

COACH RICE'S ACT TIPS & STRATEGIES

1. Register for the ACT
 - a. Online is tester (make account)
 - b. Cost is \$38
 - c. Last registration is \$47 - \$24 late fee
 - d. Writing is extra \$16
 - e. Scores are available two weeks after test
 - f. Photo required for registration
 - g. Credit Card required for online registration

2. English
 - a. Skim section
 - b. Eliminate bad answers
 - c. Don't be afraid of "all of the above"
 - d. 75 questions – 45 minutes
 - e. Skim all questions before reading the passages
 - f. Don't be influenced by other answer choices
 - g. Answer questions in order
 - h. 5 passages
 - i. Writing structure, original style
 - j. Subjects in English portion: Punctuation, Grammar & Usage, and Sentence Structure

3. Math
 - a. 5 answer choices
 - b. Questions are equations or word problems
 - c. 60 questions – 60 minutes
 - d. Ranked highest
 - e. Use test book as scratch paper
 - f. Use Calculator wisely (not all of the time)
 - g. 2/3 correct is 25
 - h. Avoid partial answers
 - i. Least difference ---- most difference
 - j. Get a target score
 - k. Eliminate stupid answer
 - l. Subjects in Math portion: Pre-Algebra, Algebra, Geometry & Trigonometry

4. Science
 - a. 35 minutes – 40 questions (7 passages)
 - b. Passages:
 - i. 3 Data Representation – 5 questions
 - ii. 3 Research – 5 questions
 - iii. 1 Conflicting Viewpoint – BIAS!
 - c. No order for passages
 - d. Doesn't test knowledge of science tests. It tests your understanding of data.
 - e. Data – charts, titles, graphs, etc.
 - f. Research – 2/3 experiments & their data
 - g. Viewpoints – theories to explain phenomenon
 - h. Read chart / use chart, handle a graph – interpolate, next step – extrapolate
 - i. Viewpoints
 - i. Detail – Identify info from arguments
 - ii. Inference – Find implied info from arguments
 - iii. Comparison – analyze the two arguments
 - j. Strategies
 - i. Don't fear science language
 - ii. Read Passages first
 - iii. Skipping

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5. Reading
 - a. 40 questions – 35 minutes
 - b. 4 passages – 10 questions
 - c. Read & answer in 9 min per passage
 - d. Scan questions before reading
 - e. Skim passage for answers before fully reading
 - f. Passages: Prose Fiction, Social Science, Humanities, Natural Science

6. General Strategies
 - a. Take practice tests
 - b. 175-minute test
 - c. Writing section can separate
 - d. Multiple choice
 - e. Raw scores combined = composite score
 - f. Take ACT multiple times – “Super Score”
 - g. End of Junior year
 - h. Day of test bring:
 - i. Photo ID
 - ii. Admission Ticket
 - iii. Two #2 Pencils
 - iv. Calculator
 - v. Watch – that doesn't make noise
 - vi. Snack