

## Student User Guide

Ethan M. Lewis

Method Test Prep

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#### Table Of Contents

- Chapter 1: Welcome to Method Test Prep!
- <u>Chapter 2: The Student Dashboard</u>
- Chapter 3: Checklist Tasks
- Chapter 4: Using the Navigation Bar
- <u>Chapter 5: Quiz on Demand</u>
- <u>Chapter 6: The Resource Center</u>



## Welcome To Method Test Prep!

Thank you for choosing Method Test Prep as your provider of online ACT<sup>®</sup> and SAT<sup>®</sup> preparation. Method Test Prep's online program is used by tens of thousands of students every week, all around the world. We are confident that if you use the program diligently your score will improve.

The "method" to the Method Test Prep program consists of a system that provides students with ample feedback throughout the process. You will always know how much of the program you have worked through, which tasks you have completed, and what is left to do. We also provide detailed explanations of the correct answers to the thousands of questions built into the program.



**SMART IDEA ALERT!** Make sure to read the explanations and watch any explanatory videos for questions that you get wrong (or for ones that you got right by guessing). Then go back the next day and try the questions again. When you can answer every question in our program correctly, you can be positive that you are fully prepared for the test.

Are you ready to get started? Let's begin working to raise your score!





## The Student Dashboard

The student home page features a "Student Dashboard" that allows you to navigate through the program.



Working from top left, down through the page, you will find a vertical grey navigation bar that allows you to perform relevant tasks. Each of the items on this menu has multiple options, so hover your mouse over the menu to see the choices.

In the center of the page is a horizontal grey bar that lets you toggle between our ACT and SAT modules (this is only available at schools that have subscribed to both of our



#### The Student Dashboard

programs). Below that is a horizontal blue navigation bar that provides access to your statistics.

Below that you will see a large checklist of hyperlinks to lessons and other **tasks**. Each task has an estimate of how much time it should take to complete (though your results may vary). You will see that the tasks are blocked off in "Weeks": don't let this intimidate you! While it would be great to have 16 or more weeks to prepare for standardized tests, not everyone has that luxury. You can do as many tasks per week as you can handle.

Two of the most important things to focus on are the **Evaluations** in Week 2, and the **Full-Length Tests** at the end of the checklist. No matter how much time you have before the test, you should do the evaluations as soon as you start using the program. Then, a week or two before the ACT or SAT, take at least one of the full-length tests. Those tests are timed, and they will give you an effective simulation of the real thing, which will increase your comfort level on test day.



**SMART IDEA ALERT!** If you have access to both modules, try doing the evaluations for both the ACT and the SAT. The tests are considerably different, and you may find that one is better suited to your strengths.



**SMART IDEA ALERT!** After you take a full-length test, go back into the lessons in the Method Test Prep program to review any concepts that gave you trouble. It will help you to maximize your score.





# Checklist Tasks: Lessons & Quizzes

The heart of the Method Test Prep program is the dozens of detailed lessons that break standardized tests into understandable **concepts**. Each lesson provides a mix of strategic (how to recognize what the test wants, and how to answer the question most efficiently) and academic content. The program isn't designed to take the place of your teacher, but by using it you can learn what you need to know to succeed on the ACT and SAT.

#### Week 3

- 10. Reading Lesson #1: Best Reading Practices (approx. 15 min.)
- 11. Writing and Language Lesson #1: Subject Verb Agreement (approx. 15 min.)
- 12. Math Lesson #2: Literal Equations (approx. 15 min.)
- 13. Reading Lesson #2: Strategy for Vocab in Context (approx. 15 min.)

#### Week 4

- 14. Writing and Language Lesson #2: Combining Sentences (approx. 15 min.)
- 15. Math Lesson #3: Functions & Statistics (approx. 15 min.)
- 16. Reading Lesson #3: Reading with Diagrams Part 1 (approx. 15 min.)
- 17. Writing and Language Lesson #3: Tense (approx. 15 min.)

#### Week 5

- 18. Math Lesson #4: No Calculator Part 1 (approx. 15 min.)
- 19. Reading Lesson #4: Read the Introduction (approx. 15 min.)
- 20. Writing and Language Lesson #4: Proper Number Agreement (approx. 15 min.)
- 21. Math Lesson #5: No Calculator Part 2 (approx. 15 min.)

Each lesson is followed by a **mastery quiz** that will give you a chance to answer every variety of question you will find on the test for each concept. Every quiz question includes two features that will be very helpful to you: a clock, and a detailed explanation.

The clock will count upwards from zero, and it is there to give you a sense of time. There is no guessing penalty on the ACT or SAT, but that doesn't mean you should spend 5 minutes puzzling over an answer. You will probably find that 1 minute is about the most time you'll want to spend on a question.

## Checklist Tasks: Lessons & Quizzes

Every question also features a detailed explanation of how to get the right answer. These explanations may include videos to show you how you can mark up your test booklet to help solve the question. You should review these explanations carefully.



As usual, we're going to base all of our calculations off of 10% of the appropriate numbers. First, we determine the number of students who were accepted by finding 35% of 10,200. To do so, we find 10% of 10,200 by moving the decimal place one unit left:

10,200 ---> 1,020 <--- 10% of the original.

Notice, though, that we have to find *35%*. This means we should also find what *5%* of the original would be to make our overall calculation easier. This simply means halving the 10% value we found.

1,020 / 2 = 510 <---- 5% of the original.

We know that to find 35%, we'll have to add 3 times the 10% value plus the 5% value.

(3 x 1,020) + 510 = 3,570.

Next, we will find the *40% of these* students who actually accepted admission, which is what the question wants. Again, we'll first find 10% by moving the decimal point, and then quadruple it to get 40%.

357 x 4 = **1428**, or **Choice A**.



Each task is listed on the dashboard with an estimate of how much time it should take to complete. An alternative, and faster, way of accessing the lessons grouped by subject is to select "Lessons/ Quizzes" from the grey vertical navigation bar at the left hand side of the screen.

		lest Pre	<sup>3</sup> p	
ACT	New SAT		Student D	
Home	•		Student D	
Evalua	ation Tests		Course :	
Lesso	ns / Quizzes	Reading		
Vocab	Vocabulary Builder Writing		and Language	
Full Le	ength Exams	Math		
Perso	nal Informati	Assigned	Quiz	
Resou	urce Material	Quiz On [	Demand	
Resou	irce Center		·	
			Week 1	

Method

This will take you to a page that allows you to choose any lesson and/or quiz. You will also be able to see your scores on each of the quizzes here.

Sector Sector Field Fiel	Prep		<b>ம்</b> Logou
ACT New SAT	Lesson / Quizzes:	Math	
Evaluation Tests	Lesson Title	Quiz	Cumulative Score
Lessons / Quizzes Vocabulary Builder	– Plugging In Numbers	Plugging in Numbers	0/0
Full Length Exams	Functions	Functions - New SAT	0/0
Personal Information Resource Materials	System of Equations	System of Equations	0/0
Resource Center	Circles - New SAT	Circles - New SAT	0/0
	Functions & Statistics - New SAT	Functions & Statistics - New SAT	0/0
	Absolute Value	Absolute Value	0/0
	Literal Equations	Literal Equations	0/0
	Mean Median Mode	Mean Median Mode	0/0
	Probability	Probability	0/0



For more details on how to check your quiz results, read on, or watch the video below:

Movie 3.	<b>1</b> How To Vi	ew Quiz Results	
	p.methodtestprep.com.istudent/home tmill 🌾 Login to Huldger 💽 Sekstoresem	-Cu. 🕐 Metrod Test/Payl 📡 Tether/ Hune: 🥃 Dottokenings Kes 🚿 Skill & ACT/Pas Del 🛐 Weisenie (Liversh- 🕒 KTV Was Related	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	Carlor Metho		
	ACT SAT New SAT Hame Evaluation Tests Lesson (Autzee Vacabulary Builder Partice Questions Ful Length Exams Premium Audio Persional Information Resource Materiais Resource Center	Student Dashboard       Watane Rank Student       Mytacaute         Course :       Image State Filter :       Image State S	
		Week2           6. Take the critical reading evaluation. Make sure you read the explanations of the ones you got wrong at the end (approx.25 min).           7. Take the math evaluationMake sure you read the explanations of the ones you got wrong at the end of the section. (approx.25 min).           8. Take the writing evaluation Make sure you read the explanations of the ones you got wrong at the end of the section. (approx.25 min).           8. Take the writing evaluation Make sure you read the explanations of the ones you got wrong at the end of the section. (approx.25 min).           8. Take the writing evaluation Make sure you read the explanations of the ones you got wrong at the end of the section. (approx.25 min).           8. Take the writing evaluation Make sure you read the explanations of the ones you got wrong at the end of the section. (approx.25 min).	



### Using the Navigation Bar

The horizontal blue bar on the Dashboard gives you quick access to statistics and details that let you track your progress through the Method Test Prep program.

Working from left to right, you will find links to: your Scores By Concept, your Evaluation Scores, your Full-Length Scores, your Quiz Scores, your Words Mastered and Words Missed list, and finally Practice Scores.

When you click on any of these reports, the grey bar is always available on the left side of the screen and the blue bar is always at the top of the screen, so it is easy to leave a report and jump to another part of the program.



**SMART IDEA ALERT!** In the next few pages you will see each report and the detailed information that accompanies it. Check in with these reports regularly to see how you are doing.



**SMART IDEA ALERT!** The program is designed to allow you to "teach yourself" what you need to know to prepare for standardized tests. But if you find any concepts that are just too hard to understand, feel free to show these reports to a teacher or tutor at your school. Together you can review the concept and work through it until it makes sense.



## Scores By Concept

As you work through the Method Test Prep program you can check your results in the different sections of the test for which you are preparing by using the *Scores By Concept* screen.

Checklist Scores by Conc	ept Eval Scores Full Length Quiz Scores	Words Mastered And Words Missed List Practice Scores
Subject	÷	Cumulative Scores
Math		53/62
Reading	Click a subject to see a detailed con-	49/59
Writing and Language	cept by concept breakdown of your quíz results.	30/30

Simply click the name of a subject to get a detailed report (see next page) that shows how many questions you have answered for each concept, how many you got right, and the overall percentage correct.

This screen (and several others in the program) also compare your results to the **Method Test Prep Norm** (**MTP Norm**). The MTP Norm is computed nightly and is based on every user of our program.



**SMART IDEA ALERT!** Don't obsess to get a perfect score right away--after all, hardly anyone will get a perfect score on the actual test. But do use the MTP Norm to gauge your results against a meaningful comparison group.



#### Scores By Concept

#### Checklist Scores by Concept Test Scores Quiz Scores Practice Scores Words Mastered And Words Missed List

Back

Legend  >10% below MTP Nor	m 🧉	0 to 10% below MTP Norm	.001 to 10% above M <sup>*</sup>	TP Norm 😑 🤉	10% above MT	P Norm
Concepts \$	Strength	Number of questions correct	Number of questions	Percentage	Mtp Norm	Differentia
Analysis in History		0	0	-	69.39 %	
Analysis in Science		5	6	83.33 %	55.86 %	27.47 %
Best Reading Practices	0	8	10	80.00 %	54.45 %	25.55 %
Command of Evidence			Use this report to se quiz results for even cept. You can also se	<mark>y con</mark> -	51.41 %	
Explicit Meaning		0	your results compare Method Test Prep Norr	to the	51.64 %	
Focus on the First 1/3rd of Passage	0	0	1	-	74.19 %	-74.19 %
History/Social Studies	0	5	6	83.33 %	59.97 %	23.36 %
Implicit Meaning	0	3	3	100.00 %	52.35 %	47.65 %
Main Idea	0	6	8	75.00 %	46.95 %	28.05 %
Paired Passages		0	0		51.22 %	



#### **Evaluation Scores**

One of the first things you should do when you begin using the Method Test Prep program is to take the evaluation quizzes found in Week 2 of the ACT and SAT checklists. These evaluations will show you examples of all of the types of questions you could face on the test, and will also give you a score indexed like the test for which you are preparing:

Evaluation Result	View and/or Print Full Results 🖶
	Course: New SAT Subject: Reading
	Date and Time: February 11, 2016 07:29AM
	Your final score: 11 of 18 - 61.11%
	This is approximately a 570 on the New SAT
	Good
	Return Home
Print This P	'age 🥌 🛛 Retake Test 湕 🛛 Return to Checklist Item 🗹

At any time you can click *Eval Scores* in the horizontal blue bar to see a more complete breakdown of your evaluation scores:

ACT SAT New SAT	Test So	oro		Welcome	My Accour
Home	TEST SU	LUIE			
Evaluation Tests	Course :	ACT SA	T New SAT		
Lessons / Quizzes	Date Filter :		Data This School Yea	ar (July 15 - Present)	
Vocabulary Builder		- the finite c			
Practice Questions					
Full Length Exams	Checklist Score	s by Concept Eval So	cores Full Length Quiz S	cores Words Mastered And Words Misse	ed List Practice Scores
Personal Information	Evaluation Te	ets for ACT	Score	Date Taken	
Resource Materials		Stator Act	Score	Date Taken	
Resource Center	English :	26 🔾	12/15	Feb 5, 2016	
	Math :	<u>29</u>	12/15	Feb 5, 2016	
	Reading :	<u>32</u>	13/15	Feb 5, 2016	
	Science :	22	9/13	Feb 5, 2016	



#### **Full-Length Scores**

The Method Test Prep program contains two full-length, timed ACT tests and two full-length, timed SAT tests for you to practice with. As noted previously, you should definitely plan to take at least one of them before you take the real test for the first time. You might want to save the other of the tests for later, to "tune up" for your second real-life test. Clicking on *Full Length* in the horizontal blue bar will let you see how you've done on these authentic preparation tests.

ACT New SAT	Full Length E	Exam				
Home Evaluation Tests	Evidence-Based Reading and Writing Section SCORE	+	Math Section score	=	Total SAT score	
Lessons / Quizzes Vocabulary Builder	N/A	<u>Click h</u>	N/A ere to view the new o	conversion chart	N/A	
Full Length Exams	Full-Length SAT #1		Raw Score	Date Taken		
Personal Information	Reading :	N/A				
Resource Materials Resource Center	Section 1 (65 minutes)				Start Test	
	Writing and Language :	N/A				
	Section 2 (35 minutes)				Start Test	
	Math :	N/A				
	Math Calc: Section 3 (25 minute	es)			Start Test	
	Math No Calc: Section 4 (55 mir	nutes)			Start Test	



#### Quiz Scores

Clicking on *Quiz Scores* in the horizontal blue bar will give you results on each of the mastery quizzes you've done. You can see your cumulative score by subject, and your most recent score on this report.

Course : Date Filter :	ACT SAT NEW SA	_	YEAR (JULY 15	- PRESENT)
Checklist Scores by	Concept Eval Scores Full Length	Ωuiz Scores	Words Mastere	d And Words Missed List Practice Scores
Subject	Last Date Taken	Last Sco	ore \$	Cumulative Scores
English	Dec 30, 2015	4/5		47/67
Math	Jan 25, 2016	3/3		46/88
Reading	Jan 23, 2016	1/1		18/53
Science	Dec 30, 2015	3/4		31/61



#### **Quiz Scores**

Click on any of the subject names to get a more detailed report. You can sort by any of the columns if you want to see your best or worst scores.

	TA THIS	SCHOOL YEAR (JULY 15				
Checklist Scores by Concep	t Test Scores	Quiz Scores Prac	tice Scores V	Vords Mastered	And Words	Missed List
Differential information is updated nightly. The information was last updated on: 02/11/2016- 02:00:34 AM.						
Legend  >10% below MTP N	lorm 🥚 (	0 to 10% below MTP Norm	.001 to 10%	above MTP Norm	🔵 >10% abo	ve MTP Norm
Quiz Name	Cumulative Score <sub>\$</sub>	Number of Questions Correct	Number of Questions	Percentage ↓	MTP Norm <sub>+</sub>	Differential
Absolute Value	0	5	6	83.33%	59.19%	24.15
ACT Math 31		0	0	0.00%	65.00%	
Area and Volume		0	0	0.00%	57.14%	
Average (Mean) Questions	0	1	4	25.00%	54.57%	-29.57
Be Careful with Fractions and Negatives	9	1	4	25.00%	52.36%	-27.36
Circles		0	0	0.00%	100.00%	
Exponents	-	3	4	75.00%	53.59%	21.41
Functions		0	0	0.00%	56.95%	
Functions	0	5	6	83.33%	58.54%	24.80
Geometry: Polygons		0	0	0.00%	61.26%	



#### **Vocabulary Builder**

Method Test Prep's *Vocabulary Builder* program is based on a dictionary of hundreds of words likely to appear on the ACT and SAT. The *Vocabulary Builder* provides you with a basic definition of each word and the word's pronunciation, and uses it in a sentence.

Click on "Vocabulary Builder" in the grey vertical menu and you can choose to take a quiz. The program will randomly give you a word to define.

Method Test Press		ტ Logout
ACT New SAT	Vocabulary Quiz	
Home		
Evaluation Tests	Define : haughty	
Lessons / Quizzes	Denne . haughty	
Vocabulary Builder	A criticity continued blame	
Full Length Exams	A. criticize, reprimand, blame	
Personal Information	B. arrogant, overbearing	× 1
Resource Materials		•
Resource Center	C. very careful, paying attention to details	
	D. dull, uninteresting, boring	
		Submit



To "master" a word, you have to get it right twice, which might require you to use the program for a half hour or more. During that time you will be exposed to lots of words.

At any time you can choose to view the list of the words you've missed and the list of the words you've mastered. There is a definite correlation between vocabulary and test scores, so this program will be very helpful!



#### Quiz on Demand

#### Method Test Prep

АСТ	New SAT		Student D
Home			Student D
Evalua	ation Tests		Course :
Lesso	ns / Quizzes	Reading	1
Vocab	ulary Builder	Writing an	d Language
Full Le	Full Length Exams Math		
Perso	Personal Informati		Quiz
Resou	irce Material	Quiz On D	emand
Resou	irce Center		
			Week 1

The Method Test Prep program contains thousands of questions (all of which include detailed explanations of the correct answer, many with video answers) and the bank of questions is continually growing. You can ask the program to give you a quiz on any subject and concept, or combination of concepts. Just go to the grey vertical bar and choose "Lessons/Quizzes" and "Quiz on Demand".

The following video walks you through the process of building the quiz. Just like the mastery quizzes, your custom quiz will include detailed explanations, and you can take the quiz multiple times.





#### **MTP Resource Center**

Method Test Prep's program has always had a plethora of supplemental and educational resources, ranging from user manuals to videos and PowerPoint presentations about standardized tests, to study guides that students have consistently praised as highly valuable.

The current version of Method Test Prep's online program has revamped the presentation of these items by placing them in the *Resource Center*. The Resource Center is an attractive, dynamic, highly sortable mechanism that can make it easy to find what you are looking for, while also encouraging you to "stumble upon" helpful tools that you didn't even know you needed.





There are literally scores of materials in the Resource Center and we are constantly adding more. One great feature of the Resource Center is that it is linked to the program, so you can search for materials related to particular concepts. To do so, select your test, subject and concept(s) at the top of the screen and click the "Search" button (it will appear after you make your selections in the window pictured below).

Course: New SAT	Choose Concept	Advanced Search
Absolute Value	History/Social Studies	Rationalization
Algebra	Humanities	Ratios
Analysis in History	Implicit Meaning	Read Quickly with a Purpose
Analysis in Science	Incorrect Comparison	Read the Introduction
Angles	Inequalities	Reading
Area	Linear Equations	Reading w/ diagrams
Best Reading Practices	Literal Equations	Redundancy
Careers	Main Idea	Relevance
Circles	Mean	Science
Circumference	Median	Sequences
Combinations	Mixtures SAT Math P	Shaded Region
Combining Sentences	Mode	Single Variable
Command of Evidence	Multi Variable	Slope
Comparative and Superlative	No Calculator SAT math.	SOH-CAH-TOA
Complex Numbers	Paired Passages	Special Right Triangles
Data Interpretation	Parallelism	Strange Symbols
Diction Error	Percents	Subject After Comma
Explicit Meaning	Perpendicular Lines	Subject Object Agreement
Exponential Equations	Plug In Numbers	Subject Verb Agreement
Exponents	Probability	Systems of Equations
Expression of ideas	Pronoun Antecedent Agreement	Tense
Extended Thinking	Pronouns	Tone SAT Math Index
Focus on the First 1/3rd of Passage	Proper Number Agreement Answer Key	Transitional Phrases
Functions	Proportions	Trigonometric Identities
Geometry 691 views	Punctuation	Trigonometry
Grammar	Pythagorean Theorem	US and World Literature
Graphs	Quadratics	Vocabulary in Context
	Radicals	Uolume
		What Lines Should I Read
		Word Problems



Method Test Prep users can rate everything they find in the Resource Center (akin to how customers can rate products on online shopping sites). Please feel free to rate the materials that you look at, as user ratings is a search criteria built into the Resource Center.



**SMART IDEA ALERT!** The hyperlinks at the bottom of the screen pictured above will reveal other materials in the Resource Center that you might want to see.



**SMART IDEA ALERT!** The Resource Center will keep track of the videos that you've watched and will automatically shift new content to the top of your list of available material.