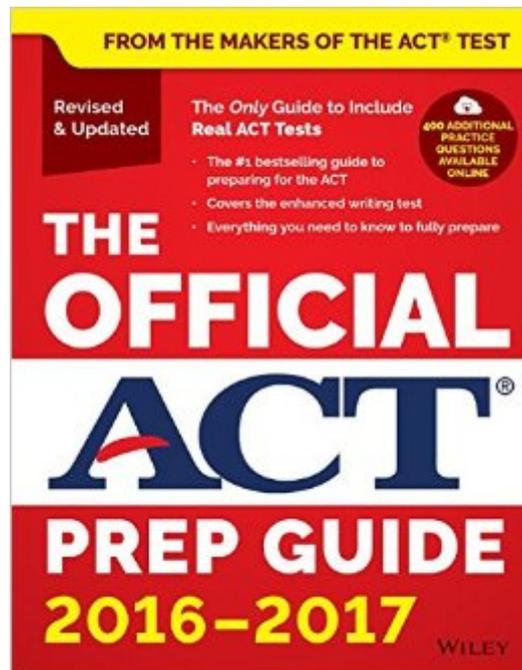


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# The Official ACT Prep Guide, 2016 - 2017



## Synopsis

Everything you need to know about the 2016-2017 ACT test, with real full-length practice tests from the makers of the ACT! The Official ACT Prep Guide 2016-2017 is the bestselling resource for students gearing up for the ACT test. This comprehensive guide walks you through the entire test experience, from registration through results, with expert advice straight from the test's creators. You'll find effective test-taking strategies, tips for boosting your score on the English, math, reading, and science tests, and detailed information on the enhanced optional writing test. Three new full-length practice tests help you assess your readiness so you can spot weak areas well in advance, and the ACT experts provide valuable advice on preparing both mentally and physically so you can manage anxiety and be fully confident on test day. You also get free online bonus content to help you start college on the right foot, including tips for preparing an application that gets noticed, getting into your first-choice school, being a successful student, and much more. The 2016-2017 version of the ACT guide includes a number of changes, including reading test sections with two shorter prose passages and the enhanced writing test's prompts. This guide provides a preview of what to expect for the entire exam, so you can go into the test feeling fully prepared and ready to excel. Get insider tips and strategies from the exam's creators Improve your score in all five content areas, including the optional writing test Practice with full-length test forms taken from the actual ACT Gear up for college with bonus online advice for a successful first year The ACT is different from other standardized tests. It tests your accumulated skills and knowledge, so sheer memorization and vocabulary lists are unproductive prep strategies. For preparation strategies that actually make a difference in your score—and beyond—go straight to the source with The Official ACT Prep Guide 2016-2017.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I'm a Harvard graduate, SAT perfect scorer and full-time tutor who has taught the ACT for nearly 20 years. We've been waiting since 2011 for a newer edition of this book, and at long last, it's here: the included 3 tests reflect the minor changes to the ACT Reading and Science portions, and most importantly, the major changes to the new ACT essay (Writing) section. All 3 exams also include answer explanations, and for the first time ever, the book is also offered as an instant digital download from the Kindle store at a discounted price. (Although the Kindle version--accessible not just for Kindle owners but on nearly any device with a screen--is admittedly very convenient and environmentally friendly, I would still recommend that you buy the physical book, because the actual ACT is still a paper-based test.) The Official ACT Prep Guide 2016-2017 (formerly the Real ACT Prep Guide) continues to be the most essential preparation guide for the ACT, because it is the only source of official test questions--the practice ACTs in all other books are nothing more than subpar imitations of the real thing. Seeing that this updated version of the ACT has already been around since the September 2015 administration of the exam, the publication of this book is long overdue--but it's better late than never. Unfortunately, this most recent edition of the "Big Red Book" contains only 3 updated tests, and those tests include many recycled questions from the previous (3rd) edition, as well as from the April and June 2015 versions of the ACT, which is why I'm removing one star from my review (I was awfully tempted to remove two), but again, that's better than only 1 new test (google "Preparing for the ACT Test 2016"), which until now is all that was available.

This is very disappointing, made worse by the fact that you should definitely buy this anyway. I have been a tutor for 15 years and owned my own SAT/ACT prep company for about the last 10 of those years, so I'm intimately familiar with this book, and all of its past versions. The advice portion of this book is fine. Not amazing. Helps you know what to expect if you've never seen it before, which is good. But it's mostly all very, very long winded ways of saying, "Hey, you should practice math, learn your grammar, and read more accurately." All of which is to say: practice! This is not revolutionary advice, here. So the practice tests are far (far far far far far) and away the most useful

aspect of this book, and I'll spend most of my time reviewing those. First, the good news. The first two practice tests in this book are (finally!!) an updated version of the ACT ... mostly, at least. (The second test recycles some very old math problems from previous editions.) This new material includes compare/contrast Reading passages, which have been around for a while on the actual ACT but not available for practice in any of the official practice books until now. So that's nice. The other sections -- English, Math, and Science -- also seem to have been updated to be on par with the difficulty of the current test. Anyone who practiced with the earlier editions was in for a small shock on test day when the math and science were noticeably harder than what the official practice book had showed; this book fixes that problem on the first two exams. The essay prompts have been updated to reflect the new version, too. Now the bad news. First of all, why in the world did we drop from five practice tests in the previous edition down to three?

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