

## TEST / Test Preparation & Admission / Graduate Admission

SL	Exam	Details	SL	Exam	Details	SL	Exam	Details
1	LSAT	- Law School	2	MCAT	- Medical School	3	GMAT	- Business School
4	GRE	- Graduate School	5	MAT	- Graduate School	6	DAT	- Dental School
7	PCAT	- Pharmacy School	8	OAT	Optometry School			

### COLLEGE ADMISSION

1	PSAT		2	SAT		3	ACT	
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#### Other Test

1	SAT	- Subject Test	2	AP	- Exams	3	CLEP	- ASVAB
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### MEDICAL LICENSING

1	USMLE		2	COMLEX	
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### NURSING

1	NCLEX	- RN	2	NCLEX	- PN
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### OTHER HEALTH SERVICES

1	NAPLEX		2	NBDE		3	PANCE /PANRE	
4	MS /EMT		5	Medical Assistant		6	Radiography Exam	
7	Dental Hygienist							

## The LSAT at a Glance

The Law School Admission Test (LSAT) is unlike any test you've ever taken in your academic career. The LSAT is a skills-based exam designed to test the critical reading and analytical thinking skills that are crucial for success in law school.

Section	Time	Format
Logical Reasoning I	35 min	24-26 questions
Logical Reasoning II	35 min	24-26 questions
Logic Games	35 min	22-24 questions
Reading Comprehension	35 min	26-28 questions
Experimental Section	35 min	22-28 questions
Writing Sample	35 min	2 essays

### Understanding Your LSAT Score

When you receive your LSAT score, it will include the following:

- One overall score ranging from 120-180
- A "score band" a range of scaled scores above and below your score
- A percentile score, ranking your performance relative to the scores of a large sample population of other LSAT test takers

### Receiving Your LSAT Score

If you registered through the LSAC website, you'll receive your score via email approximately 3 weeks after the test. Your score is only released to you and the law schools to which you applied.

You can also receive your score via TelScore. LSAT TelScore provides your score and percentile rank for the most recently administered test, but not for previous tests. To use TelScore, call 215-968-1200. You'll need your Social Security number or Law Services I.D. number, a personal identification number (PIN) and your credit card. You will be charged \$10 for the service.

### Canceling Your LSAT Score

You have 5 business days after you take the LSAT to cancel your score. If you take the exam more than once, Law Services reports the average score, each separate score, and each cancellation. Most schools will not question one cancellation on your record; but will question multiple ones. Also, you may not take the LSAT more than 3 times in any 2-year period.

#### ***Should I cancel my LSAT score?***

You shouldn't take the decision to cancel your score lightly. In fact, there are usually only 2 valid reasons to cancel your score: Test day factors affected your experience or you were inadequately prepared.

Nervousness is usually not a valid reason to cancel. Most students are just as nervous—if not more—on their second attempt. Being nervous is normal...and even healthy.

## The MCAT at a Glance

The Medical College Admissions Tests (MCAT) is a computer-based multiple choice examination used by medical school admissions officials to predict future success. The MCAT is designed to test your problem-solving skills, critical thinking abilities, and writing skills, as well as your knowledge of basic science concepts. The test consists of 3 hours and 20 minutes of multiple-choice testing, plus one hour devoted to a writing sample. With all of the administrative details and breaks, the exam can last for 5½ hours.

The MCAT is primarily a thinking exam, testing your thought processes, as well as your knowledge of science. You will have to know the fundamental concepts of physics, general chemistry, biology, and organic chemistry. However, knowing these basics is just the beginning of doing well on the MCAT.

	Physical Sciences	Verbal Reasoning	Writing Sample	Biological Sciences
<b>Time</b>	70 minutes	60 minutes	60 minutes	70 minutes
<b>Format</b>	52 total questions	40 total questions	Two 30-mins essay	52 total questions
<b>Topics Tested</b>	General Chemistry. Basic Physics. Analytical Reasoning. Data Interpretation.	Critical Reading	Critical Thinking Intellectual Organization. Written Communication	Biology Organic Chemistry Data Interpretation Analytical Reasoning

## The GMAT at a Glance

The Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT) is probably unlike any test you've ever taken in your academic career. The GMAT is a computer-adaptive test designed to provide a common yardstick by which business school admissions committees can measure applicants and their ability to succeed in their M.B.A. programs.

The test consists of three sections and is scored on a range between 200 and 800.

Section	Time	Format
Analytical Writing Assessment	60 min	Two 30-min essays
Quantitative	75 min	37 questions
Verbal	75 min	41 questions

## The GMAT Analytical Writing Assessment Section

### The Basics

- **Time** : 60 minutes
- **Format** : 2 thirty-minute essays

**Tests** : Ability to analyze an issue and an argument

The Analytical Writing Assessment on the GMAT helps business schools analyze your writing skills. It's scored separately from your 200-800 point score, on a scale from 0-6 in increments of 0.5. Essays are scored by a human grade and a computer grading system, and the 2 scores are averaged for your final score.

### Analysis of an Argument

This question type presents a brief argument similar to a statement you would find in a critical reasoning question. Your task is to write an essay that critiques the structure of the argument and explains how persuasive or unpersuasive you find it. You should not try to present your own point of view on the topic; instead present a critique of the author's argument. Consider the following questions:

- What's the conclusion?
- What evidence is used to support the conclusion?
- What assumptions does the writer make in moving from evidence to conclusion?
- Is the argument persuasive?
- What would make it stronger? Weaker?

### Analysis of an Issue

Expect the Analysis of an Issue question to present a broad, general issue with several facets—sometimes 2 points of view are asserted and other times you will see only one explicitly stated. Your task is to explore the issue's complexities, formulate an opinion, and express yourself clearly and convincingly.

There is no "correct" answer; consequently, it doesn't matter which side of the argument you advocate. What does matter, however, is that you develop an opinion and express yourself in grammatically correct English and provide concrete examples to support your ideas and make them clear to the reader.

## The GMAT Quantitative Section

### The Basics

- Time : 75 minutes
- Format : 37 questions
- Tests : Arithmetic, Algebra, and Geometry

The GMAT Quantitative Section is designed to test your content and analytical knowledge of basic math concepts, including arithmetic, algebra, and geometry. The section consists of two question types: Data Sufficiency and Problem Solving.

### What in the World is Data Sufficiency?

Data Sufficiency questions consist of a question and 2 statements of data. It's your job to determine whether the statements provide sufficient data to answer the question. This question type really requires you to quickly identify what information you would need to know and to efficiently eliminate answer choices.

### Good Ol' Problem Solving

You've been here before...Problem Solving is the classic standardized test question type. You'll be presented with a question and 5 possible answer choices. Problem Solving questions test your skills in high school-level math. Simple, right? Well, when's the last time you tried your hand at high school math questions? If you answered, "high school," then you'll want to brush up. The key to success is to clearly understand what the question is asking and to avoid answer traps.

## The GMAT Verbal Section

### The Basics

- Time : 75 minutes
- Format : 41 questions
- Tests : Reading, Grammar, Analytical Reasoning
- The GMAT Verbal Section is designed to test your command of standard written English, your skills in analyzing arguments, and your ability to read critically. The section consists of 3 question types: Critical Reasoning, Sentence Correction, and Reading Comprehension.

### What in the World is Critical Reasoning?

Critical Reasoning tests the skills involved in making and evaluating arguments, as well as formulating a plan of action. You will be presented with a short argument and a question relating to it. You will be expected to find the answer choice that strengthens or weakens the argument. You may also be asked to find an assumption the argument makes or to make an inference yourself.

#### Succeeding on Critical Reasoning questions requires 4 things:

1. Understand the argument's structure.
2. Identify the conclusion.
3. Determine what evidence exists to support the conclusion.
4. Determine what assumptions are made to jump from evidence to conclusion.

Most importantly, read carefully. Critical Reasoning questions are notorious for their tricky wording.

### The Challenge of Sentence Correction

How are your written English skills? You'll find out with Sentence Correction questions. You will typically face very long and contorted sentences. A part—or all—of the sentence will be underlined; and you will be asked to find the best version of the underlined section out of the original or one of four alternatives.

Sentence Correction questions commonly contain 2 or more errors. Time is of the essence as sentences vary in length and complexity. You'll need to move considerably faster on the shorter questions to have time to tackle the more difficult ones.

### Testing's Old Faithful: Reading Comprehension

You have probably become quite familiar with Reading Comprehension questions over your standardized testing career. These questions test your critical reading skills, more specifically, your ability to:

- Summarize the main idea
- Differentiate between ideas stated specifically and those implied by the author
- Make inferences based on information in a text
- Analyze the logical structure of a passage
- Deduce the author's tone and attitude about a topic

You will be presented with a reading passage on the topics of business, social science, biological science or physical science and then asked 3-4 questions about that text. The tone is that of a scholarly journal.

When reading a passage, remember that you're not trying to memorize all the information. First, read through it quickly, trying to get an idea of the general topic, the author's purpose, his or her voice, and the scope of the passage. Most of all, don't obsess over details—you can always look them up in the passage.

### At a Glance

The Graduate Record Examination (GRE\*) General Test is designed to provide graduate schools with common measures for

comparing the qualifications of applicants. The exam measures verbal, quantitative, and analytical writing skills that have been developed over a long period of time. Data shows that scores on the GRE General Test consistently predict graduate school students' grades and performance.

In addition to an admission criterion, schools often use GRE scores to determine eligibility for merit-based grants and fellowships, as well as teaching and research assistantships. Many programs, especially those at large state schools, establish cutoff points for GRE scores to limit the application pool, while others use GRE scores to directly determine how much financial support you receive. Investing time and effort in preparing for the GRE today can help you get into the grad school of your choice and can greatly increase your chances of getting financial aid.

Section	Time (Mins)	Format (Question)	Topics Tested	Question Types		
				Sentence Completions	Strategy	Practice Qs
Verbal	30	30	Reading	Analogies	SS	Practice Qs
			Analytical Reasoning	Reading Comprehension	SS	Practice Qs
			Vocabulary	Antonyms	SS	Practice Qs
						<b>Session (SS)</b>
Quantitative	45	28	Basic Math.	Problem Solving.	SS	Practice Qs
			Mathematical Concepts.	Quantitative Comparisons.	SS	Practice Qs
			Quantitative Reasoning.			
Writing Assessment	75		One 45 mins essay	Analysis of an Argument		
			One 30 mins essay	Analysis of an Issue		

### The MAT at a Glance

The Miller Analogies Test (MAT) is a standardized admissions test that measures one's ability to identify verbal analogies. Most of the analogies on the MAT are verbal analogies, and a few are quantitative. Both paper-based and computerized versions of the test are offered and consist of 100 partial analogies, arranged in order of difficulty, that are to be completed in 50 minutes.

Admissions committees use the MAT to assess a candidate's fluency in the English language, general knowledge of literature, history, science, mathematics, and fine arts, and ability to recognize relationships between ideas. There is no foreign-language edition of the MAT. Test takers are not permitted to use a dictionary or any other reference aid when taking the MAT. Passing scores vary depending on admissions requirements. Some universities accept MAT scores in lieu of GRE scores

### The DAT at a Glance

Your DAT\* score is more than just a formality in the admissions process. Dental school admissions committees use your DAT score in conjunction with your college record to assess whether you have the academic foundation upon which to build a successful dental career. Consequently, a high score on the DAT will have a direct, positive impact on your dental school application.

The DAT is designed to provide dental schools with common measures for comparing the qualifications of applicants. The exam measures general academic aptitude, comprehension of scientific information, and perceptual ability. The test is offered exclusively on computer and consists of a battery of four distinct tests: Survey of Natural Sciences, Perceptual Ability, Reading Comprehension, and Quantitative Reasoning.

Section	Time (Mins)	Format (Question)	Topics Tested	In the Practice Lab	
Survey of Natural Sciences	90	100	Biology. Inorganic Chemistry. Organic Chemistry.	Strategy Session	Practice Qs
Perceptual Ability Test (PAT)	60	90	Visualizing in 3 dimensions. Angle discrimination	Strategy Session	Practice Qs
Reading Comprehension Test	60	50	Ability to absorb information Finding the	Strategy Session	Practice Qs

main idea  
Ability to keep  
track of information

<b>Quantitative Reasoning Test</b>	45	40	Algebra Word Problems Basic Math Geometry Trigonometry	Strategy Session	Practice Qs
				Strategy Session	Practice Qs

### The PCAT Test Overview

The Pharmacy College Admissions Test (PCAT\*) is designed to examine the skills and abilities needed to excel and succeed in pharmacy school. Currently, over 65% of AACP institutions require the PCAT for pharmacy degree programs.

Primarily a thinking exam, the PCAT tests basic scientific knowledge, math skills, and verbal knowledge. The test consists of approximately 240 multiple-choice questions, placed in five separate sections. The exam spans approximately four hours, including one short break given in the middle.

### The PCAT at a Glance

The PCAT consists of five scored sections—Verbal Ability, Biology, Reading Comprehension, Quantitative Ability, and Chemistry.

Section	Time (Mins)	Format (Question)	Topics Tested
<b>Writing</b>	30	1 prompt	
<b>Verbal Ability</b>	30	48	Analogies Sentence Completions
<b>Biology</b>	30	48	General Biology Microbiology Anatomy & Physiology
<b>Chemistry</b>	30	48	General Chemistry Organic Chemistry
<b>Reading Comprehension</b>	50	48	Ability to read quickly Comprehend information Retrieve data
<b>Quantitative Ability</b>	40	48	Basic Math Algebra Probability & Statistics Pre-calculus Calculus

### Learn About the OAT

The Optometry Admission Test (OAT\*) was developed by the American Optometric Association and is sponsored by the Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry. All schools and colleges of optometry require candidates to submit OAT scores for admissions.

The OAT is designed to predict general academic ability and measure the two skills needed by future optometrists: Scientific knowledge and analytical ability. It does this by testing your knowledge of physics, chemistry and biology; your reading comprehension ability; and your quantitative reasoning skills. The OAT is available as a computer based test and can be taken year round. To register for the OAT exam, visit [www.opted.org](http://www.opted.org).

### Test Overview

The OAT is divided into four separate tests—Survey of Natural Sciences, Reading Comprehension, Physics, and Quantitative Reasoning.

Section	Time (Mins)	Format (Question)	Topics Tested
<b>Survey of Natural Sciences</b>	90	100	Biology Inorganic Chemistry Organic Chemistry
<b>Reading Comprehension</b>	50	40	Ability to find main idea Ability to process information Ability to read and understand dense passages
<b>Physics</b>	50	40	Vectors

Energy & Momentum  
 Thermodynamics  
 Magnetism  
 Optics  
 Arithmetic  
 Algebra  
 Geometry  
 Trigonometry

**Quantitative Reasoning**                      45                      40

**The PSAT at a Glance**

The PSAT is a preliminary version of the SAT, which serves as an invaluable practice opportunity—and can open the door to National Merit Scholarships and other awards. Find out more about why you should take the PSAT.

**How is the PSAT structured and timed?**

The PSAT is two hours and ten minutes long. It's divided into the following sections:

Section	Length	Question Types	Marks of Questions
<b>Math</b>	Two 25-minute sections	Multiple Choice	28
		Grid-Ins	10
<b>Critical Reading</b>	Two 25-minute sections	Sentence Completion	13
		Reading Comprehension	35
<b>Writing Skills</b>	One 30-minute section	Identifying Sentence Errors	14
		Improving Sentences	20
		Improving Paragraphs	5

**How can I register for the PSAT?**

You can register with your guidance counselor or at any high school in your community.

**What's the range of possible PSAT scores?**

Each PSAT section has a scaled score from 20-80 points.

**What are average PSAT scores?**

Section	Average Scores for Sophomores (2006)^	Average Scores for Juniors (2006)^
<b>Math</b>	43.5	48.5
<b>Critical Reading</b>	42.6	47.7
<b>Writing Skills</b>	40.8	45.8

**When can I take the PSAT?**

The PSAT/NMSQT is administered on the third Saturday of October and the preceding Wednesday.

Upcoming PSAT/NMSQT Administration Dates

**2009** Wednesday, October 14<sup>th</sup>, Saturday, October 17<sup>th</sup>

**2010** Wednesday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, Saturday, October 16<sup>th</sup>

**The SAT at a Glance**

The SAT is a standardized paper-and-pencil test administered by The College Board that measures your critical thinking skills. It tests your ability to analyze and solve problems in math, critical reading, and writing.

**Who should take the SAT?**

Juniors and Seniors. Most high school students take the SAT for the first time in the Spring of their Junior year. This gives them enough time to re-take the test again during the Fall of their Senior year if they aren't satisfied with their score.

**How is the SAT structured and timed?**

The SAT is 3 hours and 45 minutes long and is divided into the following sections:

Section	Length	Question Types	Marks of Questions
<b>Critical Reading</b>	Two 25-minute sections	Sentence Completion	19
	One 20-minute section	Reading Comprehension	48
<b>Math</b>	Two 25-minute sections	Multiple Choice	44
	One 10-minute section	Grid-Ins	10
<b>Writing</b>	Two 25-minute sections	Identifying Sentence Errors	18
	One 10-minute section	Improving Sentences	25
	Two 25-minute sections	Improving Paragraphs	6
<b>Experimental</b>	One 25-minute section	Can be Critical, Reading, Math, or Writing	Varies



**How will the test sections be ordered?**

The 25-minute essay will always be the first section of the SAT, and the 10-minute multiple-choice writing section will always be last. The other 8 sections (including the unscored, experimental section) can appear in any order.

**How can I register for the SAT?**

Register online at [collegeboard.com](http://collegeboard.com)

**How much does it cost to take the SAT?**

\$45 (2008-09 fees)

**What is the range of possible SAT scores?**

Each section is scored from 200-800 each, giving a total range of 600-2400 points. The essay is scored from 0-12, which is included as 1/4 of the total Writing score.

**What are average SAT scores?**

Section	Average Score for the Class of 2008 <sup>^</sup>
Writing	494
Critical Reading	502
Math	515
Essay	7.2 (out of 12)

<sup>^</sup>Source: *2008 College-Bound Seniors Report*, The College Board

**The ACT at a Glance**

The ACT is a nationally administered, standardized paper-and-pencil test that helps colleges evaluate candidates.

**Who should take the ACT?**

**Juniors and Seniors.** Most high school students take the ACT for the first time in the spring of their Junior year. This gives them enough time to re-take the test again during the fall of their Senior year if they aren't satisfied with their score.

**How is the ACT structured and timed?**

The ACT lasts 2 hours and 55 minutes (excluding the Writing Test) or 3 hours and 25 minutes (including the Writing Test). The order of test sections and the total number of questions covered in each test section never changes:

Section	Length	Question Types	Marks of Questions
<b>English Test</b>	45 minutes	Usage / Mechanics	40
		Rhetorical Skills	35
<b>Mathematics Test</b>	60 minutes	Arithmetic	14
		Elementary Algebra	10
		Intermediate Algebra	9
		Coordinate Geometry	9
		Plane Geometry	14
<b>Reading Test</b>	35 minutes	Trigonometry	4
		Social Studies	10
		Natural Sciences	10
		Prose Fiction	10
<b>Science Test</b>	35 minutes	Humanities	10
		Data Representation	15
		Research Summary	18
<b>Writing Test (optional Essay)</b>	30 minutes	Conflicting Viewpoint	7
		You are asked to respond to a question about your position on the issue described in the writing prompt.	1

**How can I register for the ACT?**

You can register **online** or by calling ACT, Inc. at 319-337-1270 (only if you've already registered for the ACT at least once before).

**How much does it cost to take the ACT?**

- **Test Fee:** \$31.00, includes having your scores sent to 4 colleges
- **Test Fee (with the Writing Test):** \$46.00, includes having your scores sent to 4 colleges

**What is the range of possible ACT scores?**

Each of the four multiple-choice ACT test sections (English, Mathematics, Reading, and Science) is scored on a scale of 1-36. You

will also receive a composite score, which is the average of your four test scores (1-36).

If you take the Writing Test, you will receive a Writing Test subscore (ranging from 0 to 12) and a combined English/Writing score (ranging from 1 to 36), along with comments about your essay. Keep in mind that you must take both the English and Writing Tests to receive Writing scores. The Combined English/Writing score is created by using a formula that weights the English Test score two-thirds and the Writing Test score one-third to form a combined score. This combined score is then reported on a 1-36 scale. Please note that taking the Writing Test does not affect your subject area scores or your Composite score.

### What are average ACT scores?

Test Section	Average Score		Year/Year Change 2007-2008
	Class of 2008	Class of 2007	
English Test	20.6	20.7	+0.2
Mathematics Test	21.0	21.0	No Change
Reading Test	21.4	21.5	-0.1
Science Test	20.8	21.0	-0.2
Writing Test (optional Essay)	7.3	7.6	-0.3
Total Composite	21.1	21.2	-0.1

### Get ready for the ACT!

#### The SAT Subject Tests at a Glance

SAT Subject Tests include more than 20 different tests focusing on specific disciplines or subjects, such as English, history and social sciences, mathematics, physical sciences, and foreign languages. Each subject test lasts one hour and consists entirely of multiple choice questions.

The SAT is largely a test of verbal and math skills. Although, you need to know vocabulary and some formulas, it's primarily designed to measure how well you read and think rather than what you know.

SAT Subject Tests are different. These tests are designed to measure what you know about specific disciplines. Sure, critical reading and thinking skills play a part, but the main purpose of the Subject tests is to determine exactly what you know about math, history, chemistry, and so on.

#### How Are They Used?

Schools that require SATs feel that they're an important indicator of your ability to succeed in college. Specifically, they use your scores to help make admissions and placement decisions. Like the SAT, the SAT Subject Tests provide schools with a standard measure of academic performance, which they use to compare you to applicants from different high schools and different educational backgrounds. This information helps them to decide whether you have the academic ability to handle their curriculum.

Scores may also be used to decide what course of study is appropriate for you once you've been admitted. A low score on the Math Level I test, for example, may require you to take a remedial Math course. Conversely, a high score on the Chemistry test may exempt you from an introductory science course.

#### Which Tests Should I Take?

The simple answer: Take the ones that you'll do well on. High scores, after all, can only help your chances for admission. Unfortunately, many colleges demand that you take particular tests, usually one of the math tests. Some schools give you some choice in the matter, especially if they want you to take a total of three subject tests. Before you register for any test, check with the colleges in which you're interested to determine exactly which test(s) they require. This will save time in the long run.

#### Choices...Choices...Choices

##### Subject tests that are currently administered include:

Biology	Chemistry	Chinese with Listening
English Language	Proficiency	French
French with Listening	German	German with Listening
Italian	Japanese with Listening	Latin
Literature	Math Level I	Math Level IC
Math Level IIC	Modern Hebrew	Physics
Spanish	Spanish with Listening	World History

#### Advanced Placement at a Glance

Each May, AP exams are administered at high schools throughout the country. Exams are given in more than 30 subjects—from art history to physics.

#### Why Bother?

First things first—many, not all, colleges will award you advanced placement, or college credit, if you score well on the AP exam(s). Wondering *exactly* what this means? It means that, if you took the AP Calculus exam and scored high, then you wouldn't have to take the calculus requirement during freshman year. But that's not all. Because high scores demonstrate mastery of college-level material, admissions officers often attach a lot of weight to AP coursework and exams. AP work could just give you the added edge over students with similar GPAs and admission test scores. The College Board now offers an online has a website where you can



But the exams are just the last step in a long process. It is strongly recommended that you take your high school's AP course if you plan to take the exam. Courses are typically taken in your junior and/or senior year. Your teacher or guidance counselor should have this information. Ask your teacher or guidance counselor for more information on AP courses at your school.

### The ASVAB at a Glance

People take the ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Abilities Battery) for many different reasons, and at different stages in their career decision-making process. Many people take the ASVAB after high school because they are considering a career in the military. Whatever your reasons, know that the ASVAB is not an intelligence test. It is intended to measure your aptitude to be trained in specific jobs.

In addition, if you think that you may want to enlist in the U.S. Armed Services, you will want to make sure you do well on the AFQT. Here is a concise breakdown of the two exams:

### What is the ASVAB?

There are presently four versions of the ASVAB. The first version is Form 18/19, or the paper-based, *student version* of the ASVAB. It is administered once or twice a year at high schools and postsecondary schools in the United States. The second version, Forms 20-22, is known as the *production version*. This version is given by the Armed Forces for enlistment purposes only. The third version is the CAT-ASVAB, which is a computerized version of the Forms 20-22 ASVAB. Any of the three ASVABs may be used for enlistment in the U.S. Armed Forces.

The fourth "shortened" version of the ASVAB has been offered in secondary and postsecondary schools since 2002. It contains only five subtests (the two math and two verbal tests). Students who take the shortened ASVAB, like students who take the full-length ASVAB, will get an AFQT score that determines their eligibility in the different Armed Forces. If they then decide to enlist, they can then take the computerized "merge" test of the subtests that they did not take on the shortened student ASVAB.

### ASVAB Test Sections

The full-length ASVAB is made up of nine sections, depending on which version of the test you take. The paper version of the ASVAB does not currently include an "Assembling Objects" subtest, but that may soon change. The CAT-ASVAB does.

The order in which the subtests are administered never varies, and is as listed below. Click on the subtest name for more information on what's tested.

SUBTEST	QUESTIONS	TIME LIMIT (mins)
<b>General Science</b>	25	11
<b>Arithmetic Reasoning</b>	30	36
<b>Word Knowledge</b>	35	11
<b>Paragraph Comprehension</b>	15	13
<b>Auto &amp; Shop Information</b>	25	11
<b>Mathematics Knowledge</b>	25	24
<b>Mechanical Comprehension</b>	25	19
<b>Electronics Information</b>	20	9
<b>Assembling Objects</b>	16	9

#### General Science (GS)

Knowledge of general concepts from life, earth, and physical sciences

#### Arithmetic Reasoning (AR)

The ability to answer word problems that involve basic arithmetic calculations

#### Word Knowledge (WK)

The ability to recognize synonyms of words

#### Paragraph Comprehension (PC)

The ability to answer questions based on short passages (of 30-120 words)

#### Auto & Shop Information (AS)

Knowledge of automobiles, tools, and shop terminology

#### Mathematics Knowledge (MK)

Knowledge of math concepts, including applied arithmetic, algebra, and geometry

#### Mechanical Comprehension (MC)

Knowledge of basic mechanical and physical principles

#### Electronics Information (EI)

Knowledge of electronic principles and terminology, and basic electronic circuitry

#### Assembling Objects (AO)

The ability to interpret diagrams showing spatial relationships and understand how objects are connected USMILE

## COMLEX-USA- Level 1 Test Overview

The COMLEX-USA program is designed to assess the osteopathic medical knowledge considered essential for osteopathic generalist physicians to practice medicine without supervision. It is created by the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners, Inc. COMLEX Level 1 represents the basic science examination component of the licensing process of osteopathic medicine. COMLEX Levels 2 and 3 deal with the clinical aspects of diagnosis and management, respectively.

COMLEX Level 1 examination items are designed to test the application of basic science principles to clinical situations covering the following disciplines: Anatomy, Biochemistry, Microbiology, Osteopathic Principles, Pathology, Pharmacology, Physiology, and Behavioral Science.

With the computer-based test, examinees have 8 hours to complete 8 blocks of 50 questions each, for a total of 400 questions. Breaks will be offered at various times during the day. The question format includes one-best-answer, matching type, and case clusters. For more information on the new computer test changes, visit the NBOME website at [www.nbome.org](http://www.nbome.org)

Some osteopathic students take the USMLE Step 1 in addition to the COMLEX Level 1. The following summarizes the similarities and differences between these exams:

### Similarities between COMLEX Level 1 and USMLE Step 1

- Both examinations lean toward clinical applications of basic medical science concepts stressing the understanding of underlying functions and mechanisms.
- Both exams use similarly styled clinical vignettes with short answer questions.
- Both exams have no subject specific sections; the questions are distributed randomly.
- Both exams are non-adaptive, computer-based tests.

### Differences between COMLEX Level 1 and USMLE Step 1

- COMLEX Level 1 includes questions based on the understanding of osteopathic principles and applications.
- On COMLEX Level 1, some of the traditional clinical vignettes include osteopathic symptoms and answer choices.
- COMLEX Level 1 includes case clusters. These are one-paragraph clinical scenarios followed by 2 to 3 independent questions. The questions will usually cover underlying disease mechanisms, diagnosis, and basic treatment

### The NCLEX-RN® Exam

The National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX-RN® exam) has one purpose: to determine if it's safe for you to begin practice as an entry-level nurse. It is significantly different from any test that you took in nursing school. Nursing school exams are knowledge-based. The NCLEX-RN® exam, however, is application-based. You will be tested on how you can use critical thinking skills to make nursing judgments.

The NCLEX-RN® exam is organized according to the framework, "Meeting Client Needs." There are four major categories and eight subcategories. All of the questions on the exam involve integrated nursing content. Many nursing programs are based on the medical model where students take separate medical, surgical, pediatric, psychiatric, and obstetric classes. However on the NCLEX-RN® exam, all content is integrated.

**Important Notice: Passing the NCLEX-RN® Exam is Getting Harder :** On April 1st 2007, the passing standard for the NCLEX-RN® Exam changes. The National Council of state Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) recently voted to raise the passing standard for the NCLEX-RN® examination. The passing standard increases in response to changes in U.S. requirements for an entry-level RN. The new passing standard takes effect April 1st, 2007

The NAPLEX® is a 185-question, multiple choice, computerized examination designed to determine whether candidates have the knowledge, judgment and skill necessary to practice pharmacy at entry-level competence. The exam tests three fundamental areas of competence: managing drug therapy, safely and accurately preparing and dispensing medications, and providing drug information and promoting public health. For a complete list of NAPLEX competency areas and statements, visit NABP.

Many NAPLEX questions refer to specific patient profiles, so called "scenario" questions. These questions require both a fundamental knowledge of pharmacy as well as the ability to interpret patient information. Most other questions are standard, so-called "stand-alone" multiple-choice items in which a question is asked and answer choices are offered but no patient profiles are given.

The NAPLEX follows the one-best-answer rule, in which several choices may be plausible, but only one answer choice is the best. You will encounter both single-answer and combined-response questions. In single-answer questions, you must choose the best option for completing a statement or answering a question. In combined-response questions, you must choose among several combinations of answer components.

### What to Expect

You will have approximately 4 hours and 15 minutes to complete 185 questions on a computer. After about 2 hours, there is a mandatory 10-minute break. Thirty-five of the questions on the exam are pretest questions and will not affect the student's score. However, there is no way of knowing which items are pretest questions so students should answer each question as though it counts.

The NAPLEX is adaptive, meaning that your performance on each question determines which question the computer asks next. If you answer a question correctly, the next question that the computer asks will be more difficult. If you answer a question incorrectly, the next question will be easier. In this way, the test program tracks your number of correct and incorrect responses as well as the

difficulty of the questions you are asked.

## Updated NAPLEX Blueprint and New Passing Standard

The NAPLEX exam is changing after May 1, 2005. After May 1, 2005 all candidates who attempt the NAPLEX will receive an examination based on the revised blueprint and a score based on the new passing standard, regardless of when they registered or were approved by the board of pharmacy.

The most significant changes include:

- Increasing the emphasis on communication skills
- Treating over-the-counter and prescription products equally
- Adding a competency specifically addressing dietary supplements
- A higher passing standard, although the minimum passing score will remain 75

The National Board Dental Examination Part I (NBDE I\*) is only offered by computer at Prometric Testing Centers. Most students usually take Part I after they've completed two years of dental school. For more information about the NBDE I, visit the American Dental Association.

The administration of the test is divided into morning and afternoon sessions. Part I is a comprehensive exam with 400 multiple-choice items. Approximately 20% of the items will be grouped into testlets with interdisciplinary focus and clinical applications.

The test is entirely composed of multiple-choice questions, each with 3-5 possible answer choices. Questions are taken from a wide variety of topical areas, including Microbiology and Pathology (100 questions); Anatomic Sciences (100 questions); Biochemistry and Physiology (100 questions); and Dental Anatomy and Occlusion (100 questions). The National Board Dental Examination

The PANCE is a multiple-choice test comprised of 360 questions assessing medical and surgical knowledge. The test is administered on computer, year-round at more than 300 Sylvan Prometric testing centers throughout the US. Exam registrants select a 3-month test eligibility window, and then call the Prometric testing center of their choice to schedule an exam date within that 3-month window of eligibility. There are more than 5,000 examinees annually, and the failure rate for first time examinees is 15%, and 25% for repeat test takers.

The PANCE is administered in 4 blocks of 90 questions each, with 90 minutes allowed for the completion of each block. Question formats range from short, single-best answer questions to longer, clinical vignette style questions with one best answer. Many questions contain images, including EKGs, x-rays, photographs and diagrams. A passing score on the PANCE requires correctly answering 55-60% of the questions. There is no guessing penalty.