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1 Week ACT Study Schedule

for a Last-Minute ACT Refresher



What's included:

- A daily schedule for the student who wants to be sure they're really ready for the ACT
- Free lessons and practice test questions
- List of essential items for test day



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Introduction

Nice work! You've been preparing for the ACT, you're familiar with the test, and you know what areas you need to study a little more. You need something a little more tailored that will help you feel extra confident in the final week leading up to ACT test day. Sounds great to us! We love helping students maximize their success here at Magoosh! This study schedule will help you brush up on your weaknesses and hone your strengths so you can have a great ACT test day.

This plan assumes you are familiar with the ACT, have already been studying regularly for the ACT for 2+ months, and have taken a [practice test](#) or the the real thing. If that doesn't sound like you, jump back up to the "[One Week ACT Study Plan for Newbies](#)" or the "[One Week ACT Study Schedule for Quick Score Improvement](#)."

This schedule assumes that you have about 1-2 hours a day to devote to your studying. This is actually a lighter load than our other one week plans. Because you've already been preparing, you can take the time for a little bit of extra sleep, meditation, deep breathing, and exercise to help you feel calm and collected for the big day. If you do have more time, there are plenty of extra practice questions that will be left in [Magoosh ACT](#) for you to add on extra practice!

Materials and Resources

- [Magoosh ACT Premium Account](#)
- [Magoosh ACT Practice Test](#) (free online PDF)
- [Magoosh ACT Blog](#)
- [Magoosh ACT Prep App](#) (optional, but it will allow you to take your studying on the go!)
- [Magoosh free ACT eBook](#)

A Note on the Recommended Lessons

There are hundreds of lessons in Magoosh ACT! That’s why many of our students love our ACT prep—because they can truly customize a plan that’s right for them. If you are using this study schedule, you’ve already been preparing for the ACT, so you likely have a good idea of what types of questions you need to practice more. For that reason, I’ve highlighted videos that are strategy-focused; lessons that discuss techniques you may never have even realized you can use on the ACT to help eliminate answer choices or simply understand how the test-makers think. Working on good standardized test-taking skills may be the key to improving your ACT score! That being said, feel free to swap out any of the lessons for lessons that target concepts you know you need to review. The important thing is that you dedicate the time to studying.

A Note on Taking Practice Sections

Whenever you are taking practice sections on this plan, follow these guidelines:

- Make sure that you can find a quiet space with NO DISTRACTIONS. No TV, no internet, and no cell phone. Make sure to notify people in your household that you are taking a practice test and hang a “Do Not Disturb” sign on your door. Even better, enlist a parent or other responsible family member to act as a proctor and come in to periodically announce “time’s up” for each section.
- On the ACT, the essay section is optional. If you are taking the essay, make sure to plan and write a full practice essay in the allotted time. If you are not taking the essay, you can skip the essay on this practice test and the essay prep stuff below.
 - Ask a parent, teacher, or literary older sibling or friend to read over your essay, provide you with feedback, and score it using the complete scoring rubric linked on this [page](#).
- When reviewing your practice sections:
 - Examine any time management issues you had. Where did you run out of time and why? Did you make sure to take a guess on every question? (Remember there is no penalty for guessing on the ACT.)
 - Review every single question you got wrong and keep an error log. In your error log, list each question you got wrong, noting:
 - Why you got it wrong

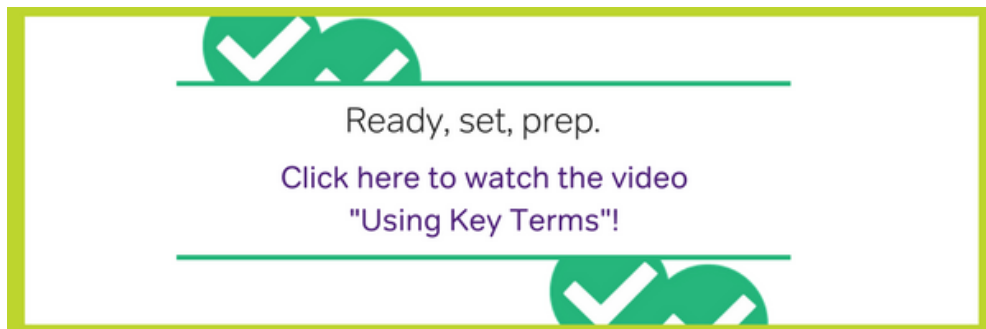
- What the correct answer is
- What you would do next time to avoid making the same mistake
- Check out our full tips for [how to take an ACT practice test!](#)

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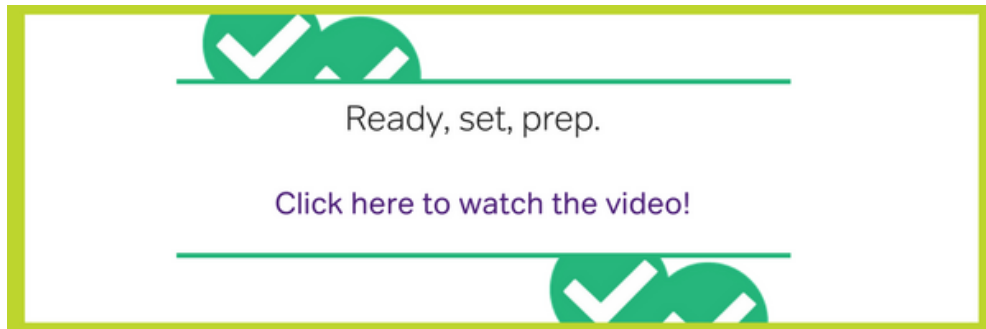
Day 1

Watch these essential strategy [lesson videos](#) from Magoosh ACT on act.magoosh.com or on our [test prep app](#) (available in the Apple and Android stores). (60 minutes)

- Science:
 - Using Key Terms

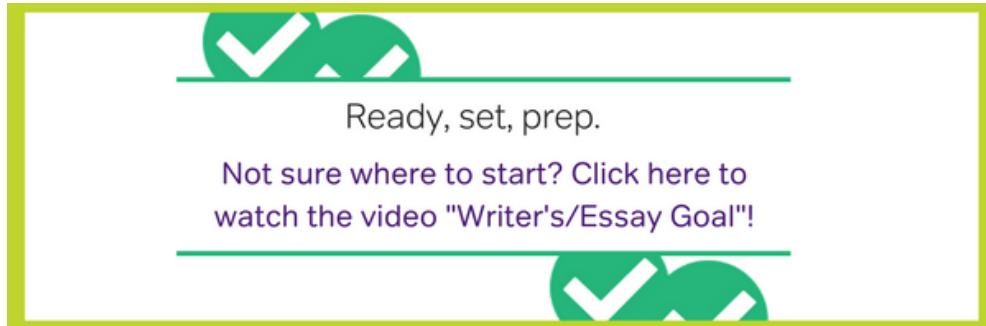


- Pacing on the ACT Science Test



- How to Read the ACT Science Test

- English:
 - All of the lessons under the “Rhetorical Strategy” and “Style” headers



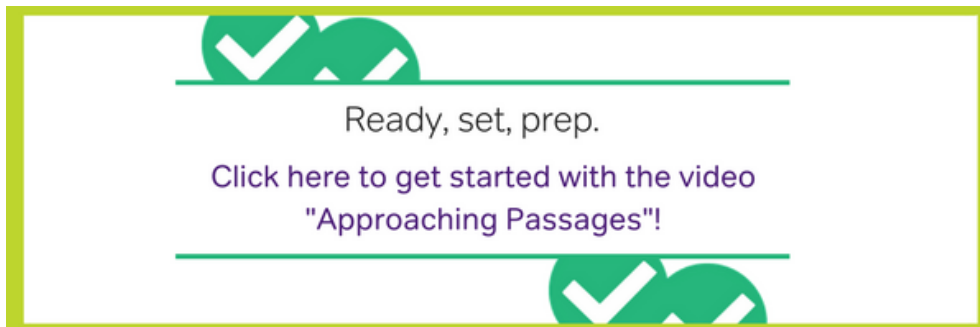
Complete the English test portion of the [Magoosh ACT Practice Test \(page 3\)](#). (45 minutes)

Update your error log with notes on the questions you struggled with. (15 minutes)

Day 2

Watch these essential strategy [lesson videos](#) from Magoosh ACT. (30 minutes)

- Reading:
 - Approaching Passages



- Wrong Answers
- Basic Strategies

Read this handy resource on formulas to commit to memory: [ACT Math Facts and Formulas](#). (30 minutes) Study these all week; they can greatly improve your speed and comfort level on the ACT Math section.

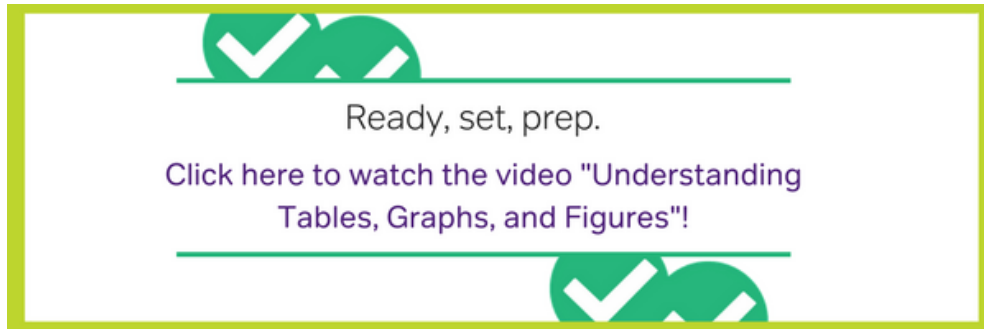
Complete a Custom Practice set of Math questions on [Magoosh ACT](#). (30 minutes)

- Click "Practice" and then "Custom Practice" from the Menu.
- Set the difficulty level to something that is appropriate for you: Easy, Medium, or Hard.
- Or, if you know you need to brush up on a particular question type, select the appropriate category (such as "Trigonometry").

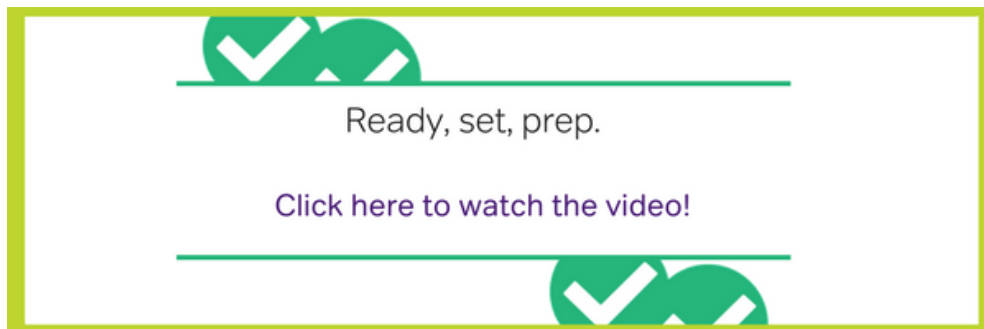
Day 3

Watch these key Magoosh ACT [lesson videos](#). (60 minutes)

- Science:
 - Understanding Tables, Graphs, and Figures

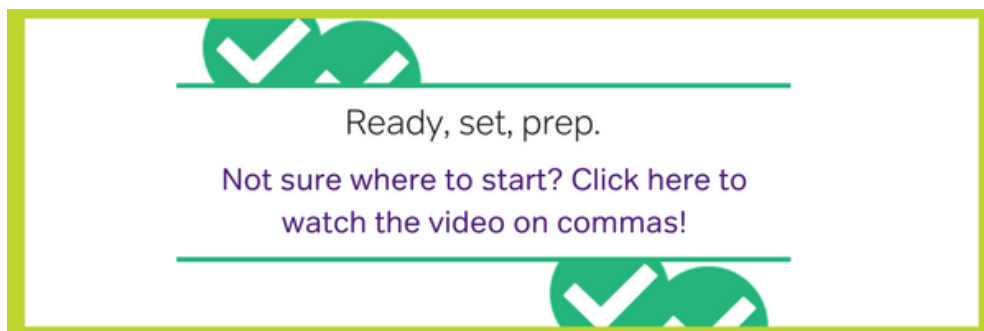


- Finding Trends and Patterns



- Linking Tables and Graphs
- The Conflicting Viewpoints Passage

- English:
 - All of the “Punctuation” lessons. There are so many punctuation questions on the ACT! If you really study up on these, you can quickly improve your score. If you feel very solid on punctuation, choose lessons for the questions you struggle with the most.



Complete the Science test portion of the [Magoosh ACT Practice Test](#) (page 33). (35 minutes)

Continue to update your error log with notes on the questions you struggled with. (15 minutes)

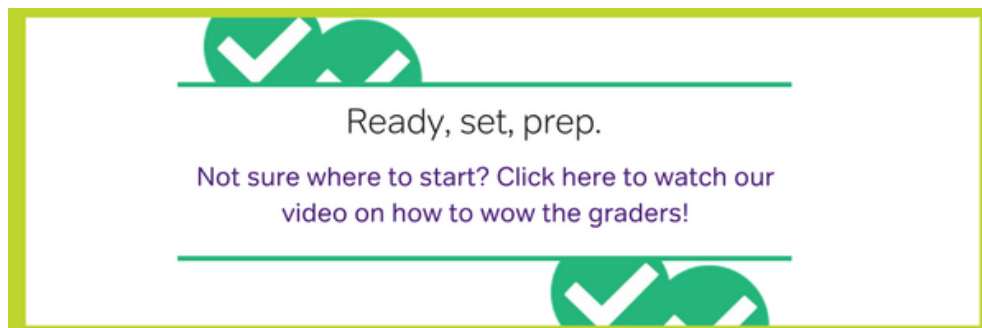
For ACT Writing Test-Takers:

If you are taking the essay, review the information on the ACT essay on the ACT student [website](#) if you haven't already done so, and this blog post with strategy advice for the essay: [The ACT Essay](#). (15 minutes)

Practice outlining the essay at the end of the [Magoosh ACT Practice Test](#) (page 49) as you would on the real test. (5-10 minutes)

- If you are feeling ambitious and have time, practice writing the whole essay in the time limit!

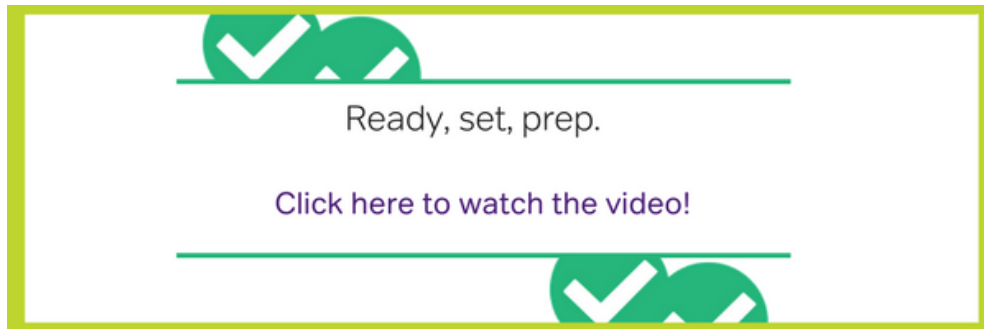
If you have time (or if writing is a weakness), there are additional [lesson videos](#) on the essay you can watch on Magoosh ACT.



Day 4

Watch these key Magoosh ACT Math strategy [lesson videos](#). (30 minutes)

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



Complete the Math test portion of the [Magoosh ACT Practice Test \(page 15\)](#). (60 minutes)

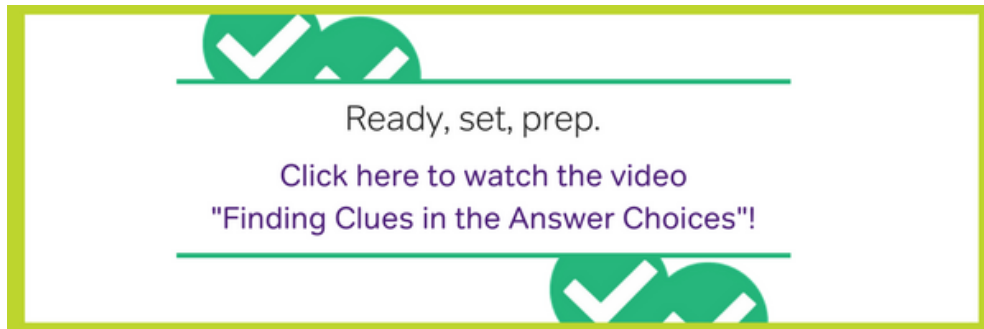
- Focus on using the strategies from the videos you just watched to help you find the correct answer!

Continue to update your error log with notes on the questions you struggled with. (15 minutes)

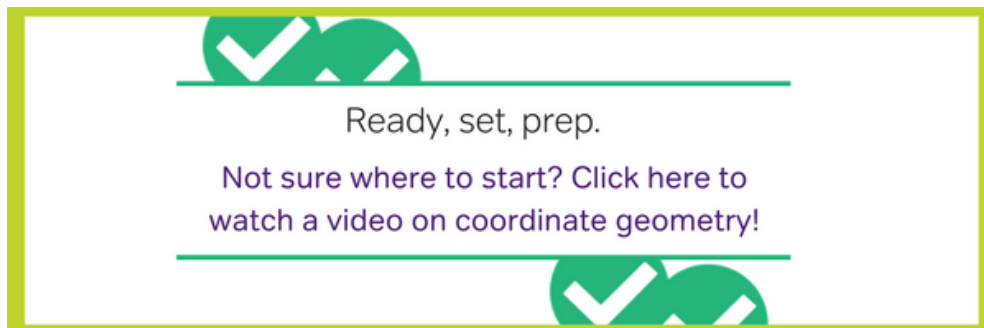
Day 5

Watch these key Magoosh ACT [lesson videos](#). (60 minutes)

- Science:
 - Math Problems on the ACT Science Test
 - Answering “Yes/No, Because” Questions
 - Finding Clues in the Answer Choices



- 5 lessons on the topics you most need to review from English or Math



Complete the Reading Test portion of the [Magoosh ACT Practice Test](#) (page 24). (45 minutes)

Continue to update your error log with notes on the questions you struggled with. (15 minutes)

Day 6

Complete a practice section of either your *strongest* section or *weakest* section on Magoosh (click on “Practice” and “Practice Test” and skip to the desired section). (35-60 minutes)

- There are pros and cons to either approach. Since your ACT is a composite score based on averaging all of your section scores, you can pull up your overall composite score by improving your score in a subject you are already good at. Practicing your strongest section can also help you build confidence this close to the test. If you have one section that is dragging your other scores down though, your time might be better spent today doing extra practice on your weakest section.
- IF YOU ARE SHORT ON TIME, skip the practice! The most important thing you can do tonight is get a good night of sleep.

Review your error log and make yourself a “cheat sheet” of final reminders to review the morning of the exam. This can include things like “Watch out for run-on sentences!” and “The area of a trapezoid is $(\text{base 1} + \text{base 2})/2 * \text{height}$.” (30 min)

- This [YouTube video](#) can help you make a review sheet!

Review these last-minute test day tips: [ACT Tips for Test Day](#) and pack your bag. (15 min)

Day 7

- It's test day, which means no 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 you can walk into the test confident that you have put in the hard work and are ready to show it!