

ACT “Streaks”

1-Month Study Schedule

Prep for the ACT in just 20 minutes a day!

Introduction

Congratulations on choosing a study schedule specially designed to give you the biggest bang for your buck in about 20 minutes, five days a week! Two weekends this month, you will also need to set aside time to take practice tests. We can't emphasize enough how important this is.

A “streak” is a repeated behavior an individual commits to doing on a consistent basis without skipping a beat. Aiming for a streak is a fun and effective way to reach a goal, so that's what we're doing here! We'll help you raise that ACT score by guiding you through this deliberate, well-rounded plan.

If you want to devote more than 100 minutes each week to studying, you might want to follow our regular [1-month](#) or [2-month](#) study schedule. Also, keep in mind that you can always add extra practice questions or lessons to your daily assignments. In fact, we encourage you to do so!

Your daily assignment will come from:

- **Practice Questions:** You will be answering a lot of practice questions through this study schedule. At Magoosh, we carefully designed and analyze all of our questions to make sure they approximate the real ACT.
- **Video Explanations:** Answers to practice questions are spelled out through text descriptions as well as short (1-2 minutes) video explanations. We highly recommend watching these videos to better grasp why you missed particular questions.
- **Quizzes:** As part of your Magoosh course, you have access to dozens of quizzes that will help you master specific skills, such as comma placement and logarithms.
- **Practice Tests:** Twice this month, you'll need to set aside 3.5 hours to take a full-length practice test using official ACT exams or Magoosh tests. If you need to split them up into four half-length exams, that's okay. Just make sure to time yourself on every section!
- **Magoosh Lessons:** Several days, we will ask you to watch a lesson on a topic you're struggling with. If you aren't sure what to watch, choose one of the “Related Lessons” linked to a practice question you missed. On your dashboard, you'll need to scroll down to see it. Here's an example:

Math Edit Question Edit Prompt Calculator Flag 0:02

Passage Tools: SHOW HIDE

To reach her destination, Jeanette must drive 90 miles. If she drives 5 miles every 7 minutes, how much time will it take her to reach her destination?

Choose the option that best answers the question.

- 2 hours and 2 minutes
- 2 hours and 6 minutes
- 2 hours and 10 minutes
- 2 hours and 12 minutes
- 2 hours and 15 minutes

End Practice and See Results Question 1 of 358 Submit Answer Next Question

| Title | Your Result | Difficulty | Your Pace | Others' Pace |
|--------------------------|-------------|------------|-----------|--------------|
| Jeanette Drives 90 Miles | Incorrect | Medium | 0:02 | 1:17 |

Options

- Video Explanation
- Text Explanation
- Related Lessons

Related Lessons

Watch the lessons below for more detailed explanations of the concepts tested in this question. And don't worry, you'll be able to return to your current practice session.

Ratios and Rates
6:15

Materials and Resources

- (required) [Magoosh ACT Premium Account](#)
- (highly recommended) [The Official ACT Prep Guide](#) (a.k.a. “The Red Book”)
- (free official resource) [Official ACT website](#)
- (free official resource) [Preparing for the ACT with Practice Test.](#)
- (free) [Magoosh Printable Practice Test](#)
- (free) [Magoosh ACT Blog](#)
- (free) [ACT Flashcards from Magoosh](#)
- (free) [ACT Lessons App](#)
- (free) [Magoosh free ACT eBook](#)
- (free) Magoosh’s free [Study Timer app for iPhone/iPad](#) for timing yourself on exam sections and keeping yourself on pace. *Currently only available in iTunes.*

Week 1: Commit to completing a 5-day streak this week!

"The secret of getting ahead is getting started." -- Mark Twain

Week 1, Day 1: English

- (5 min) Watch [Semicolons](#) lesson.
- (4 min) Take a ["Punctuation"](#) quiz and read explanations when finished. All quizzes are found on [lessons](#) pages.

English Lessons

▼ Punctuation ■■■■■■

- 👁 [Commas](#) 11:40
- 👁 [Apostrophes](#) 9:05
- 👁 [Dashes](#) 4:28
- 👁 [Semicolons](#) 5:00
- 👁 [Colons](#) 5:49
- 👁 [Other Punctuation](#) 3:16
- ✓ [Quiz: Punctuation](#) 5 questions

- (7 min) Watch [Idioms](#) lesson.
- (4 min) Take ["Grammar and Usage"](#) quiz and read explanations when finished.
- Have extra time? Watch our [English Pacing](#) lesson or [Should you set a Score Goal?](#)
- Still itching to study? Go to [English Practice](#) and select "Unanswered," "1 task," "No Limit," and "Practice Mode." Make sure to read or watch answer explanations.

Question Pool

Unanswered
 Answered and Unanswered

Number of Tasks

1 task ▾

Time

No Limit ▾

Mode

Practice Mode (show explanations after each question)
 Quiz Mode (hide explanations until the end)

Your session will have 1 task.

[Start the Session](#)

Week 1, Day 2: Math

- (13 min) Go to [Math Practice Questions](#) and select “All Subjects,” “Adaptive,” “Unanswered,” “10 questions,” “10 minutes,” and “Practice Mode.” Make sure to read the answer explanations when you’re done!

Math Practice Questions

Subjects

[select all](#) | [clear all](#)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advanced ACT Math | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Algebra |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Arithmetic and Fractions | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Coordinate Plane |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Counting | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Data Interpretation |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Geometry | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Integer Properties |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Percents and Ratios | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Powers and Roots |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Probability | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Statistics |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trigonometry | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Word Problems |

Difficulty

Adaptive ▾

Question Pool

- Unanswered
 Answered and Unanswered

Number of Questions

10 questions ▾

Time

10 minutes ▾

Mode

- Practice Mode (show explanations after each question)
 Quiz Mode (hide explanations until the end)

Your session will have up to 10 questions.

[Start the Session](#)

- (7 min) Watch [Assigning Variables](#) Lesson. Short on time? Speed lesson up to 1.25 or 1.5.
- Have extra time? Look through the 10 questions you answered today and choose one that you missed. Watch a lesson on this topic or take quizzes in that subject group. For example, if you missed a question on absolute values, take an “Absolute Value Inequalities” quiz. Remember that quizzes are found on the [lessons page](#).

Week 1, Day 3: Reading

- (11 min) Watch [Pacing & Guessing for Reading](#) lesson.
- (6 min) Take the “[Trap Answer Choices](#)” quiz.
- (3 min) Read [Ten Tips to Quickly Improve your ACT Reading Score](#).
- Extra time? Go to [Reading Practice Questions](#) and select “All Subjects,” “Unanswered,” “2 Tasks,” “20 minutes,” “Quiz Mode.”

Week 1, Day 4: Science

- (13 min) Watch [How to Read the ACT Science Test](#) lesson.
- (7 min) Take “[Using Key Terms](#)” quiz.
- Extra time? Take a complete Science test. You can either set an alarm for 35 minutes and attack the science section from one of the practice tests found in the *Official Guide* or use [Magoosh](#): “All Subjects,” “Unanswered,” “6 Tasks,” “35 Minutes.”

Week 1, Day 5: English

- (20 min) Go to [English Practice](#) and select “Unanswered,” “2 tasks,” “15 minutes,” and “Quiz Mode.” Make sure to read the answer explanations when you’re done!
- Have extra time? Watch [Commas](#) or [Subject Verb Agreement](#) lesson. You can also work through an English passage in the *Official Guide*. Time yourself for 8 minutes and read the answer explanations.

Week 1, Weekend

- (190-230 min) Take an official practice test! You can either take an exam in your *Official Guide* or use the [free pdf](#) provided by the ACT (the test starts several pages into the document).
- (60 min) Review answers.

This is a major milestone. Find a quiet place where you’ll be uninterrupted for 3.5 hours (4 hours, if you’re taking the essay). Turn off your phone and use a timer for each section. Also, make sure to spend at least an hour reviewing your mistakes. When marking your test, do not write the correct

answers next to the questions, just mark them as wrong. That way you can take a second stab at them before reading the explanations.

Week 2: Commit to completing a 5-day streak this week!

“Doing the best at this moment puts you in the best place for the next moment.” -- Oprah Winfrey

Week 2, Day 1: Math

- (10 min) Review the [math formulas](#) you need to memorize for the ACT. Print them out or make flashcards of at least 10 of them. Keep the printout or flashcards handy!
- (10) Watch a lesson in one of your weak areas. Not sure what to watch? Try "[Arithmetic with Complex Numbers](#)," "[Logarithms II](#)" or "[Graphs of Polynomials](#)."
- Extra time? Go to [Math Practice Questions](#) and select “Percents and Ratios” and “Powers and Roots.” Answer 10 questions in 10 minutes and read or watch answer explanations. If you have even more time, watch one of the lessons on this topic (we recommend [Ratios and Rates](#)).

Week 2, Day 2: Reading

- (7 min) Watch [Comparison Passages](#).
- (13 min) Take two “[Comparison Passages](#)” quizzes. After you’ve answered the five questions and read the answer explanations for the first quiz, take a second (there are multiple “Comparison Passages” quizzes, but you can’t access the second until you finish the first).
- Extra time? Take the “[Meaning of Words](#)” quiz.

Week 2, Day 3: Science

- (12 min) Watch [Pacing on the ACT Science Test](#).
- (8 min) Go to [Science Practice](#) and select 1 Task for 5 minutes. Read or watch answer explanations.
- Extra time? Take one or two [“Unfamiliar Terms”](#) quizzes. Read answer explanations.

Week 2, Day 4: English

- (20 min) Go to [English Practice](#) and select 2 Tasks for 20 minutes (but finish in 18!). Skim answer explanations for questions you miss.
- Extra time? Watch at least two lessons related to questions you missed. If you’re not sure what to watch, check out [Writer’s Goal](#) and [Adding or Deleting Sentences](#).

Week 2, Day 5: Math

- (11 min) If you’re fairly strong at math, watch [Degrees and Radians](#). If you want to stick to more introductory topics for now, watch [Circles](#).
- (7 min) If you’re solid in math, take the [“Trigonometry”](#) Quiz (waaaaay down on the lessons page). If you’re still building up to that, take one of the [“Geometry”](#) quizzes. Read answer explanations.
- (2 min) Read [ACT Number Properties](#).
- Extra time? Go to [Math Practice Questions](#) and select “Geometry” and “Trigonometry” and answer 10 questions. Watch at least one lesson linked to a question you answer incorrectly.

Week 2, Weekend

- (optional, 10 minutes) If you’re taking the essay, watch [Planning the Essay](#).
- (optional, 14 minutes) If you’re taking the essay, watch [How to Wow the Graders](#).
- (optional, 40 minutes) Look through the exam you took last weekend and watch at least four lessons that relate to questions you missed.

- (optional, 25 minutes) Improve your weaknesses! From your Magoosh dashboard, answer two passages from the **subject you struggle with most**. Make sure to read or watch the answer explanations.
 - [English](#) (2 tasks, 16 minutes)
 - [Reading](#) (2 tasks, 18 minutes)
 - [Science](#) (4 tasks, 20 minutes)
 - [Math](#) (20 questions, 20 minutes)

Week 3: Commit to completing a 5-day streak this week!

“When we do the best we can, we never know what miracle is wrought in our life or in the life of another.” -- Helen Keller

Week 3, Day 1: Reading

- (7 min) Watch [Author’s Voice](#).
- (13 min) Go to [Reading Practice](#) and select 1 Task for 10 minutes (but try to finish in 8-9!). Read or watch answer explanations.
- Extra time? Take [“Author’s Voice”](#) quiz. You might also watch a lesson related to a question you missed. If you’re not sure what to watch, check out [Using Key Words](#).

Week 3, Day 2: Science

- (8 min) Watch [Science Knowledge on the ACT](#).
- (10 min) Take the [“Science Knowledge on the ACT”](#) quiz. After you’ve answered the five questions and read the answer explanations, take another “Science Knowledge on the ACT” quiz (there are multiple!).
- (2 min) Take out your ACT [math formulas](#) printout or flashcards. Narrow in on one formula you haven’t yet committed to memory.
- Extra time? Take one or two [“Math Problems on the ACT Science Test”](#) quizzes.

Week 3, Day 3: English

- (5 min) Watch [Redundant Meanings](#).
- (4 min) Watch [Concision and Wordiness](#).
- (5 min) Watch [Tone](#).
- (6) Take two “[Style](#)” Quizzes (there are multiple, but you can’t see the second or third quiz until you’ve completed the first). Read answer explanations.
- Extra time? Read [Common Modals](#) or watch [How to Master Distractions](#). You can also work on passages and pacing. Using your *Official Guide* or [Magoosh English Practice](#), answer a full passage in less than nine minutes.

Week 3, Day 4: Math

- (5 min) Watch [Complementary Events and Simple Rules](#).
- (15 min) Go to [Math Practice Questions](#) and select “Probability” and “Statistics.” Answer 10 questions in 10 minutes and read or watch answer explanations.
- Extra time? Watch lessons related to questions you missed or take more quizzes. We recommend our [Weighted Averages](#) lesson, “[Probability](#)” quiz, and “[Statistics](#)” quiz.

Week 3, Day 5: Reading

- (6 min) Take “[Meaning of Words](#)” quiz and read answer explanations.
- (7 min) Take “[Main Idea](#)” quiz and read answer explanations.
- (7 min) Take “[Inference](#)” quiz and read answer explanations.
- Extra time? Work on your pacing. You will have a little more than 8 minutes to answer each reading passage. See if you can finish a passage in less time than this. Find the Reading section from one of the practice tests in the *Official Guide* or click on [Magoosh Reading Practice](#), hone in on a passage, and fire away!

Week 3, Weekend

- (190-230 min) Take another practice test! You can either take an exam in your *Official Guide*, use the Magoosh [printable practice test](#), or take a practice test in your Magoosh course (which will give you a score estimate!). To take the test through Magoosh, click on “[Practice Tests](#)” at the top of your dashboard. Whichever method you use, make sure to time yourself!
- (60 min) Review answers.

Find a quiet place where you’ll be uninterrupted for 3.5 hours (4 hours, if you’re taking the essay). Turn off your phone and use a timer for each section. Also, make sure to spend at least an hour reviewing your mistakes. When marking your test, do not write the correct answers next to the questions, just mark them as wrong. That way you can take a second stab at them before reading the explanations.

Week 4: Commit to completing a 5-day streak this week!

"I find that the harder I work, the more luck I seem to have." --Thomas Jefferson

Week 4, Day 1: Science

- (12 min) Watch [Conflicting Viewpoints](#) lesson.
- (8 min) Take "[Conflicting Viewpoints](#)" quiz. Read the answer explanations.
- Extra time? Watch [Finding Trends and Patterns](#) and [Linking Tables and Graphs](#).

Week 4, Day 2: English

- (12 min) Go to [English Practice](#) and select 1 Task in 10 minutes (but finish in 9 minutes!). Read or watch answer explanations.
- (4 min) Take a "[Rhetorical Strategy](#)" quiz and skim answer explanations.
- (4 min) Review [math formulas](#).
- Extra time? Complete 30 questions (or 2-5 passages) in your weakest ACT subject area. You might also watch [Stress Reduction Techniques](#).

Week 4, Day 3: Math

- (8 min) Go to [Math Practice Questions](#) and answer 5 questions in 5 minutes; read or watch answer explanations.
- (7 min) Watch a lesson related to a topic you're weak in. Not sure what to watch? Check out [Growth and Decay](#) or [Exponential Equations](#).
- (5 min) Review [math formulas](#). Don't just stare at the page, see if you can generate the formulas yourself on a blank piece of paper.
- Extra time? Take quizzes related to the lessons you just watched or work on your pacing with practice questions from your *Official Guide* or [Magoosh Math Practice](#) (1 question per minute!).

Week 4, Day 4: Reading

- (11 min) Go to [Reading Practice Questions](#) and select 1 tasks in 10 minutes (but finish in 8-9 minutes) and skim the explanations for any incorrect answers.
- (5 min) Take the “[Line Reference](#)” quiz and skim answer explanations.
- (4 min) Review [math formulas](#).
- Extra time? Browse through this massive [ACT Reading resource](#) from the Magoosh blog.

Week 4, Day 5: Science

- (15 min) Go to [Science Practice](#) and select 2 tasks in 10 minutes. When you’re done, read or watch answer explanations.
- (5 min) Review [ACT Tips for Test Day](#).
- Extra time? Relax. No cramming! Do something you enjoy and go to bed early.

Test Day

- 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.
- You can walk into the test confident that you have put in a month of hard work and are ready to show it!