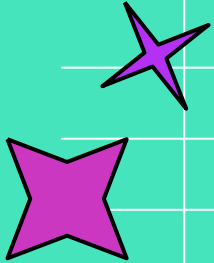
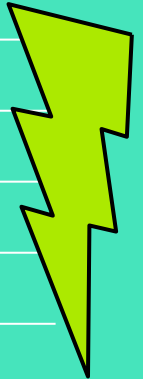


# PSAT 101

## COLLEGE/career readiness



Ms. Richards  
8th Grade School Counselor



# PSAT OVERVIEW

**01**

WHAT IS IT?

**02**

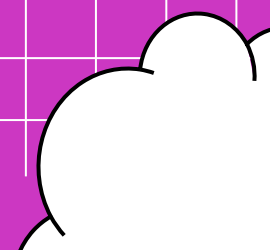
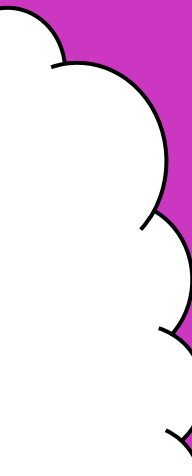
WHAT IS ASSESSED?

**03**

WHY IS IT  
IMPORTANT?

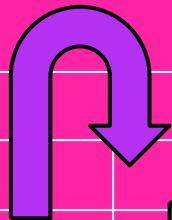
**04**

HOW DO I PREPARE?

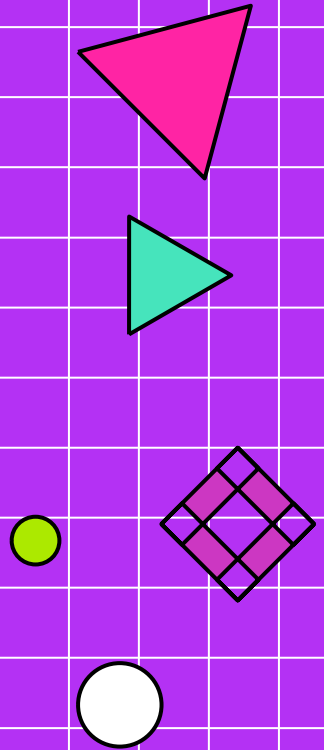


01

WHAT IS THE  
PSAT?



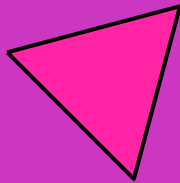
- The PSAT 8/9 is an assessment designed to test 8th and 9th graders on skills they are already learning in school.
- Test length: 2 hours and 25 minutes.
- There's **no penalty for guessing** or blank responses, but you also won't earn any points



# Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT)

## PSAT 8/9

First test in the SAT group of Assessments; taken in 8th and 9th grade



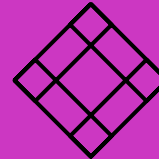
## PSAT 10

Taken in spring of 10th grade; additional practice; helps with advance coursework



## PSAT NMSQT

Usually taken in 11th grade;  
Provides opportunity to qualify for a National Merit Scholarship

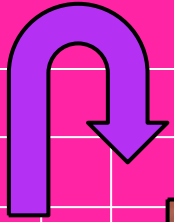


# What Are the Benefits of taking PSAT 8/9?

- Gives you a baseline or starting point as you begin preparing for college and career readiness.
- Identifies your academic strengths and weaknesses
- Will help you determine if you should consider taking higher-level courses in high school
- Helps you familiarize yourself with contents of the SAT
- Provides information on college majors and career exploration
- Please note: scores ARE NOT sent to colleges

03

WHAT IS  
ASSESSED?



# PSAT CONTENT



READING

WRITING  
and  
LANGUAGE

MATH





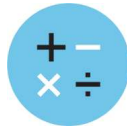
# Skills Tested



Reading Test



Writing and Language Test



Math Test

- Each test assesses the academic skills that students developed over the years, primarily through coursework.
- These skills are considered essential for success in high school, college, and career.

# Reading Test

- 42 passage-based questions;  
(55 minutes)
- 5 passages

## Quick Facts

- All questions are multiple choice and based on passages.
- Some passages are paired with other passages or informational graphics such as charts, graphs, and tables.
- No mathematical computation is required.
- Prior topic-specific knowledge is never tested.



# Writing and Language Test

- 40 passage-based questions; 30 minutes
- 4 passages



## Quick Facts

- All questions are multiple choice and based on passages.
- Requires students to act in the role of an “editor” who is improving a written passage.
- Asks students to decide which, if any, of the alternatives to an underlined portion of a passage most improves it.

# Math Test



- 2 test sections; 60 minutes
- 38 questions  
(31 multiple choice, 7 grid-ins)

## Quick Facts

- Most math questions will be multiple choice, but some will be student-produced responses (grid-ins).
- The Math Test is divided into two portions:  
Math Test – Calculator and Math Test – No Calculator.
- Some parts of the test will present a scenario and then ask several questions about it.

# Math Test

## What to Expect

The Math Test focuses on the math that matters most for college and career readiness. To succeed on the Math Test, students will need to demonstrate mathematical practices, such as problem solving and using appropriate tools strategically.



# Math Section

## Math Test – Calculator

### Students: Know Your Calculator

- A scientific or graphing calculator is recommended.
- **Students should bring a familiar calculator.** Test day is not the time to figure out how to use a new calculator.



# Math Section

## Math Test – Calculator



## Additional Calculator Tips for Students

- Don't try to use the calculator on every question—no question requires one.
- Decide how to solve each problem; then decide whether to use a calculator.
- Make sure your calculator is in good working order and that batteries are fresh.
- Students will not be permitted to use laptops or other computers, tablets, cell phones, or smartphones, etc. Please reference the student guide for a complete list.

**Reminder:  
THE PSAT HELPS YOU:**

**1. Prepare**

Figure out **what you need to work on most** to prepare for the PSAT 9/10, SAT, & college/career

**2. MONITOR**

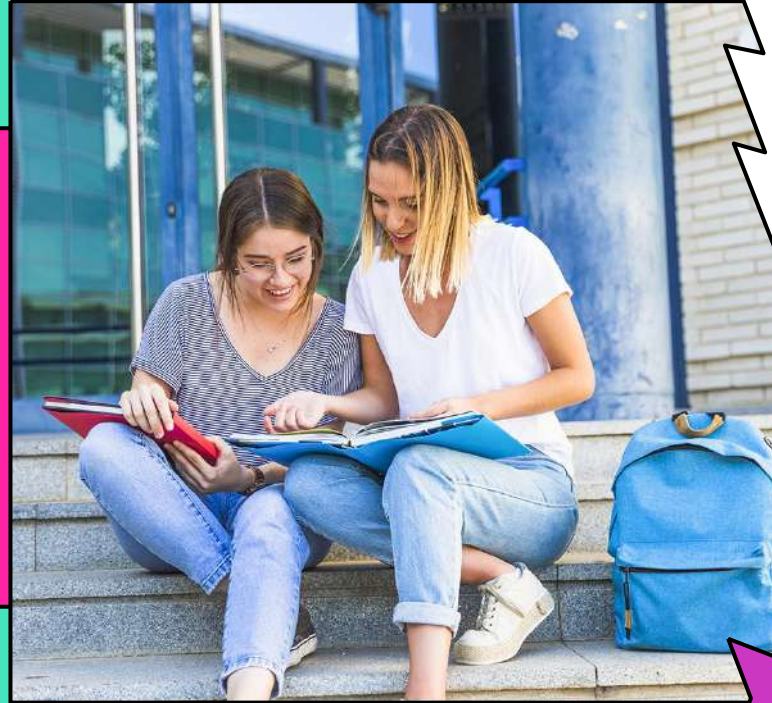
Link to Khan Academy and measure your progress over time

**3. Earn money**

Qualify for scholarship money for college



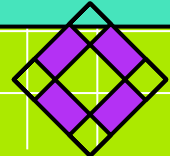
**04**  
**HOW DO I  
prepare?**





## Testing Tips:

- Visit the UGMS Counseling Page for more info
- Create a Khan Academy account
- Get a good night's sleep
- Eat a good breakfast
- Start with a positive mindset
- Pace yourself



*PSAT 8/9*

WEDNESDAY

OCTOBER 12, 2022

*GOOD LUCK!*