

ACT English Test Content

(5 Passages - 45 Minutes - 75 Questions)

Students have 45 minutes to complete 75 multiple-choice questions that are presented in five essay or passages. The English measure students understanding of the Conventions of Standard English (punctuation, usage, and sentence structure), production of writing (topic development, organization, unity, and cohesion), and knowledge of language (word choice, style, and tone).

Three reporting categories – Production of Writing, Knowledge of Language and Conventions of Standard English

1. Topic development; organization, unity, and cohesion;
2. Knowledge of language: precision in word choice, consistency in style
3. Punctuation: grammar, usage, sentence structure/formation.

I. Production of Writing (29–32%) | 21-24 Questions

Require students to apply their **understanding of the purpose and focus** of a piece of writing.

- Topic Development: Demonstrate an understanding of, and control over, the rhetorical aspects of texts. Identify the purposes of parts of texts, determine whether a text or part of a text has met its intended goal, and evaluate the relevance of material in terms of a text's focus.
- Organization, Unity, and Cohesion: Use various strategies to ensure that a text is logically organized, flows smoothly, and has an effective introduction and conclusion.

II. Knowledge of Language (13–19%) | 9 - 14 Questions

Demonstrate effective language use through ensuring **precision and concision** in word choice and maintaining consistency in style and tone

III. Conventions of Standard English (51–56%) | 38 - 42 Questions

Require students to apply an understanding of the conventions of Standard English **grammar, usage, and mechanics to revise and edit text.**

- Sentence Structure and Formation: Apply understanding of sentence structure and formation in a text and to make revisions to improve the writing.
- Punctuation: Recognize common problems with Standard English punctuation and to make revisions to improve the writing.
- Usage: Recognize common problems with standard English usage in a text and to make revisions to improve the writing.

