



# High School & Beyond Planning — News & Information

March 2017



11<sup>th</sup> Grade

## Test Preparation

If you are considering applying to a four-year college you will likely need to take either the SAT or the ACT. There are other standardized tests for those students planning to enlist in the military or to attend a two-year or technical college. In addition, if you are taking plan to take an Advance Placement test in the spring, check **out the test-taking strategies below!**

### STRATEGY 1: KNOW WHAT TO EXPECT

Spend a little time doing research before you take a standardized test. Use the Internet or **Naviance Test Prep** to learn about each section of the test and what types of questions will be in each section. Make sure you understand the rules for each section: for instance, whether a specific section will require multiple choice answers or an essay. Even better, **take a practice test** so that you get a feel for the types of questions you will encounter.

### STRATEGY 2: READ THE INSTRUCTIONS

Even if you've done your research, make sure you read the instructions for each section of the test. Know what the section is asking you to do, what types of answers are expected, how many questions are in that section, and how much time you have. Don't assume that a section on an exam is just like a practice test. **Read the instructions before you begin.**

### STRATEGY 3: PACE YOURSELF

On most standardized tests, there is a **time limit** for each section. Before you begin each section, make sure you know how much time you are allowed. Check your watch or the clock in the exam room to determine when you will have to finish. Then, calculate how many questions you must answer and determine how quickly you must work (for instance, two minutes per question or ten minutes per essay).

### STRATEGY 4: ANSWER EASY QUESTIONS FIRST

Because the test is timed, it is important to **move through it as quickly as you can**. If you don't know the answer to a question right away, move on and come back to it later. Remember to skip that question on your answer sheet as well.

### STRATEGY 5: USE THE PROCESS OF ELIMINATION FOR DIFFICULT QUESTIONS

If you don't know the answer to a question, see if you can eliminate any answers that are obviously wrong. If you are able to eliminate several of the possible answers, you can then make an **educated guess** from those that remain.

Source: [Career Guidance WA](#)



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## Did You Know?

Have you checked out all the testing resources through Naviance? Log in and take a look today!

(<http://www.everettsd.org/domain/1464>)

- [act resources](#)
- [sat resources](#)
- [military resources](#)

• [Naviance Test Prep](#)

## Myth Buster

**MYTH:** The SAT and the ACT are tests of intelligence. The scores are a good indication of how well a student will do in college.

**REALITY:**

Test scores reflect how good a student is at taking the SAT or ACT (*as well as how much time one spent preparing*)—and that's about it.

The score does **not** measure how intelligent a person is, serve as a final grade for four years of high school, or predict how successful a student will be in life.

Nevertheless, admissions officers continue to place great weight on these tests when reviewing applications for admissions decisions.

So, it's important for students to prepare and to do their best.

Source: [Princeton Review](#)

## Student Checklist

- ☐ **Create/update your 4-year plan** using the **Course Planner** tool in Naviance to see how many credits you have and plan your senior year.

[courses](#)

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MANAGE YOUR PLANS

- ☐ **Check out Naviance Enrichment Programs** for summer opportunities!

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- ☐ **Use SuperMatch** Naviance to explore college options and personalize your search!

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## Family Checklist

- ☐ **Talk with your student about the importance of coursework and activities** for next year.
- ☐ Use the **Course Planner** tool in Naviance to plan the remaining years in high school.
- ☐ If you are unsure out planning courses or want to discuss post-secondary options, set up a meeting with the school counselor and/or Career and College Specialists.



[Check Student  
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Naviance questions? [naviance@everettsd.org](mailto:naviance@everettsd.org)



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