



February 23, 2022

College
101:



General: This is timed test! Stay focused!

- **Answer every question** – only correct answers count.
- **Keep moving** – don't let a single question slow you down. Watch your time (see below). If you are struggling with an answer, circle the question, mark your guessing column (see below) and move on.
- **Bring a watch** – and **mark the estimated halfway time** (less 5 minutes) and **halfway question** on your test booklet to limit "running out to time" guessing:
 - English start time plus 20 minutes/question 38
 - Math start time plus 27 minutes/question 30
 - Reading start time plus 15 minutes/question 20
 - Science start time plus 15 minutes/question 20
- **Pick a guessing column** – if you can't narrow down your choices to one of two options (50% chance of being right), circle the question in your booklet then mark your guessing column (i.e. pick A/F or B/G or C/H or D/J). Having a guessing column can increase your chance of being right by 17%.
- **Save the last 5 minutes** of each test to double check answers and reconsider questions that you guessed on.
- **Use your test booklet** – underline, circle, calculate, strike through, correct. Marking your test booklet is not only allowed, it's a great way to stay engaged!
- **Read and understand the section directions prior to test day** – don't waste precious minutes reading what you could have read in advance! [Click here](#) and [here](#) for more details/rules/suggestions.

English Section Suggestions:

- **Be the editor** – read the passage and **mark your corrections on the booklet then find the correct option in the question section.** *ACT answers depend on context.*
- **Match the number** beneath or near the passage to the number on the answer sheet.
- Watch for **comma splices.** [Click here](#) for help mastering on this type of punctuation error on the ACT.
- Make sure you know and can **identify the parts of speech** (noun, verb, adverb, adjective, conjunction and pronoun).
- **Watch for** subject/verb, idiom, parallel phrase, and pronoun/antecedent **agreement.** [Click here](#) for details.
- Make sure the **connections match** (he goes/they go). For more English section information [click here.](#)
- **When in doubt, pick the shortest answer** (assuming no grammatical errors).

Important information for college applications:

SPCPA School Code: 242 284

Counselor: Alison Green
(greena@spcpa.org)

School Information:
16 W 5th St
St Paul, MN 55102
(651) 290-2225



When: Tuesday March 8, 2022

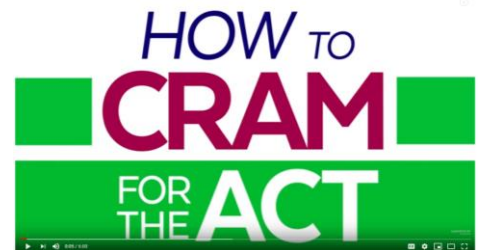
Where: SPCPA

What: ACT Test Prep Videos

- 1) Need a quick introduction to the test? Click [here](#)



- 2) or [here](#)



- 3) or [here.](#)





College 101: More ACT Tips

Math Section Suggestions:

- **Bring a calculator** and extra batteries.
- **Move quickly but be accurate.** Test questions get progressively harder in this section. Being accurate on the easy questions is better than rushing through them to have more time for the harder ones.
- Know the [math formulas](#) and when to use them.
- The ACT typically includes 4 trigonometry questions. **Focusing on doing well** in the [early math](#), [algebra](#) and [geometry](#) sections makes more sense than worrying about trig formulas unless you are striving for a 27+.
- **The ACT doesn't care how you got your answer.** If you are using a guess and check system, start with the middle answer to eliminate options.
- **There is only one right answer.** Find it, check it, and move on.

Reading Section Suggestions:

- **Read quickly but actively:** look for and underline/circle passages that: answer why/what questions; summarize themes; identify relationships/author's purpose; make inferences, and provide a point of view.
- **Analyze evidence.** Differentiate between fact/opinion (mark these sections with F or O) and significant vs insignificant details.
- Ask **what would be important to know** if I was reading this **in social studies, natural sciences, English class?**
- If **reading speed** is an issue, **scan the questions first** and then look for answers in the text.

Science Section Suggestions:

- The science section is **NOT testing your knowledge of a subject area** (biology, geology, physics, etc.). **Stay calm** if the question seems, at first, to be about something you have to prior knowledge of!
- More than **1/2 this test is focused on interpreting data** (charts, graphs, tables, diagrams) and another **1/3 is about evaluating models and making inferences from experimental results.** They give you information you need to answer the question – **match the data to the question.**
- **Understand scientific language** (hypothesis, observation, variable, etc.). [Click here](#) for more info.
- [Click here](#) for a **video series** other students have found helpful with this section.

Writing Section Suggestions: Be coherent. **Write more!**

GENESYS WORKS.

WHERE TOMORROW'S WORKFORCE BEGINS

SPCPA students are here because they chose to pursue training in the performing arts in addition to their academic subjects during high school. [Research has consistently shown](#) that studying the arts can impact academic achievement (better reading and math scores and higher level thinking skills), as well as social, emotional and civic development. Performing arts training provides an excellent bridge to college and career.

As juniors looking forward to senior year and beyond, it is not unusual to consider more seriously the role performing arts may or may not fit into future. Someone who has been dancing since age three may decide to seek out a BFA in Dance or, conversely, positively anticipate the approaching end of their competitive dance career. Instrumentalists and vocalists may choose to audition for music scholarships in college but not major in the subject. Theater students may decide to take the collaboration, communication and creative problem solving skills they have developed studying the arts and apply them to another field.

Having a conservatory education in high school provides SPCPA students with a unique set of experiences and opportunities, but, in the end, each student will decide the depth and breadth of their engagement in the arts after graduation. **For current juniors who are on track to graduate and have determined that their future path will be outside of the performing arts, a local non-profit, Genesys Works, provides a unique opportunity to intern with local businesses every afternoon during their senior year.** Click [here](#) for applications and program requirements.

The selection process is competitive and targeted toward candidates that are (1) **interested in business/information technology**, (2) may be the first in their family to attend college and/or (3) have experienced some other form of adversity during high school. If selected, training begins mid-June after junior year and continues through early August. The internships are paid (\$12.25) and require the student to be available from 1-5 pm Monday through Friday. **For SPCPA students interested in the Genesys Works program this expectation would limit seniors to a maximum of two academic courses each semester as well as Arts class adjustments** (earlier in the day likely with 9th and 10th grade students). **Having only 3 periods per day will limit a student's ability to pursue a 4th year of math and science, which may impact a student's college applications.** Feel free to contact Ms. Green to discuss your personal pros and cons before applying for this program.

The Genesys Works application due in March.