

What To Do To Improve Test Scores on College Admissions Testing

1. The number one thing you can do to improve your scores on future SATs and ACTs is to review your PSAT and/or practice ACT results, see where you made mistakes, and learn from them. If there is a pattern to your mistakes perhaps there is a weakness in a skill area that you need to address. Perhaps you ran out of time and need to learn to pace yourself. In the PSATs, as in life, it is ok to make mistakes! It's what you do after you make mistakes that counts.
2. The next most important thing you can do to improve your scores on future tests is to READ, READ, READ! Push yourself to read more. Read books you are interested in, read magazines, newspapers, blogs, etc. Read before you go to sleep at night, during studies, while you are waiting for rides. Always keep a novel or other reading material handy!
3. If you are *not* doing your homework on a consistent basis, it will show up eventually in reduced test scores. The constant reinforcement of academic skills adds to your general knowledge base, advances your thinking skills, and makes that knowledge more accessible to you for the long term! Look at homework as brain exercise!
4. The College Board has partnered with Khan Academy to provide free SAT PREP online. You may access this through the College Board website at www.collegeboard.org or at www.khanacademy.org/SAT. Free ACT Prep is available through ACT Academy.
5. If you think test anxiety is a strong contributing factor in your test results, see your school counselor. There are relaxation techniques that you can practice. The more familiar with the test you become and the more confidence you have with the material, the more you will be able to compensate for test anxiety.
6. A multitude of new prep books is available at local bookstores and libraries. *"The Official SAT Study Guide"* by The College Board, *"Cracking the SAT"* by Princeton Review, and *"The Real ACT"* published by Peterson's are some examples.
7. **There's an App for that!** It seems there is an application for everything these days, and test prep is no exception. Now when you're waiting for the bus or just looking for something to do, you have a way to prep right on your phone, even just a few minutes a day can make a difference! Download countless apps for vocabulary practice, math prep, sample questions and test tips and tricks. Many are free or very low cost. Some examples: ACTStudent (free), The Official SAT Question of the Day (free), ACE the SAT (free), Vocabulary Word of the Day (\$0.99), YourTeacher.com (ACT Math Prep - \$9.99), Flashcards (free), and many, many more.

Check out the sample of Test Prep Courses and Private Tutors on the next page...

Test Prep Companies, Courses and Tutors

Summit Educational Group

800-698-9967/800-My-Tutor

- www.mytutor.com
- One-on-One In-Home Tutoring as well as classes offered, call for pricing
- Offers multiple free practice test at their Newton office

Kaplan

800-KAP-TEST

- www.KapTest.com
- Offers a free practice test at HHS in January
- Range of prep options including online, private and classroom prep

Education Station

- www.educationstationhopkinton.com 508-625-1663
- Based in Hopkinton

The Princeton Review

617-558-2828

- www.princetonreview.com
- Group instructions

Revolution Prep – Online Courses

877-REV-PREP

- www.revolutionprep.com
- SAT/ACT/AP Prep Courses from \$299-\$599

Sylvan Learning Centers

888-338-2283

- www.sylvanlearning.com
- SAT/ACT Prep as well as subject specific, study skills, homework help, etc.
- Prices vary based on needs, call for pricing

MIT Academic Teaching Initiative

- <http://ati.mit.edu>
- Prep for the SATs
- Limited space available - meets for 8 Sunday afternoon classes at MIT

Huntington Exam Prep Center

800-EXAMPREP

- www.huntingtonexamprep.com
- various programs offered, Needham and Waltham locations

Power Score

800-545-1750

- www.powerscore.com
- Boston location, or online programs/private tutoring

Private Tutors – Verbal

- *Susanne Bronstein* susanne.bronstein@gmail.com
- *Beverly Crawford (Tutor/Group Classes)* beverly@englishskillsworkshop.com
781-235-6243
- *Laura Peters (Reading Studio Hopkinton)* 508-435-5210

Private Tutors – Math

- *Kathi Pennypacker (Holliston)* 508-429-1171
- *Jim Schreider (Tutor/Group Classes)* 508-650-9279
- *Eileen Muller (Holliston)* 508-429-4920/mullermath.com
- *Bart Berkowitz* bartberk@gmail.com

Private Tutors – General Test Prep

- *Donna Cox (Cox Tutoring Group)* donna.p.cox@gmail.com