ACT or SAT? A Quick Quiz to See Which Test Might Fit You Best*

*The absolutely best way to determine which test suits you best is to do one ACT practice test and one SAT practice test and compare scores. Since the scores are on different scales, use the percentile for each score to see which is higher. (You can google percentile charts for each test.)

For each set of statements choose which statement describes you best. Tally your answers at the bottom to see which test might fit you best.

1) **Speed**
   A. I am a fast reader and fast processor, so I don’t need a lot of time per question.
   B. I am a slower reader and take my time processing, so I prefer more time per question.

2) **Details Recall**
   A. Immediately after I read a passage, I can remember where specific details can be found in the passage.
   B. Immediately after I read a passage, I really don’t remember where specific details can be found in the passage.

3) **Evidence-Based Conclusions**
   A. I don’t really know how to determine what evidence exists in reading passages to support a particular interpretation or conclusion.
   B. I’m experienced at determining what evidence exists in reading passages to support a particular interpretation or conclusion.

4) **Math without a Calculator**
   A. I do better at solving math problems when I have a calculator at hand.
   B. I am good at solving math problems without a calculator.

5) **Math without Formulas**
   A. I have all the basic formulas for math memorized (or can memorize the ones I need to know without a problem).
   B. I don’t have all the basic formulas for math memorized and I do better when I can refer to them on tests.

6) **Algebra vs. Geometry & Trig**
   A. I’m as good or better in geometry and trig as I am at algebra.
   B. I’m better in algebra than in geometry and trig.

7) **Multiple Choice vs. Own Answer**
   A. I prefer choosing among multiple choice answers on math problems, because the answers sometimes help me figure out what to do and I can always guess if I can’t figure it out.
   B. I like coming up with my own answers for math problems; having multiple answers to choose from can distract or confuse me.

8) **Math vs. Science**
   A. When it comes to math and science, I’m equally strong in both.
   B. When it comes to math and science, I’m stronger in math.

9) **Required Test in My State**
   (You might have to google an answer to this question or ask your college counselor at school.)
   A. I live/go to school in a state (or a specific school district) that requires all students to take the ACT.
   B. I live/go to school in a state (or a specific school district) that requires all students to take the SAT.
   C. I live/go to school in a state that does not require all students to take the ACT or the SAT.

**TALLY:**

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<tr>
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<th>Total Number of A Answers</th>
<th>Total Number of B Answers</th>
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<tr>
<td>Questions 1-9</td>
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<td>Weighting for Question 9:</td>
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<td>Add 1 point in the appropriate column if you answered A or B to Question 9. **</td>
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<td>TOTAL (Add together)</td>
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**Why do we weight your answer to Question 9? Because if your state or school district requires a particular test, you will likely be able to take the test for free and get extra support and assistance for test preparation at school. So all things being equal, it is a benefit for you to take the test that is already required.**

**RESULTS:** If the total for A’s is larger, then your best test is probably the ACT. If the total for B’s is larger, then your best test is probably the SAT. If you are tied, then either one will work for you.