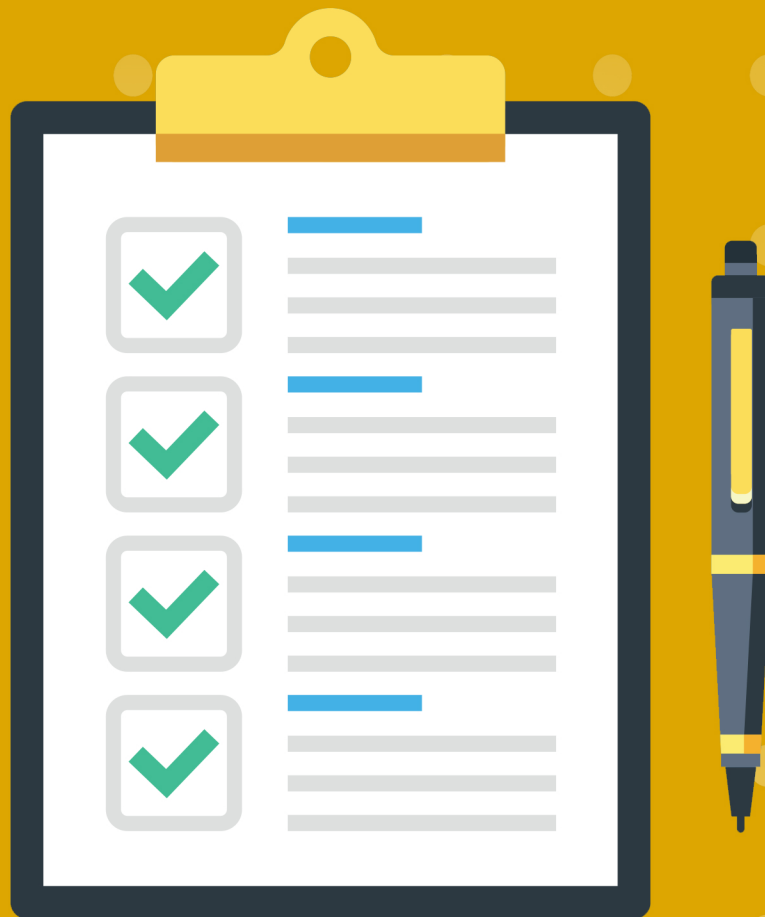





How to Prepare Students for the ACT The Complete Checklist



act.magoosh.com



As a teacher, you have the power to play a huge role in preparing students for ACT, even if you have limited time to incorporate ACT prep material into your daily curriculum.

- ✓ The timeline for this checklist is meant as a suggested guide, but you can easily adjust it according to what grade you teach and where you are in the school year.
- ✓ The **official ACT site** also provides more information and resources for K-12 providers.
- ✓ This handout presumes a Junior class with an April test date.

DIAGNOSING ACT READINESS

Timeframe: August

TOPIC

TO DO

RESOURCES

Practice Tests

- Set aside in-class time* to give **practice tests** in your subject area. Bonus points for also discussing the answers.

*If you teach students for a year, it's a good idea to administer a practice test early on during first semester, and then again at the beginning of second semester in order to gauge progress.

- [Full ACT practice test](#)
- [Practice questions for each subject](#)
- [ACT Practice Test 2018-19 \(Form 74FPRE\)](#)
- [ACT Practice Test 2015-16 \(Form 72CPRE\)](#)
- [ACT Practice Test 2014-15 \(Form 67C\)](#)
- [ACT Practice Test 2011-12 \(Form 64E\)](#)
- [ACT Practice Test 2008-09 \(Form 61C\)](#)
- [ACT Practice Test 2005-06 \(Form 59F\)](#)

Identify and advocate for students who need accommodations

- Some of your students may be eligible for **accommodations** on the ACT (those with disabilities or who are ESL), even if they are unaware or don't discuss it. It's important to **determine eligibility** in order to properly process paperwork in a timely manner.

- ["All About ACT Accommodations"](#)
- [ACT's overview of accommodations](#)

Suggest out-of-school ACT support

- If you identify a student early on who you believe will need considerably more ACT prep **support** than you can provide (this student will quite possibly struggle with your curriculum as well), perhaps discuss **online courses or tutoring** with their parents or guardians.

- [Magoosh ACT prep programs \(which includes support from experienced tutors\)](#)

INTRODUCING THE ACT

Timeframe: **September - October**

TOPIC

TO DO

RESOURCES

Introduce students to what the ACT covers

- Take at least one class period to discuss the key **concepts and skills** tested on the ACT that your class will cover
- Consider putting up a **poster** with a list of all of the concepts tested that you'll review over the year

- ["The ACT Test: Everything You Need to Know About the ACT"](#)
- [ACT English Test resources](#)
- [ACT Reading Test resources](#)
- [ACT Math Test resources](#)
- [ACT Science Test resources](#)
- [ACT Essay Test resources](#)

Go over the ACT website

- Take part or all of one class period to familiarize students with the **ACT website**
- Note important **dates** and **deadlines**

- [ACT homepage](#)
- [ACT dates and registration](#)

Look into ACT waivers and school vouchers

- Discuss **ACT fees** with students or encourage students to talk to you or the **school's counselor** if financial assistance is needed, and help them determine **eligibility**.

- [ACT fee waiver procedures](#)
- ["The ACT Fee Waiver: Supporting Lower Income Students"](#)
- [More information on obtaining ACT vouchers](#)
- ["How School Counselors Can Help Prepare Students for the ACT"](#)

OFFERING ACT STUDY SUPPORT

Timeframe: **November - February**

TO DO

☐ Incorporate ACT prep into your **curriculum**

☐ Utilize **test prep resources** for homework or extra credit opportunities

☐ Consider holding **study sessions**

☐ Share **study guides**

MORE INFO

Always try to organically incorporate ACT concepts or skills into your curriculum (e.g. teaching close reading of passages). You can also give weekly “micro lessons” on one concept at a time, or give a question or problem of the day (which can be pulled from the ACT website or from any test prep content).

Magoosh offers a wealth of test prep material including flash cards, practice questions, videos, and a complete ACT prep eBook. You can assign some of this content as homework or for extra credit.

If you have the bandwidth, consider holding even one or two study sessions, either after school or on a Saturday. You can pull material from the ACT eBook to cover.

Share study guides with students that they can use independently at various stages of the studying process, depending on how much time they have.

RESOURCES

- [ACT question of the day \(you will need to create an account to access these\)](#)
- [“How to Support High School Test Prep in Your School’s Curriculum”](#)
- [“How Instructors Use Magoosh to Improve Their Classroom Experience”](#)

- [Magoosh resources for educators](#)
- [Magoosh free ACT eBook](#)

- [“How to Support High School Test Prep in Your School’s Curriculum”](#)
- [Magoosh free ACT eBook](#)

- [One-month ACT study guide](#)
- [Two-month ACT study guide](#)
- [Three-month ACT study guide](#)
- [Six-month ACT study guide](#)

PREPARING FOR TEST DAY

Timeframe: **March**

TO DO

□ Review testing day **checklist**

□ Go over testing day **rules**

□ Provide last minute **study guides**

□ **Q & A session** for final questions about concepts

MORE INFO

Since they may not do this review on their own or at home, carve out some time to go over a day-of-test checklist (including what they'll need to bring, how they can minimize stress, etc.)

It's especially important to remind students of some of the rules and regulations regarding calculators, IDs, etc. A simple misstep can disqualify a student from taking the test.

Give students some final test prep material that can be completed independently (for credit or not)

A couple weeks out from testing day, you can ask students what last-minute questions they have or what they still might be tripped up on (e.g. "what is an appositive again?"). You can then reserve a class period to go over final questions and concerns.

RESOURCES

➤ ["ACT Test Day Checklist"](#)

➤ [ACT's official test-day guidelines](#)

➤ [One-week ACT study plan](#)

➤ **Any and all included above!**