

2015

PSAT/NMSQT®

WHAT'S INSIDE

Thank you for administering the 2015 PSAT/NMSQT® at your school. This package includes your students' score reports as well as other materials you can use to help them get the most from their results.

Your Students' Score Reports

One copy of each student's score report is enclosed for distribution to your students. Please note the location of the access code on the front cover of the score reports. Students can use their unique access codes to get their full reports online at studentscores.collegeboard.org.

Educator Summary

The Educator Summary Report provides benchmark and mean total score information for your sophomores and/or juniors. It also contains your access code for logging on to the AP Potential™ tool at appotential.collegeboard.org.

Visit k12reports.collegeboard.org for additional score reporting and analysis tools to inform instruction and track your students' progress.

A Parent Tutorial

Make copies of this flyer to distribute to parents and students to help them interpret their score reports. Visit psat.org/resources to download and copy a Spanish version.

Understanding 2015 PSAT/NMSQT Scores

Use this booklet to delve deeper into the meaning of your students' scores, including what the assessment measures, how it is scored, and how you can use the data to monitor your students' progress.

The booklet also provides:

- » The National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) Selection Index chart and an explanation of how NMSC uses the Selection Index scores
- » Answer keys for the 2015 test
- » Percentile tables for total and section scores and information about projected SAT® scores
- » A Sample Score Report and Score Report Case Study to help you interpret students' score reports

What's Next Flyer

"What's Next for You and Your Students" clarifies steps you can take to help your students get the most from their PSAT/NMSQT results, from personalized practice for the SAT via Khan Academy® to insights into how to build their own readiness for college and career.

Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test
co-sponsored by

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WHAT'S NEXT FOR YOU AND YOUR STUDENTS

Your students can link their College Board and Khan Academy® accounts to generate free, personalized online practice for the SAT®, based on their PSAT/NMSQT® results. You can tap into the rich analysis and instructional planning offered on the K–12 score-reporting portal.

Next Steps for Students

Encourage students to:

- Visit studentscores.collegeboard.org to create a College Board account and get their full PSAT/NMSQT score report.
- Create a Khan Academy account at satpractice.org and link it to their College Board account to get free, personalized practice for the SAT.
- Explore their interests through the personalized MyRoad™ tool and visit bigfuture.org to learn more about careers and majors — both available via their online PSAT/NMSQT score report.
- Register for the SAT in March (U.S. only), May, or June. Spring of junior year is the perfect time to take the SAT for the first time — students can take advantage of their PSAT/NMSQT experience, and they will still have time to practice, increase their skills, and test again if they want to improve their scores.

Next Steps for Educators

- Review the Instructional Planning and Question Analysis reports at k12reports.collegeboard.org to identify your students' strengths and weaknesses in each content area.
- Distribute paper score reports and help students interpret them. Direct students with questions about the National Merit Scholarship Corporation's Selection Index to visit www.nationalmerit.org.
- Use the AP Potential™ tool to identify students who are likely to succeed in AP®. Use your school's AP Potential code, located on your school summary report, to access the tool at appotential.collegeboard.org.

Upcoming SAT Test Dates

| Test Date | Mar 5 | May 7 | June 4 |
|-----------------------|-------|-------|--------|
| Registration Deadline | Feb 5 | Apr 8 | May 5 |

A PARENT TUTORIAL » UNDERSTANDING 2015 PSAT/NMSQT® RESULTS

A Case Study: Ima B. Student's PSAT/NMSQT® Score Report

Take a look at Ima B. Student's sample score report below and on the next page. Use the corresponding information to help you interpret your student's PSAT/NMSQT Score Report.

What Are Ima's Scores?

Ima's Evidence-Based Reading and Writing score is 380 and Math is 480. In Evidence-Based Reading and Writing, Ima's score is approaching the benchmark (explained on the report), but she is not quite on track for college readiness. In Math, however, Ima is exceeding the benchmark and is on track. Test scores, cross-test scores, and subscores can give Ima a better understanding of areas to work on.

What Are Her Score Percentiles?

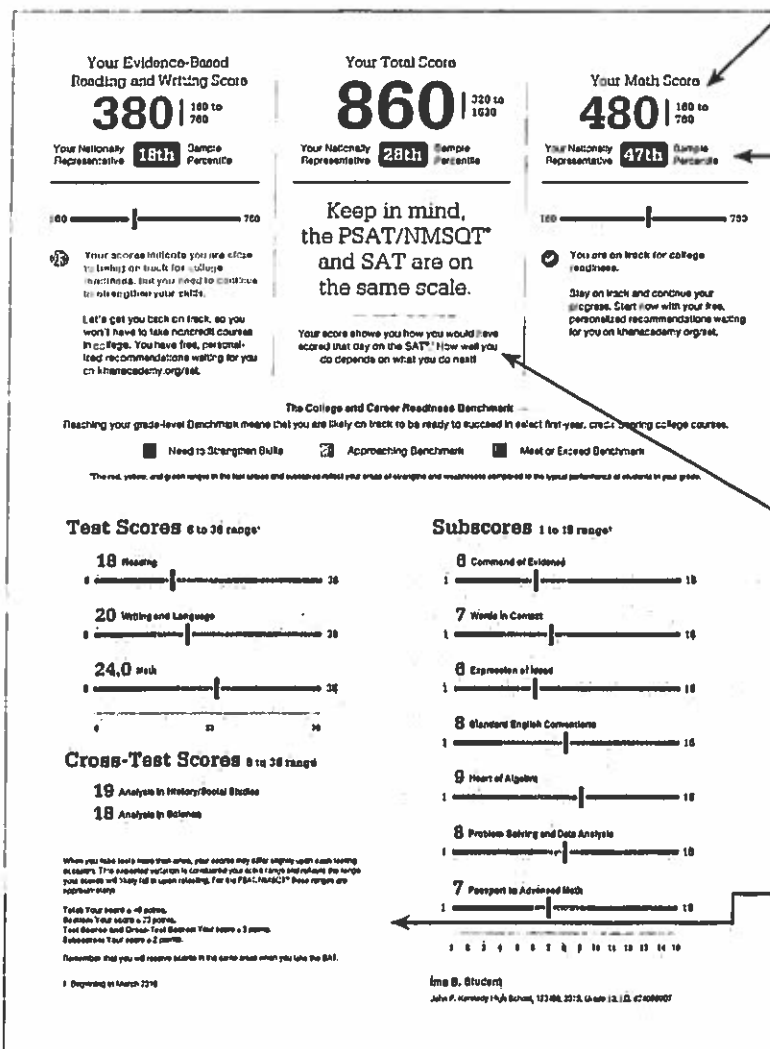
Since Ima is in the 10th grade, the percentiles compare her scores with those of all 10th-graders in the nation. Ima scored as well as or better in Evidence-Based Reading and Writing than 18 percent of a nationally representative group of sophomores. In Math, she scored as well as or better than 47 percent of a nationally representative group of sophomores. Additional percentiles are available in Ima's online score report.

How Will Ima Do on the SAT®?

The PSAT/NMSQT® and SAT are scored on a common scale; therefore if Ima had taken the SAT instead of the PSAT/NMSQT on the same date, she would have received the same score. When Ima takes the SAT, she will likely have had additional learning from school and practice. Her PSAT/NMSQT results can help Ima focus her efforts in high school to be better prepared for the SAT.

What Are Her Score Ranges?

No test measures precisely what someone knows, and many factors can affect results. That is why test makers think of each score as a range that extends from a few points below to a few points above the score earned.



Score Report

For more information...
 The National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) administers the National Merit Scholarship Program, an academic scholarship program for high-achieving students. To determine if you are eligible for consideration for the 2015-2016 National Merit Scholarship Program, please visit www.nmsc.org.
 If you are not eligible for NMSC's "Early Recognition" award, you may still be eligible for other awards. For more information, please visit www.nmsc.org.

Your NMSC Selection Index
124*
 NMSC uses a Selection Index based on PSAT/NMSQT scores to determine if you are eligible for consideration for the National Merit Scholarship Program. To determine your Selection Index score, please visit www.nmsc.org.
Eligibility Information
 You are not eligible for consideration for the National Merit Scholarship Program if you are not a U.S. citizen, permanent resident, or naturalized citizen. For more information, please visit www.nmsc.org.

Entry Requirements
 Information you provided on your answer sheet:
 High school course: 120
 SAT score: 2300
 *You are not eligible for consideration for the National Merit Scholarship Program if you are not a U.S. citizen, permanent resident, or naturalized citizen. For more information, please visit www.nmsc.org.

Your scores indicated that you are already likely able to:
 Review test materials to improve the accuracy of content approximations of word passages when answering challenging tests.
 Return or use information or ideas to a place of a test to support claims of points in a challenging test.
 Review general characteristics of test materials presented in the most logical order.

Your Scores: Next Steps
Reading Test
18
 8 to 38
 Review or add information or ideas to a place of test to support claims of points in a challenging test.
 Review general characteristics of test materials presented in the most logical order.

Improve your ability by focusing on your ability to:
 Review or add information or ideas to a place of test to support claims of points in a challenging test.
 Use a variety of sentence structures to accomplish a rhetorical purpose such as persuading an audience.
 Review test materials to improve the accuracy of content approximations of word passages when answering tests.

Writing and Language Test
 Develop relevant evidence and logical conclusions from challenging texts.
 Identify claims and counterclaims explicitly stated in a complex challenging passage.

20
 8 to 38
 Develop relevant evidence and logical conclusions from challenging texts.
 Analyze information presented qualitatively in such forms as graphs, tables, and charts and relate that information to information presented in a complex challenging text.
 Determine how the selection of specific words shapes meaning and tone in a challenging passage.

Writing and Language Test
 Develop relevant evidence and logical conclusions from challenging texts.
 Analyze information presented qualitatively in such forms as graphs, tables, and charts and relate that information to information presented in a complex challenging text.
 Determine how the selection of specific words shapes meaning and tone in a challenging passage.

Math Test
 Interpret a linear function in one variable with rational coefficients that represents a context. Graph that equation of a line on the coordinate plane and interpret the slope and intercept of the line in the context of the situation.
 Solve and interpret a quadratic function or equation that represents a context and acquire multiple steps.
 Calculate and interpret probability distributions using tables and other representations.

24.0
 8 to 38
 Interpret a linear function in one variable with rational coefficients that represents a context. Graph that equation of a line on the coordinate plane and interpret the slope and intercept of the line in the context of the situation.
 Solve and interpret a quadratic function or equation that represents a context and acquire multiple steps.
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Math Test
 Interpret a linear function in one variable with rational coefficients that represents a context. Graph that equation of a line on the coordinate plane and interpret the slope and intercept of the line in the context of the situation.
 Solve and interpret a quadratic function or equation that represents a context and acquire multiple steps.
 Calculate and interpret probability distributions using tables and other representations.

Get more next steps online
studentscores.collegeboard.org

SAT Practice
 Connect to FREE, on-line SAT practice on www.collegeboard.org/sat

AP and course work
 See which AP courses may be good matches for you

Register for the SAT
 Select an SAT test date and register for it now

Will Ima Be Able to Enter the National Merit® Scholarship Program?

Ima has an NMSC Selection Index of 124, which is double the sum of her Reading (18), Writing and Language (20), and Math (24) Test scores. This index is used by National Merit Scholarship Corporation to designate students to be recognized in its National Merit Scholarship Program. Since an asterisk appears next to Ima's score, it means she does not meet entry requirements for the program. However, even if Ima met entry requirements, her score is not likely to take her further in the competition for awards. For entry requirements and information on how the competition works, see the *2015 Official Student Guide to the PSAT/NMSQT* or visit www.nationalmerit.org.

How Can Ima Improve Her Academic Skills?

Your Scores: Next Steps are based on her test scores, and what general skills similarly performing students understand. Ima can see which skills she performed well on and which she needs to improve. When she goes online and logs in to the full report online, she can see additional skills and improvement steps. Ima can also link her account to Khan Academy® for personalized practice recommendations.

Score Report

What Are the Next Steps for Ima?
 Under *Get more next steps online*, Ima is directed to studentscores.collegeboard.org to learn how to prepare for the SAT and see her potential for challenging AP® course work.

When Should Ima Take the SAT?
 As a sophomore, Ima should begin planning when she will take the SAT. Most students take the SAT for the first time in their junior year. By planning now, Ima can ensure she has adequate time to practice for the SAT. She can take advantage of practice resources by visiting studentscores.collegeboard.org.

How Can Ima Learn from Her Answers?
 The score report is designed to be used with the student's PSAT/NMSQT test booklet. It lists all of Ima's answers and allows her to see the correct answer and difficulty level for each question. Ima can use her online score report to review the questions she answered incorrectly or omitted, and see detailed answer explanations explaining why her responses were correct or incorrect.

Your Question-Level Feedback

| Question | Writing and Language | | | Math Test - Calculator | | | Math Test - No Calculator | | |
|----------|----------------------|-----------|------------|------------------------|-----------|------------|---------------------------|-----------|------------|
| | Correct | Incorrect | Difficulty | Correct | Incorrect | Difficulty | Correct | Incorrect | Difficulty |
| 1 | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy |
| 2 | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy |
| 3 | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy |
| 4 | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy |
| 5 | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy |
| 6 | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy |
| 7 | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy |
| 8 | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy |
| 9 | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy |
| 10 | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy |
| 11 | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy |
| 12 | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy |
| 13 | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy |
| 14 | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy |
| 15 | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy |
| 16 | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy |
| 17 | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy |
| 18 | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy |
| 19 | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy |
| 20 | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy |
| 21 | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy |
| 22 | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy |
| 23 | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy |
| 24 | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy |
| 25 | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy |
| 26 | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy |
| 27 | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy |
| 28 | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy |
| 29 | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy |
| 30 | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy |
| 31 | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy |
| 32 | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy |
| 33 | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy |
| 34 | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy |
| 35 | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy |
| 36 | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy |
| 37 | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy |
| 38 | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy |
| 39 | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy |
| 40 | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy |
| 41 | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy |
| 42 | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy |
| 43 | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy |
| 44 | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy |
| 45 | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy |
| 46 | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy |
| 47 | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy |
| 48 | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy |
| 49 | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy |
| 50 | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy | ✓ | | Easy |

Keys
 ✓ Correct
 ✗ Incorrect
 ○ Easy
 ○○ Medium
 ○○○ Hard

Subscores
 CRW Composite Writing and Language
 CRW Reading and Language
 CRW Evidence of Reading
 CRW Analysis of Reading
 CRW Command of Language
 CRW Expression of Ideas
 CRW Standard English Conventions
 CRW Hours of English
 CRW Problem Solving and Data Analysis
 CRW Problem Solving and Data Analysis

Cross-Test Scores
 CRW Analysis of Reading
 CRW Analysis of Writing

Score Report