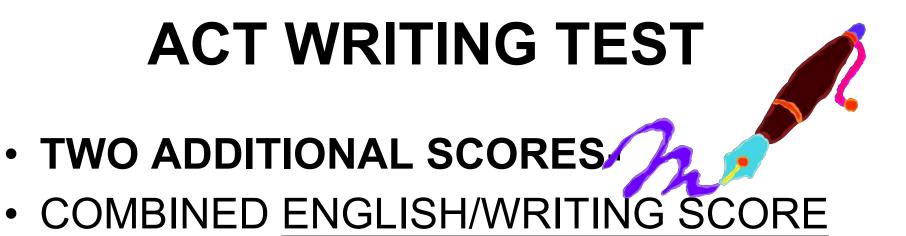


#### ACT WRITING TEST ---OPTIONAL---TAKEN AFTER THE FOUR MULTIPLE CHOICE TESTS

There is an additional charge for this test

#### **ACT WRITING TEST** YOUR SCORE DOES NOT **AFFECT YOUR SCORES ON THE OTHER PORTIONS OF THE TEST** OR YOUR COMPOSITE SCORE RATHER IN ADDITION TO THOSE SCORES YOU **RECEIVE TWO ADDITIONAL SCORES**



You WILL take this test for FREE as part of the ACT test given to ALL juniors in Wisconsin in the spring.

## ACT WRITING TEST WHAT'S ON IT?

#### A WRITING PROMPT THAT BRIEFLY STATES AN ISSUE AND DESCRIBES TWO POINTS OF VIEW ON THAT ISSUE

#### Covers a wide range of subjects intended to reflect the interests and experiences of high school students

Designed to be answered in essay form in 30 minutes

• HOW IS IT STRUCTURED?

THE PROMPT BRIEFLY STATES AN ISSUE AND DESCRIBES TWO POINTS OF VIEW ON THAT ISSUE

YOU ARE ASKED YOUR OPINION AND ARE REQUIRED TO WRITE AN ESSAY TAKING A POSITION AND SUPPORTING IT WITH EXAMPLES



#### HOW WILL MY ESSAY BE EVALUATED?

#### YOU WILL BE JUDGED ON YOUR ABILITY TO DO THE FOLLOWING:

• EXPRESS JUDGMENTS BY TAKING A POSITION ON THE ISSUE

- MAINTAIN FOCUS ON THE TOPIC THROUGHOUT THE ESSAY
- DEVELOP A POSITION USING LOGICAL REASONING
- SUPPORT YOUR IDEAS WITH EVIDENCE
- ORGANIZE IDEAS LOGICALLY
- USE LANGUAGE CLEARLY, EFFECTIVELY AND CORRECTLY

### ACT WRITING TEST STRATEGIES FOR TAKING THE TEST INCLUDE:

#### PREWRITE-USE AN ORGANIZER TO PLAN WHAT TO INCLUDE INTRODUCTION & THESIS-EXPLAIN THE ISSUE AND YOUR POINT OF VIEW USE SPECIFIC EXAMPLES

- ADDRESS WHAT OTHERS MAY SAY TO REFUTE YOUR POSITION AND COUNTER THAT
- VARY THE STRUCTURE OF YOUR SENTENCES
- USE A VARIETY OF WORD CHOICES
- STAY ON TOPIC-USE TRANSITIONS
- CONCLUDE BY SUMMARIZING OR REINFORCING YOUR POSITION

- PACE YOURSELF WHILE
  WRITING THE TEST
  DEAD OVER YOUR ESSAY, DEVIEW
- READ OVER YOUR ESSAY, REVIEW, AND <u>FIX MISTAKES</u> - focus on QUALITY not quantity!
- YOUR ESSAY WILL BE SCORED HOLISTICALLY-SCORE IS BASED ON THE OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS OF YOUR WRITING
- TWO READERS WILL SCORE YOUR ESSAY-SCORES

### ACT WRITING TEST PROMPT EXAMPLE-

 In some states, legislators have debated whether teenagers should be required to maintain a "C" grade average in school before receiving a driver's license. Some think it's a good idea because it encourages responsibility, others don't think there is a relationship between grades and driving ability.

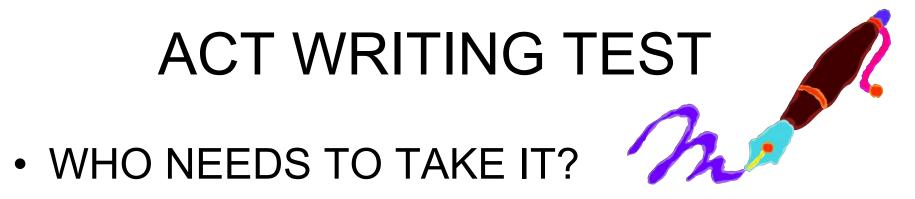
## ACT WRITING TEST PROMPT EXAMPLE-

 Some high schools in the US have considered creating separate classrooms for male and female students in subjects such as mathematics and science. Some educators think this will be beneficial because students will be less distracted from learning. Others think it supports false stereotypes about differences in ability.

#### PROMPT EXAMPLE

New laws are being proposed that would require schools to accommodate students who wish to transfer to a different school if the school falls below a certain level on statewide standardized tests. Supporters of this law believe that it is a student's right to transfer to a new school if his or her current school is not fulfilling its duties. Opponents argue that this law is impractical — what would happen if all the students requested transfers? — and unfairly weighs test scores without considering other factors at a school. In your opinion, should students be allowed to transfer if schools score below a certain level on standardized tests?

#### Schools in some states have changed their school calendars so that they are now year-round schools. Advocates of year-round schooling argue that the traditional summer break is a waste of students' time that could otherwise be spent learning. Opponents charge that today's students are already overburdened with the stresses of school, and need the summer to get a muchneeded break. In your view, should the traditional three-month summer vacation from school be maintained?



- SCHOOLS PLACE THEMSELVES IN THREE CATEGORIES:
- DON'T NEED IT
- RECOMMENDED
- REQUIRED



- MARIAN COLLEGE OF FOND DU LAC
- MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY
- ST NORBERT UNIVERSITY
- SILVER LAKE COLLEGE
- CONCORDIA COLLEGE (MN)

- UW-MADISON
- All University of Minnesota Schools
- SOME PRIVATE SCHOOLS

- CHECK ONLINE AT ACT'S WEBSITE TO SEE IF A SCHOOL REQUIRES OR RECOMMENDS IT
- CHECK THE SCHOOL'S ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS OR WITH OUR COUNSELING OFFICE