses

Personalized Practice

Ima B. Student 2018, 11th Grade

00902-090

FREQUENTLY-ASKED QUESTIONS

Does the PSAT matter in college admissions?

A student's PSAT score does not matter for college admissibility. College admissions officers will not see it when they are evaluating applications. The PSAT is simply a benchmark for students to use when thinking about preparing for the actual SAT.

The only case where a PSAT score may influence the college process is in the financial aid process: if a student qualifies to be a National Merit Scholar, he or she may then qualify for a scholarship or other merit aid.

What should we do with this PSAT score?

The best way to use the PSAT is as a benchmark for the SAT. Students can get a sense from their PSAT score how they would do on the SAT if they took it that day.

We believe that students who plan to take a college admissions exam should practice and prepare for it. The PSAT will tell you how much practice and preparation your student might need for the SAT. By looking at the questions your student got correct or incorrect, the PSAT will also give you a general sense of what topics or content areas your student needs to work on most.

Why is the PSAT scored out of 1520, not 1600?

The new PSAT is designed to be scored on the same scale as the SAT. In other words, a 1360 on the PSAT should translate to a student scoring right around a 1360 on the SAT.

However, because the PSAT is administered earlier than when most students take the SAT, the test is slightly easier. To account for this, the score can only go up to 1520, or 760 in each section.

What if the score seems low?

That's OK. A lot of students score lower than they would like. Remind your student to see this score as a starting point: it's where he or she is now, not a prediction of where he or she will score eventually.

If your student's score is lower than he or she hoped, it's just a sign that diligent practice is needed prior to actually taking the test. In many cases, students don't take the PSAT seriously. College isn't quite on their mind yet, or they aren't sure why they have to take the PSAT in school. A low score can be a useful wake up call that they need to focus, try their best, and potentially start studying for the real deal that's coming up.

WHAT TO DO NEXT

1. Review and analyze this report

- First look at the actual questions and your student's responses. Identify all the questions the student missed or skipped, and make a list of those topics.
- If the student can remember where he or she guessed, also review those questions.
- Review the more challenging questions in each section (marked with a level 3 difficulty on the PSAT report) whether or not the student got them wrong—they may have guessed and gotten lucky!
- Take notes on each question the student missed or skipped:

If it was in a reading section, what kind of passage was it—fiction, science, history? How much of the passage did the question refer to—one line, one paragraph, or the whole passage?

Did the question involve a table, chart, or figure? What kind?

If it was in a math section, was it a lengthy word problem, a picture of an x - y plane, or a nasty-looking algebraic equation?

Answering these questions may help identify whether there are larger issues at play, more than just reading comprehension or a specific topic within a particular math field.

- Finally, look at larger patterns in the student's performance.

If the student got a number of easy or medium questions wrong, this may indicate that he or she was rushing or paid poor attention to detail.

If he or she left a lot of questions blank at the end of a section, the student may have run out of time.

WHAT TO DO NEXT (CONTINUED)

2. Take an ACT diagnostic test

The SAT and ACT are accepted equally by all 4-year U.S. colleges and universities. Students can choose which test they want to submit. The tests are similar, but many students find they do significantly better on one test or the other.

Comparing ACT practice scores to PSAT scores is the first step in deciding which test to focus on. You can use the same methods you used to analyze your student's PSAT results to analyze your student's ACT results.

For more information on choosing between exams, check out this article:

<https://signededucation.com/blog/choosing-between-the-sat-and-act-exams>

3. Set a goal score

Keep two things in mind as you and your student set an SAT or ACT goal score:

- *A student's ideal college.* While most students may not know now where they want to apply, having a sense of the type of school or range of schools is important to knowing what SAT or ACT score might be necessary.

Most colleges publish the "middle 50%" of SAT and ACT scores for the incoming class. Check these ranges for some of your student's ideal colleges, and compare that to the PSAT or ACT diagnostic score to see how much the student needs to improve.

- *A feasible increase.* Typically, students can expect to increase 100-200 points on the SAT or 3-4 points on the ACT with regular, diligent and concerted preparation. Many students can achieve a greater increase, but it requires a lot more work.

We don't discourage students from setting a goal score that's beyond these thresholds, but it's important for them to understand and commit to the amount of work required to achieve their goals.

WHAT TO DO NEXT (CONTINUED)

4. Pick a target test date

We generally recommend students spend 2-4 months preparing for the SAT or ACT.

Most students also take the test two or even three times. Colleges don't mind if students have taken the test multiple times, though it's usually unproductive for students to take the tests more than three times.

Depending on a student's goal score, he or she may budget more or less time for preparation. For example, if your student is very close to the goal score already, he or she can probably schedule the test sooner. Conversely, if the student are very far from the goal score, he or she will likely need more time.

Given the test dates in the table below, if juniors start preparing shortly after the PSAT results come out in December, a general first test date of March/April is good. A second date can be planned for May/June.

Testing again in the summer before or fall of senior year is an option, but we strongly recommend students try to finalize their testing by the end of junior year. This is important because it gives students a clear idea of their scores. This will help them create a reliable college list, and it also makes sure that they have ample time to devote to their college applications.

SAT			ACT		
TEST DATE	REGISTER BY	LATE REGISTRATION DEADLINE	TEST DATE	REGISTER BY	LATE REGISTRATION DEADLINE
MAR 9, 2019*	FEB 8, 2019	FEB 27, 2019	FEB 9, 2017	JAN 11, 2019	JAN 18, 2019
MAY 4, 2019	APR 5, 2019	APR 24, 2019	APR 13, 2019	MAR 8, 2019	MAR 25, 2019
JUN 1, 2019	MAY 3, 2019	MAY 22, 2019	JUN 8, 2019	MAY 3, 2019	MAY 20, 2019
AUG 2019**	TBD	TBD	JUL 13, 2019*	JUN 14, 2019	JUN 24, 2019
OCT 2019**	TBD	TBD	SEPT 2019	TBD**	TBD**
NOV 2019**	TBD	TBD	OCT 2019	TBD**	TBD**
DEC 2019**	TBD	TBD	DEC 2019	TBD**	TBD**

* SAT Subject Tests not offered on this date.

**Check the link below for the most up-to-date information.

<https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat/register/dates-deadlines>

*No test centers are scheduled in California or New York for the July test date

**Check the link below for the most up-to-date information.

www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/the-act/registration.html#dates

WHAT TO DO NEXT (CONTINUED)

5. Build a study plan

Taking into account a student's starting PSAT or ACT diagnostic score, the goal score, target test date, and the time that he or she has to study, you and your student should then build a week-by-week test prep plan.

We normally recommend students commit to studying at least an hour a day, three times per week (or more). To make the best use of this time, students should have a roadmap for what to study.

Students should focus on one or two sections at a time. They should work on understanding concepts, doing practice problems and reviewing them, and taking full-length practice sections or exams.

This plan can be as simple as just a list of chapters in a prep book to cover each week, or it could be as complex as a specific list of concepts and problems to cover every week. You can use the list you developed from analyzing your test scores to determine what to study and when. (*Hint: Review foundational concepts first!*)

The goal is to have a guide so that study time is used effectively.

For more on how to build a study plan, check out this article:

<http://signededucation.com/testing-plan>

6. Take practice tests and use them wisely

Some students make the mistake of overtesting. Just taking practice tests over and over again is not an efficient use of time. However, it is important to take 1-3 practice tests in the regular course of preparation.

Students should space these practice tests out in order to assess their progress, and they should take them under realistic conditions (e.g., in the morning, ideally in a quiet but unfamiliar environment).

Systematically reviewing these tests (in the same way we describe reviewing the PSAT results) will help students continually refine their study plans and make sure that their studying is effective.

Have more questions or need more guidance?

CONTACT US: (617) 714-5262
INFO@SIGNETEDUCATION.COM

SIGNETEDUCATION.COM