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What materials are included?

The Compass coursebooks for your test will be mailed to you in advance of your class. You will also receive access to three practice tests. **SAT practice tests** are all available digitally, through our Online Testing Center, whereas **ACT practice tests** are on paper and will be mailed to you.

What are the basic technical requirements?

We use Zoom for class instruction. While we always recommend a desktop or laptop that is plugged in so you don't lose power halfway through class, many devices can connect to Zoom.

To check if your device will work, visit [this link](#) or google "Zoom on my computer".

Do you register us for the official exam?

No, Compass cannot register for the official exam on a students behalf. We encourage students to secure a space for an official exam date prior to the start of class.

You can register for the SAT [here](#) and for the ACT [here](#).

Will there be homework?

Yes, students should plan to complete about 1-2 hours of homework in between each class session. You'll have the opportunity to complete extra credit assignments as well!

Do students need to have their cameras/microphones on during the class?

Yes, the class sessions are set up as meetings. Students will be expected to answer questions and demonstrate their understanding of certain strategies and specific problems. We need them to have their cameras and microphones on in order to fully participate.

How will instruction in the sections be broken down?

Each 2.5 hour session will be divided into ~75 minutes of Math/Science and ~75 minutes of English/Reading. Students will have a brief break half way through the class session.

How do we know our instructor is "good"?

Compass is a company of tutors unlike any other. We have spent three decades creating the ideal environment for the [best tutors](#) to do their best work. Our competitive hiring process resembles the admission systems at the highly selective colleges from which our tutors hold degrees. Before they join our team, each tutor candidate must prove mastery of his or her subject. Significant tutoring and teaching experience is a minimum requirement but Compass tutors still must complete a lengthy, comprehensive training program before they meet with their first students.

Our classroom instructors are a specialized subset of our broader tutor pool. These are our veteran teachers who thrive in an online, interactive group format.

What kind of score improvement can we expect to see from this class?

The truth is that score improvements vary widely and depend on several factors:

- 1) What is the student's starting or baseline score?
- 2) What level of math has a student completed prior to the class?
- 3) Does the student attend all instructional sessions and complete all homework assignments and practice test sessions?

For a typical student starting in the 1000-1200 range on the SAT or 20-25 Composite on the ACT, we expect to see 100-200 points of SAT improvement or the equivalent of 3-6 points on the ACT scale.

What feedback will students and families receive after each class session?

After each session, class instructors will update the participants and their families with a short summary. We'll include what chapters in the course materials were covered and the current homework assignment.

Students (and interested parents) can also go back to review the recording of any particular session.

Full practice test reports with [detailed score analyses](#) are also an important component of charting our students' progress. Each student will have access to their score reports within three business days of the completion of a practice test session.

What are our options if we would like to try private instruction?

Students enrolled in a class can supplement their group instruction with customized 1-1 lessons as needed. They can also arrange for 1-1 instruction when preparing to take the SAT or ACT for a second time. Compass students often start with a class and then refine their approach with private lessons leading up to their next test attempt.

Can we attend in-person practice tests instead of online if they are in our area?

Class fees include access to three practice tests. If in-person practice test sessions are available in your area, students can join those sessions for a \$50/test fee (\$100 in our NYC office).

What happens if I miss the window for a practice test?

Practice tests can be self-administered at any time. Please refer to your practice test emails for instructions on how to do so. All tests are available for up to 6 months after the class ends.

My student has accommodations. How does that work with the practice tests?

For SAT practice tests, our Online Testing Center will ask you to confirm your accommodations before you begin your test. For ACT practice tests, you can select the pre-recorded video with the corresponding accommodation to make sure you receive your full time.

I just took a practice test. Do I need to take another one before the class begins?

If the student has time, we recommend that they plan to take the first practice test associated with the class according to the schedule. From our experience, this is the best way to ensure that they are working from the same information as the rest of the class and that our instructors have the most thorough scoring data.

What if the scheduled times don't work for me?

We have multiple schedules available to consider. We regularly offer classes on the weekends and weekday evenings. Please take a look at the other schedules available. If there's not a good fit currently available, please let us know what you have in mind by filling out this [schedule request form](#).

Students can review recordings of missed class sessions throughout the duration of the program. Students can complete their practice tests at any time.

If I can't make my assigned section one week, can I attend a different section?

Students are only able to attend the class section they are registered for. The best way to make up for a missed class is to watch the recording from that session. All class sessions are recorded and posted to the Compass portal within 1-2 business days of each class date.

What happens if I miss a class session?

We record each session. Students may review the recordings for up to 6 months after the class ends. The best way to make up for a missed class is to watch the recording from that session. All class sessions are recorded and posted to the class Vimeo page within 1-2 business days of each class date.

Can we sign up for multiple classes leading up to the same test date?

This is possible but not recommended. The classes will be following the same syllabus so a second class would be a repeat of the first section. For students that need additional instruction, we advise signing up for 1-1 tutoring to supplement your group course, or joining a refresher course after your first course has been completed.

Our student will be taking the test multiple times. Can we register for a class going to each date?

Yes. Compass will also have abbreviated "refresher" class schedules available for students who don't need another full class prior to their next test attempt.

How long will we have access to the resources in our Compass account?

Practice tests, homework assignments, and recordings are all available for 6 months after the course ends.

If the class for the schedule we want is full, will there be a waitlist?

Yes, please fill out [this form](#) or contact us at classes@compassprep.com. We'll alert you as space becomes available or another section is opened for enrollment.

Can we switch between SAT and ACT class sections?

Switching in the middle of a class isn't advisable, but if a student discovers that the "other" test format is preferable, we'll discuss how to shift the remainder of your class credits to a different schedule.

Students who switch pay a \$50 materials fee, so we can ship you the appropriate coursebook and practice tests.

Is there a way to only take math classes? Or only verbal classes?

Our current classes cover both subjects in the same session and cannot be divided into individual subjects.

What is your refund policy?

We understand that sometimes things happen! We will issue you a complete refund up to 48 hours in advance of the first instructional session.

Please note: You are responsible for returning your class materials to us. Class refunds are contingent upon the return of all previously mailed materials.

Do you offer financial aid for lower income families?

We support hundreds of FA-eligible students every year through our partnerships with schools. Compass also works with non-profits and CBOs nationwide. Unfortunately, we aren't able to offer need-based discounts by request. Please ask your college counselor about any partnership opportunities they may be considering.

Do you have other questions we haven't addressed?

Please reach out to us at classes@compassprep.com.