



May

## Understanding Your PSAT 10 Scores

All Zeeland 10th graders took the PSAT 10 in April. The PSAT 10 is part of the College Board's "SAT Suite of Assessments" including the

- PSAT 8/9 - state required preliminary SAT test for all freshmen; taken in April
- PSAT 10 - state required preliminary SAT test for all sophomores; taken in April
- PSAT/NMSQT - an *optional* preliminary SAT test taken in October of the junior year; students who score high enough can qualify for National Merit Scholarships
- SAT - state required test for all juniors as part of the Michigan Merit Exam; taken in April

These tests measure students' college and career readiness. The SAT is one of two standardized tests widely accepted by colleges and universities for college admission (The ACT is the other.)

Scores from the PSAT 10 should be available in mid-late May. This newsletter is an effort to help students and parents better understand the scores once they are released.

### AN OVERVIEW OF THE SCORE REPORT

The PSAT 10 measures students' knowledge in the following areas, determined by research to be important for college and career readiness: reading, writing and language, and math. A student's raw score is computed by the number of questions answered correctly (no guessing penalty) and raw scores are converted to section scores between 160 and 760 for the following 2 areas:

- Evidence-Based Reading and Writing
- Math

***Thus, the total PSAT 10 score is reported on a 320-1520 scale.***

Students are also given "test scores", "cross-test scores," and "subscores." Understanding these scores provide more information about student strengths and areas for improvement.

Percentiles show the percentage of students whose scores are equal to or below the student's total score. Two percentiles are given on the score report. One compares the total score to all 10th graders nationwide and the other to those students who typically take the PSAT. For example, being in the 60th percentile of the nationally representative sample means that a student did better than or equal to 60% of all 10th graders taking the test.

The PSAT 10 also offers grade-level benchmarks that help students track college and career readiness. These benchmarks predict a 75% likelihood of earning at least a C in first semester college courses. The report color codes student achievement of these benchmarks. Green means a student met or exceeded the benchmark. Yellow indicates that a student did not meet the benchmark but was close. Red indicates a score that is more than a year's growth below the grade-level benchmark.

The PSAT 10 and the SAT are scored on a common scale. Therefore, if a student earns a 1000 on the PSAT, he/she would have also earned a 1000 on the SAT had he/she taken it on the same test date. The score represents the same level of academic achievement on all three tests.

Below is a sample PSAT 10 score report.

## The PSAT 10 Sample Score Report

**Hi, Ima B. Student**

School Name: John F. Kennedy High School, School Code: 123456  
Spring 2017, Grade: 10th Grade  
Student ID: 24068907  
Optional Code: 00  
Access Code: A02670146P

**PSAT™ 10**

 **CollegeBoard**

# Your Score Report

Get your full report online  
[studentscores.collegeboard.org](http://studentscores.collegeboard.org)

Access Code **A02670146P**



### SAT® Practice

Connect to Khan Academy® for  
FREE, world-class SAT practice  
on [satpractice.org](http://satpractice.org).



### AP® and Course Work

See which AP courses may  
be good matches for you.



### Register for the SAT

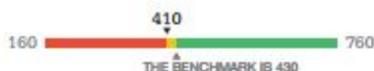
Select an SAT test date, and  
register for it now.

## The PSAT 10 Sample Score Report, cont.

### Your Evidence-Based Reading and Writing Score

**410** | 160 to 760

Your Nationally Representative **32nd** 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. Choose to share your scores on [satpractice.org](http://satpractice.org) to receive free, personalized practice recommendations.

### Your Total Score

**940** | 320 to 1520

Your Nationally Representative **54th** Sample Percentile

Keep in mind, the PSAT™10, PSAT/NMSQT®, and SAT® are on the same scale.

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

### Your Math Score

**530** | 160 to 760

Your Nationally Representative **76th** Sample Percentile



You are on track for college readiness.

Stay on track and continue your progress. Choose to share your scores on [satpractice.org](http://satpractice.org) to receive free, personalized practice recommendations.

#### The College and Career Readiness Benchmark

Reaching your grade-level benchmark means that you are likely on track to be ready for select first-year, credit-bearing college courses.

■ Need to strengthen skills    ■ Approaching Benchmark    ■ Meet or exceed Benchmark

\*The red, yellow, and green ranges in the test scores and subscores reflect your areas of strengths and weaknesses compared to the typical performance of students in your grade.

### Test Scores 8 to 38 range\*

**23** Reading



**18** Writing and Language



**26.5** Math



### Cross-Test Scores 8 to 38 range\*

**22** Analysis in History/Social Studies

**25** Analysis in Science

If a student were to take the same test repeatedly (with no new learning), the standard deviation of the student's repeated test scores is called the standard error of measurement (SEM). Your score range is computed as your score  $\pm$  SEM. For PSAT 10, these ranges are approximately:

Total Score: Your score  $\pm$  40 points.  
Evidence-Based Reading and Writing Section Score: Your score  $\pm$  25 points.  
Math Section Score: Your score  $\pm$  33 points.  
Test Scores and Cross-Test Scores: Your score  $\pm$  2 points.  
Subscores: Your score  $\pm$  1 to 2 points.

Remember that you will receive scores in the same areas when you take the PSAT/NMSQT and SAT.

### Subscores 1 to 15 range\*

**6** Command of Evidence



**8** Words in Context



**6** Expression of Ideas



**6** Standard English Conventions



**9** Heart of Algebra



**12** Problem Solving and Data Analysis



**6** Passport to Advanced Math



Ima B. Student

Spring 2017, Grade: 10th Grade, Student ID: 24068907

## The PSAT 10 Sample Score Report, cont.

### Your Scores: Next Steps

Additional skills and improvement suggestions can be found in your online score report.

Your score indicates that you are already likely able to:

#### Reading Test

Improve your skills by focusing on the following suggestions:

- Draw reasonable conclusions from somewhat challenging texts
- Describe the overall structure of a somewhat challenging text
- Identify claims and counterclaims explicitly stated in a somewhat challenging passage
- Revise text as needed to improve the exactness or content appropriateness of word choices within somewhat challenging texts



- Draw reasonable 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
- Use a variety of sentence structures to accomplish a rhetorical purpose such as persuading an audience
- Retain or add information or ideas to a piece of text to support claims or points in challenging text

#### Writing and Language Test

- Revise text as needed to improve the exactness or content appropriateness of word choices within somewhat challenging texts
- Retain or add information or ideas to a piece of a text to support claims or points in somewhat challenging text
- Revise somewhat challenging text to ensure that information is presented in the most logical order
- Revise text as needed to improve the exactness or content appropriateness of word choices within somewhat challenging texts



- Retain or add information or ideas to a piece of text to support claims or points in 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 exactness or content appropriateness of word choices within challenging texts
- Retain or add information or ideas to a piece of text to support claims or points in challenging text
- Use a variety of sentence structures to accomplish a rhetorical purpose such as persuading an audience

#### 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 the line in the context of the situation (when a linear model is appropriate)
- Interpret sample statistics understanding and use 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 values 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
- Use a variety of sentence structures to accomplish a rhetorical purpose such as persuading an audience

### Get more next steps online

[studentscores.collegeboard.org](https://studentscores.collegeboard.org)



#### SAT Practice

Connect to Khan Academy for FREE, world-class SAT practice on [satpractice.org](https://satpractice.org).



#### AP and Course Work

See which AP courses may be good matches for you.



#### Register for the SAT

Select an SAT test date, and register for it now.

## Your Question-Level Feedback

### Reading

Question #	Correct	Your Answer	Difficulty	Subscore	Cross-Test Score
1	A	✓	■ ■ ■ ■		
2	B	A	■ ■ ■ ■	COE	
3	B	A	■ ■ ■ ■		
4	B	✓	■ ■ ■ ■	WC	
5	C	A	■ ■ ■ ■		
6	D	✓	■ ■ ■ ■		
7	B	0	■ ■ ■ ■	COE	
8	A	✓	■ ■ ■ ■	WC	
9	D	✓	■ ■ ■ ■	WC	
10	A	C	■ ■ ■ ■		HSS
11	D	C	■ ■ ■ ■	WC	HSS
12	D	B	■ ■ ■ ■	WC	HSS
13	D	A	■ ■ ■ ■	COE	HSS
14	A	C	■ ■ ■ ■		HSS
15	C	B	■ ■ ■ ■	COE	HSS
16	B	C	■ ■ ■ ■		HSS
17	D	C	■ ■ ■ ■		HSS
18	B	D	■ ■ ■ ■		HSS
19	A	✓	■ ■ ■ ■	SCI	
20	C	✓	■ ■ ■ ■	SCI	
21	B	D	■ ■ ■ ■	COE	SCI
22	D	✓	■ ■ ■ ■		SCI
23	B	✓	■ ■ ■ ■		SCI
24	D	✓	■ ■ ■ ■	WC	SCI
25	C	✓	■ ■ ■ ■	WC	SCI
26	B	✓	■ ■ ■ ■		SCI
27	B	C	■ ■ ■ ■		SCI
28	A	C	■ ■ ■ ■	COE	SCI
29	D	✓	■ ■ ■ ■	WC	HSS
30	B	A	■ ■ ■ ■		HSS
31	D	✓	■ ■ ■ ■	COE	HSS
32	A	✓	■ ■ ■ ■		HSS
33	C	✓	■ ■ ■ ■	COE	HSS
34	A	B	■ ■ ■ ■	WC	HSS
35	A	B	■ ■ ■ ■		HSS
36	C	A	■ ■ ■ ■		HSS
37	B	C	■ ■ ■ ■		HSS
38	C	D	■ ■ ■ ■		HSS
39	C	✓	■ ■ ■ ■		SCI
40	C	✓	■ ■ ■ ■		SCI
41	B	✓	■ ■ ■ ■		SCI
42	B	0	■ ■ ■ ■	COE	SCI
43	A	B	■ ■ ■ ■		SCI
44	A	✓	■ ■ ■ ■	WC	SCI
45	A	✓	■ ■ ■ ■		SCI
46	D	A	■ ■ ■ ■	COE	SCI
47	C	B	■ ■ ■ ■		SCI

### Writing and Language

Question #	Correct	Your Answer	Difficulty	Subscore	Cross-Test Score
1	D	C	■ ■ ■ ■	SEC	
2	B	✓	■ ■ ■ ■	EOI	HSS
3	C	D	■ ■ ■ ■	SEC	
4	C	A	■ ■ ■ ■	SEC	
5	B	D	■ ■ ■ ■	SEC	
6	B	D	■ ■ ■ ■	COE, EOI	HSS
7	A	D	■ ■ ■ ■	WC, EOI	HSS
8	B	C	■ ■ ■ ■	EOI	HSS
9	A	B	■ ■ ■ ■	WC, EOI	HSS
10	D	✓	■ ■ ■ ■	SEC	
11	D	✓	■ ■ ■ ■	COE, EOI	HSS
12	B	✓	■ ■ ■ ■	SEC	
13	C	✓	■ ■ ■ ■	SEC	
14	C	B	■ ■ ■ ■	SEC	
15	D	✓	■ ■ ■ ■	WC, EOI	SCI
16	B	A	■ ■ ■ ■	SEC	
17	B	D	■ ■ ■ ■	SEC	
18	A	0	■ ■ ■ ■	EOI	SCI
19	B	C	■ ■ ■ ■	EOI	SCI
20	C	D	■ ■ ■ ■	COE, EOI	SCI
21	A	✓	■ ■ ■ ■	COE, EOI	SCI
22	A	B	■ ■ ■ ■	WC, EOI	SCI
23	C	B	■ ■ ■ ■	WC, EOI	
24	D	C	■ ■ ■ ■	SEC	
25	C	D	■ ■ ■ ■	SEC	
26	A	0	■ ■ ■ ■	COE, EOI	
27	A	✓	■ ■ ■ ■	EOI	
28	B	✓	■ ■ ■ ■	COE, EOI	
29	D	✓	■ ■ ■ ■	WC, EOI	
30	C	B	■ ■ ■ ■	SEC	
31	D	A	■ ■ ■ ■	EOI	
32	B	0	■ ■ ■ ■	SEC	
33	D	✓	■ ■ ■ ■	SEC	
34	D	B	■ ■ ■ ■	EOI	
35	D	✓	■ ■ ■ ■	SEC	
36	B	A	■ ■ ■ ■	EOI	
37	C	D	■ ■ ■ ■	COE, EOI	
38	A	✓	■ ■ ■ ■	SEC	
39	C	✓	■ ■ ■ ■	SEC	
40	D	A	■ ■ ■ ■	WC, EOI	
41	D	B	■ ■ ■ ■	SEC	
42	A	C	■ ■ ■ ■	SEC	
43	C	B	■ ■ ■ ■	COE, EOI	
44	B	C	■ ■ ■ ■	WC, EOI	

### Math Test – Calculator

Question #	Correct	Your Answer	Difficulty	Subscore	Cross-Test Score
1	B	✓	■ ■ ■ ■	PSD	HSS
2	A	✓	■ ■ ■ ■	HDA	
3	B	✓	■ ■ ■ ■	PSD	SCI
4	D	✓	■ ■ ■ ■	HDA	
5	B	C	■ ■ ■ ■	PSD	
6	A	✓	■ ■ ■ ■	PSD	
7	B	✓	■ ■ ■ ■	PSD	
8	C	✓	■ ■ ■ ■	PSD	
9	A	0	■ ■ ■ ■	PAM	
10	D	C	■ ■ ■ ■	HDA	
11	D	✓	■ ■ ■ ■	PSD	HSS
12	A	✓	■ ■ ■ ■	PSD	
13	B	✓	■ ■ ■ ■	PSD	
14	C	✓	■ ■ ■ ■	PSD	SCI

Question #	Correct	Your Answer	Difficulty	Subscore	Cross-Test Score
15	C	✓	■ ■ ■ ■		
16	B	✓	■ ■ ■ ■	PSD	HSS
17	D	✓	■ ■ ■ ■	PSD	
18	B	A	■ ■ ■ ■	PSD	HSS
19	C	A	■ ■ ■ ■	HDA	
20	B	D	■ ■ ■ ■	PAM	
21	B	✓	■ ■ ■ ■	HDA	
22	D	C	■ ■ ■ ■	PAM	
23	D	B	■ ■ ■ ■	HDA	SCI
24	C	B	■ ■ ■ ■	PAM	SCI
25	B	A	■ ■ ■ ■	PSD	SCI
26	D	0	■ ■ ■ ■	PAM	
27	D	A	■ ■ ■ ■	HDA	

Question #	Correct	Your Answer	Difficulty	Subscore	Cross-Test Score
28	65	60	■ ■ ■ ■	HDA	
29	0, 12	2	■ ■ ■ ■	PAM	
30	1368	✓	■ ■ ■ ■	PSD	HSS
31	85	✓	■ ■ ■ ■	PSD	HSS

### Math Test – No Calculator

Question #	Correct	Your Answer	Difficulty	Subscore	Cross-Test Score
1	D	B	■ ■ ■ ■	PAM	
2	A	✓	■ ■ ■ ■	PAM	SCI
3	B	A	■ ■ ■ ■	PAM	
4	C	B	■ ■ ■ ■	PAM	
5	C	✓	■ ■ ■ ■	HDA	
6	B	✓	■ ■ ■ ■	HDA	SCI
7	A	✓	■ ■ ■ ■	HDA	

Question #	Correct	Your Answer	Difficulty	Subscore	Cross-Test Score
8	B	✓	■ ■ ■ ■	HDA	
9	C	✓	■ ■ ■ ■	HDA	
10	D	✓	■ ■ ■ ■	HDA	HSS
11	A	✓	■ ■ ■ ■	PAM	
12	C	B	■ ■ ■ ■	PAM	
13	B	A	■ ■ ■ ■	PAM	

Question #	Correct	Your Answer	Difficulty	Subscore	Cross-Test Score
14	2	0	■ ■ ■ ■	HDA	
15	90	80	■ ■ ■ ■	HDA	
16	1	2	■ ■ ■ ■	PAM	
17	0	1	■ ■ ■ ■	PAM	

#### Subscore

- COE Command of Evidence
- WC Words in Context
- EOI Expression of Ideas
- SEC Standard English Conventions
- HDA Heart of Algebra
- PSD Problem Solving and Data Analysis
- PAM Passport to Advanced Math

#### Key:

- ✓ Correct
- 0 Omitted
- U Unscorable
- ■ ■ Easy
- ■ ■ Medium
- ■ ■ Hard

#### Cross-Test Score:

- HSS Analysis in History/Social Studies
- SCI Analysis in Science

Access Code  
A02670146P

See the questions, and the answer explanations, online at [studentscores.collegeboard.org](http://studentscores.collegeboard.org)

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## **WHY IS THE SAT SUITE OF ASSESSMENTS AN IMPORTANT TOOL FOR COLLEGES?**

The PSAT 10 is a test to help familiarize students to the SAT, a college entrance exam widely used across the country. Colleges use SAT results to:

- Identify applicants for admission (among other factors such as high school classes taken, GPA, extra-curricular activities, essay, etc.)
- Place students in first year college courses.
- Help students develop an appropriate program of study.
- Help scholarship/loan agencies identify qualified applicants.

## **NEXT STEPS**

For students who desire to continue practicing for the SAT, there are a few options. First, the College Board also offers a very detailed and FREE service to help students prepare for the SAT through its partnership with the Khan Academy. Students can work through thousands of practice questions, watch video lessons, get test taking tips, and take full length practice tests. The College Board also offers the option for students to download a daily practice app. For students who want to simulate test day, a paper practice test is available on their website, and students can scan their answer sheet and send it to the College Board for instant scoring and feedback. More information is available at <https://www.khanacademy.org/sat>.

Second, current sophomores also have the option to take the PSAT/NMSQT on **Wednesday, October 11**. The Preliminary SAT<sup>®</sup>/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) is a co-sponsored program by the College Board and National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC). It's a standardized test that provides firsthand practice for the SAT Reasoning Test that all students will take in the spring of the junior year as part of the Michigan Merit Exam and for college admission. It also gives students a chance to enter NMSC scholarship programs. Cost of the test is \$18.

The most common reason students at Zeeland take the PSAT/NMSQT is to enter the competition for scholarships from the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. Only the top 1-2% of all test takers qualify for recognition.

*Some parents' employers require students to take the PSAT for company scholarships. Please contact the employer directly to inquire.*

More information about the PSAT/NMSQT and the registration form are available in the school announcements.

Students interested in learning more about the college planning process and exploring career options are encouraged to utilize the College Board's BigFuture site at <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org>.