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# Introduction

You can't fully prepare for the ACT in one day, and we would never suggest that! But you can learn how to be ready to do your best on the test tomorrow morning, and that's what this guide is for!

If you only have one day before the ACT, there are certain things that will be a good use of your time and certain things that will be a bad use of your time.

Here are the things that will be a BAD use of your time:

- Taking a full-length ACT practice test. (DON'T do this. It's long. You are going to be doing that again in less than 24 hours. You will just burn yourself out this way, and it will be harder for you to focus on the real thing.)
- Trying to study everything. (DON'T bounce around trying to cram a little bit on every subject tested on the ACT. You will just add to your stress level and you won't retain very much.)
- Staying up all night to study. (DON'T do this. Get a good night's sleep so you don't make careless errors on the test.)

Here is what is a GOOD use of your time: this plan! It will take you about 2-2.5 hours to complete and you'll be in a much better position to do well on the test tomorrow!



# One Day ACT Study Plan for a Last-Minute Refresher

## Step 1

If you aren't familiar at all with the ACT, take a few minutes to learn what is tested on the ACT and how scoring works (for example, you should know that there is no penalty for wrong answers, so make sure you answer every question.) Read the "Meet the ACT", "General ACT Tips and Strategies", and "ACT Scoring" sections of the free <u>Magoosh ACT eBook</u>. (30 minutes)

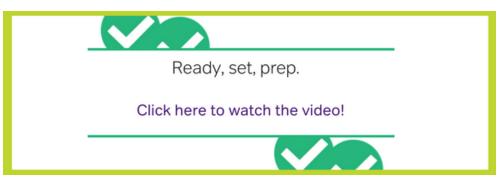
#### Step 2

Watch these ACT-specific strategy lessons on <u>Magoosh ACT</u> to help you learn how you can use clues on the ACT to pick up extra points on the Math and Science sections. (30 minutes)

• Science: Using Key Terms



- Math:
  - Math Strategy: Backsolving (General Math Strategies)
  - Math Strategy: Picking Numbers (General Math Strategies)
  - Assumptions & Estimation (Geometry)





# Step 3

Learn the rules of commas, semicolons, colons, and em-dashes. You can find lessons on these in <u>Magoosh ACT</u> under English: Punctuation. You can also find information on them in our <u>Magoosh ACT</u> <u>eBook</u>. The English test includes dozens of questions that involve punctuation rules. If you can brush up on your punctuation, you can easily pick up several extra points. (30 minutes)

• If you are a punctuation master, watch a few lessons on Magoosh ACT on the concepts you do need to review.

## Step 4

Check out our <u>ACT Math Facts and Formulas PDF</u> and refresh yourself on some of the common math formulas you may have forgotten! (15 minutes)

#### Step 5

- Make yourself a "cheat sheet" of final reminders you can glance over the morning of the exam. This can include things like "Watch out for run-on sentences!" and "The area of a trapezoid is (base 1 + base 2)/2 \* height." This <u>YouTube video</u> can help you make a review sheet! (15 minutes)
- Review these last-minute test day tips: <u>ACT Tips for Test Day</u> and pack your bag. (15 min)

## **Test Day Morning!**

- On test day, don't do any last minute prep! Do some light exercise, eat a full breakfast, and give yourself plenty of time to get to the test center. Don't forget your #2 pencils, calculator, watch, drink, snack, admissions ticket, and photo ID.
- Review your list of last-minute pointers before you go into the testing center so that you can walk into the test feeling confident!

