

ACT Practice Worksheet

Fifty questions across English and rhetorical skills, ACT Math, Reading and evidence, and Science reasoning and data interpretation, with optional-Writing strategy questions.

QUESTIONS	50	MULTIPLE CHOICE	27	WRITTEN	23
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Instructions

Time yourself: roughly 36 seconds per English question, 60 seconds per Math question.

- 1 Choose the correct verb: 'The results of the experiment ____ surprising.'
 - A) was
 - B) were
 - C) is
 - D) has been
- 2 Choose the correctly punctuated sentence.
 - A) The lab, which ran for three hours, produced consistent results.
 - B) The lab which ran for three hours produced consistent results.
 - C) The lab, which ran for three hours produced consistent results.
 - D) The lab which ran for three hours, produced consistent results.
- 3 Choose the most concise version: 'Due to the fact that the weather was bad, the game was postponed.'
 - A) Due to the fact that the weather was bad, the game was postponed.
 - B) Because the weather was bad, the game was postponed.
 - C) Owing to the fact of bad weather occurring, the game was postponed.
 - D) In light of the fact that weather was bad, the game was postponed.
- 4 A writer wants to ADD a sentence emphasizing urgency. Which best achieves this stated goal?
 - A) The report was filed on Tuesday.
 - B) The report, filed without delay, prevented further losses.
 - C) The report discussed several unrelated topics.
 - D) The report was filed in a standard format.
- 5 Choose the best transition: 'The bridge was closed for repairs. ____, commuters faced long delays.'
 - A) Similarly
 - B) As a result
 - C) For example
 - D) In contrast
- 6 Which sentence corrects a comma splice: 'The engine stalled, the driver pulled over.'
 - A) The engine stalled the driver pulled over.
 - B) The engine stalled; the driver pulled over.
 - C) The engine stalled, and, the driver pulled over.
 - D) The engine stalled the driver, pulled over.
- 7 Choose the correct pronoun: 'Each of the drivers checked ____ mirrors.'
 - A) their
 - B) his or her
 - C) they're
 - D) them

- 8** Which word best fits: 'The committee's decision was ____, leaving no room for appeal.'
- A) tentative
B) final
C) questionable
D) ambiguous
- 9** A writer is deciding whether to DELETE a sentence about an unrelated hobby. This sentence should be:
- A) Kept, because more detail is always better
B) Deleted, because it does not relate to the paragraph's focus
C) Kept, because it is grammatically correct
D) Moved to the introduction
- 10** Choose the sentence with correct parallel structure.
- A) She likes running, to swim, and biking.
B) She likes running, swimming, and biking.
C) She likes to run, swimming, and to bike.
D) She likes running, swims, and to bike.
- 11** Solve: $5x - 3 = 2x + 18$.
- _____

- 12** A line has slope 4 and passes through (0, -2). Write its equation.
- _____

- 13** Solve: $x^2 - 6x + 8 = 0$.
- _____

- 14** Find the hypotenuse of a right triangle with legs 5 and 12.
- _____

- 15** In a right triangle, the angle is 30 degrees and the opposite side is 4. Find the hypotenuse. ($\sin 30 = 0.5$)
- A) 2
B) 8
C) 4
D) 6
- 16** Find the mean of: 12, 15, 18, 21, 24.
- _____

- 17** Find the area of a circle with radius 3. (use $\pi \approx 3.14$)
- _____

- 18** Simplify: $(3x^2)(4x^3)$.
- _____

- 19** A rectangle has width 6 and length 11. Find its perimeter.
- _____

- 20** If matrix $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$ and matrix $B = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 8 \end{bmatrix}$, find the entry in row 1, column 1 of $A+B$.
- A) 6
B) 8
C) 1
D) 5
- 21** Solve the proportion: $5/8 = x/40$.
- _____

- 22** A recipe for 4 servings uses 3 cups of broth. How many cups for 10 servings?
- _____
- _____
- _____
- 23** Find the median of: 9, 14, 22, 30, 45.
- _____
- _____
- _____
- 24** Which value of x satisfies $x^2 = 81$?
- A) Only 9
B) Only -9
C) 9 or -9
D) No solution
- 25** A car travels 210 miles in 3.5 hours. Find its average speed in mph.
- _____
- _____
- _____
- 26** A passage discusses a scientist who studied coral reefs for 20 years, focused on temperature-driven bleaching. What is the passage's main idea?
- _____
- _____
- _____
- 27** A passage states, 'The discovery, though accidental, transformed the field.' What does the passage most strongly suggest?
- A) The discovery was planned from the start
B) An unplanned finding had a major impact on the field
C) The field was not affected by the discovery
D) The discovery was quickly disproven
- 28** A question references 'the process described in lines 40-45.' The best first step is to:
- A) Answer from memory of the whole passage
B) Reread lines 40-45 before choosing an answer
C) Guess based on the answer choices alone
D) Skip to the next question
- 29** A table shows plant height at 4 different watering levels, with height increasing up to a peak then declining. This pattern best supports which conclusion?
- A) More water always increases height
B) There is an optimal watering level beyond which height declines
C) Watering level has no effect on height
D) Height decreases at every watering level
- 30** A graph shows reaction rate rising steadily as temperature increases from 10°C to 50°C. At 60°C, the best predicted rate is:
- A) Lower than at 50°C
B) Approximately the same trend continues, higher than at 50°C
C) Exactly zero
D) Impossible to estimate
- 31** Two scientists disagree on the age of a rock layer. Scientist 1 cites radiometric dating; Scientist 2 cites fossil comparison. Their disagreement is best described as:
- A) Using the same method with different results
B) Using different methods that produce different estimates
C) Agreeing on the method but not the sample
D) Neither scientist provided any evidence
- 32** In an experiment testing fertilizer effect on plant growth, the group receiving no fertilizer is the:
- A) Independent variable
B) Dependent variable
C) Control group
D) Confounding variable

- 33** In an experiment, plant height (cm) is measured after adding fertilizer. Which variable is the dependent variable?

- 34** A data table shows enzyme activity peaks at pH 7 and drops sharply above and below it. This best supports which statement?

- A) The enzyme is most active in strongly acidic conditions
- B) The enzyme has an optimal pH near neutral
- C) pH does not affect enzyme activity
- D) The enzyme is inactive at every pH level

- 35** A bar graph compares rainfall across four cities in one year. Which conclusion is best supported without outside knowledge?

- A) City A had the highest rainfall that year among the four shown
- B) City A always has the highest rainfall every year
- C) Rainfall causes city population growth
- D) The graph shows temperature, not rainfall

- 36** A student decides which of two conflicting scientific models better fits new data by:

- A) Choosing the model presented first
- B) Checking which model's predictions match the new data most closely
- C) Ignoring both models
- D) Choosing the more complex model

- 37** A scatterplot shows a strong negative trend between screen time and hours slept. Describe the relationship.

- 38** A results table lists trial outcomes at increasing pressure, with volume decreasing each time. This best illustrates:

- A) Boyle's law: an inverse relationship between pressure and volume
- B) No relationship between pressure and volume
- C) A direct relationship between pressure and volume
- D) Only temperature affects volume

- 39** Which sentence provides the clearest thesis for an ACT Writing essay responding to a prompt about school start times?

- A) Start times are a topic some people discuss.
- B) Schools should shift start times later because it improves adolescent sleep and academic performance.
- C) There are many perspectives on school schedules.
- D) This essay will discuss school start times.

- 40** An ACT Writing prompt gives three perspectives. The strongest response:

- A) Repeats one perspective without evaluation
- B) Evaluates the perspectives and stakes out a clear, reasoned position
- C) Ignores all three perspectives
- D) Summarizes the prompt without adding analysis

- 41** Which supports an ACT Writing argument most effectively?

- A) A vague general statement
- B) A specific, developed example connected directly to the claim
- C) An unrelated personal anecdote
- D) Restating the thesis without new content

- 42** Explain why locating the exact table row or graph point a Science question references, before reading the answer choices, reduces careless errors.

- 43** Explain why the ACT's Science section usually does not require outside content knowledge to answer correctly.

- 44** Explain why marking a hard question and returning to it later is a better strategy than solving every question in order under ACT's strict time limits.

- 45** Explain why identifying the independent variable, dependent variable, and control group first makes an experimental-design Science question faster to answer.

- 46** Explain why checking what a rhetorical-skills English question actually ASKS (e.g., add, delete, or achieve a stated goal) is different from checking only for grammatical correctness.

- 47** Explain why comparing two scientists' conflicting viewpoints requires identifying what they agree on as well as what they disagree on.

- 48** Explain why estimating an ACT Math answer before calculating can help catch an error under the section's fast pace.

- 49** Choose the correct word: 'The award was given to whoever ____ the most votes.'

A) received
B) receives
C) receiving
D) had received

- 50** A right triangle has legs 7 and 24. Find the hypotenuse.

Answer key

Direct answers only, in question order. Work the set first, then check.

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| 1. B) were | 2. A) The lab, which ran for three hours, produced consistent results. | 3. B) Because the weather was bad, the game was postponed. | 4. B) The report, filed without delay, prevented further losses. | 5. B) As a result |
| 6. B) The engine stalled; the driver pulled over. | 7. B) his or her | 8. B) final | 9. B) Deleted, because it does not relate to the paragraph's focus | 10. B) She likes running, swimming, and biking. |
| 11. 7 | 12. $y = 4x - 2$ | 13. $x = 2$ or $x = 4$ | 14. 13 | 15. B) 8 |
| 16. 18 | 17. 28.26 | 18. $12x^5$ | 19. 34 | 20. A) 6 |
| 21. 25 | 22. 7.5 cups | 23. 22 | 24. C) 9 or -9 | 25. 60.0 |
| 26. The scientist spent 20 years studying how rising temperatures cause coral bleaching | 27. B) An unplanned finding had a major impact on the field | 28. B) Reread lines 40-45 before choosing an answer | 29. B) There is an optimal watering level beyond which height declines | 30. B) Approximately the same trend continues, higher than at 50°C |
| 31. B) Using different methods that produce different estimates | 32. C) Control group | 33. Plant height | 34. B) The enzyme has an optimal pH near neutral | 35. A) City A had the highest rainfall that year among the four shown |
| 36. B) Checking which model's predictions match the new data most closely | 37. As screen time increases, hours slept tends to decrease | 38. A) Boyle's law: an inverse relationship between pressure and volume | 39. B) Schools should shift start times later because it improves adolescent sleep and academic performance. | 40. B) Evaluates the perspectives and stakes out a clear, reasoned position |

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| 41. B) A specific, developed example connected directly to the claim | 42. Reading the answer choices first can bias interpretation toward a plausible-sounding option; locating the exact data point first ensures the answer is based on what the figure actually shows rather than a guess | 43. Most Science questions test the ability to read and interpret a given graph, table, or experimental description accurately, not memorized facts, so the answer is almost always derivable directly from the provided figure | 44. Spending too long on one difficult question risks running out of time for several easier questions later in the section, so skipping and returning preserves time to answer every question you can solve quickly first | 45. Once the variables and control are correctly identified, most experimental-design questions become a matter of matching the question's wording to one of those three roles rather than re-analyzing the whole experiment from scratch |
|--|--|---|--|---|
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| 46. A grammatically correct choice can still fail a rhetorical-skills question if it does not accomplish the specific purpose the question states, such as adding emphasis or maintaining focus, so the stated goal must be checked in addition to grammar | 47. These questions often ask about a shared assumption or a specific point of disagreement, so understanding both what is common ground and what differs is necessary to answer accurately rather than assuming total disagreement | 48. A quick estimate narrows the reasonable range for the answer, so if the calculated result differs wildly from the estimate, it signals a setup or arithmetic mistake before time is wasted rechecking every step | 49. A) received | 50. 25 |
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Error log

Bring this page to your next session so the tutor can start from what actually blocked you.

Questions I answered incorrectly:

Which section (English, Math, Reading, Science, Writing) was it in?

The single topic I want to start the next session with:
