STUDYWALKS · COURSE SYLLABUS

ACT Preparation — High School Course with ACT Preparation

The ACT measures the English, math, reading and science skills built across high school, and many colleges use it in admissions.

CREDIT LABEL	HOURS GOAL	STUDYWALKS LEARNING HOURS	SUGGESTED OFFLINE HOURS
1.0 credit	**120 h**	**29 h**	**91 h**
high school, with the study plan	the 1.0-credit convention	measured runtime plus assessment time	reading, review and writing

29 h StudyWalks (7.5 h of lessons, 13.6 h of lectures, 8.1 h of quizzes and exams) + **91 h** suggested offline study = **120 h**. 622 lessons in 23 units; prepares for the ACT.

High school credit is granted by the homeschool parent under the state's rules. StudyWalks supplies the record: hours, scores and this syllabus. The credit label is a suggestion; the parent makes the final call.

Course contents

Unit	Title and lecture topics	Lessons	Lecture
1	**English: Sentences That Hold Together** What a sentence needs · Four sentence types, three joins · The sentence errors · Parts that must match · Modifiers in their places · Revising without new errors	26	39 min (2 parts)
2	**English: Punctuation That Does a Job** Commas that join and introduce · Essential or nonessential · Commas with no job · Apostrophes · Semicolons and colons · Asides and endings	28	39 min (2 parts)
3	**English: Words That Agree** Subject and verb · Tense and verb form · Pronouns and their antecedents · Pronouns: reference, case and person · Describing words and idioms	28	37 min (2 parts)
4	**English: The Right Word, and No Extra Ones** Concision · Precision, voice and emphasis · Register and tone · Commonly confused words	26	29 min
5	**English: Writing That Knows Its Purpose** Purpose and the main point · Support · Adding and deleting · Function, goals and audience	24	32 min
6	**English: Order, Flow and Transitions** Patterns of order · Transitions · Placing sentences and paragraphs · Openings, closings and coherence	22	30 min
7	**Math: Numbers, Ratios and Percents** Numbers and operations · Exponents and scientific notation · Radicals and complex numbers · Vectors, matrices and rates · Proportions · Percent and the percent equation · Percent change and its applications · Successive changes	34	52 min (2 parts)
8	**Math: Expressions and Polynomials** Polynomials and products · Factoring · Rational expressions	22	28 min

Unit	Title and lecture topics	Lessons	Lecture
9	**Math: Lines, Inequalities and Systems** The coordinate plane · Equations and word problems · Lines · Absolute value and inequalities · Solving inequalities · Systems of equations · Regions, curves and the unit in one problem	34	47 min (2 parts)
10	**Math: What a Function Is and Does** Functions and notation · Domain, range and pieces · Rates and behavior · Composition and transformations · Inverses	26	32 min
11	**Math: Quadratics and Other Curves** Solving quadratic equations · Roots and radical equations · Parabolas · Polynomials · Rational functions · Variation, and the unit in one problem	32	45 min (2 parts)
12	**Math: Exponentials and Logarithms** Exponential functions · Logarithms · Solving, and half-life	22	30 min
13	**Math: Angles, Triangles and Similarity** Angles and parallel lines · Triangles · Congruence · Quadrilaterals · Similar triangles · Right triangles · Scale, and the unit in one figure	30	41 min (2 parts)
14	**Math: Area, Volume, Circles and Trigonometry** Area · Parts of a circle · Solids · Circles on the plane, and right-triangle trigonometry · Angles from sides, and lines of sight · The unit circle · Waves, any triangle, and the unit in one structure	32	44 min (2 parts)
15	**Math: Data, Chance and Counting** Collecting data · Displays · Center and spread · Two variables · Probability · Counting, sequences, and the unit in one data set	34	45 min (2 parts)
16	**Reading: What the Text Says and Means** Approaching a passage, and inference · Main and central ideas · Details and summary · Time order and cause · Relationships, characters and themes · Three full passages	34	48 min (2 parts)
17	**Reading: How the Text Is Built** Words in context · Language, tone and voice · Structure · Point of view · Perspective, and the unit in one passage	26	30 min
18	**Reading: Arguments, Evidence and Paired Text** Claims and evidence · Reasoning · Paired passages · Graphics, strengthening, and the unit in one passage	20	27 min
19	**Science: Reading Scientific Data** Formats and tables · Graphs · Trends · Between and beyond the data · Scale, arithmetic, and combining figures	24	30 min
20	**Science: Experiments** The scientific method · Variables · Controls and fair tests · Study design · Research summaries	28	36 min (2 parts)
21	**Science: Evaluating Models and Viewpoints** How science explains · Evidence and cause · Conflicting viewpoints	22	27 min
22	**Science: Science You Are Expected to Know** Life science · Chemistry · Physics · Earth and space, and using background knowledge	30	26 min
23	**Capstone: Test Day** The format and the rules of play · Plans for each section · Four worked sets	18	29 min

Assessment and grading

- **Unit quizzes.** 23 quizzes, 10 questions each, checked as the student goes, each answer with the lesson to review. Untimed; retakes are unlimited.
- **Mid exam.** 50 questions on units 1–12, drawn fresh each time and scored at the end with a breakdown by content area. Untimed; retakes are unlimited.
- **Final exam.** 100 questions, 90 minutes, on the whole course. Scored 20–80; 50 passes (67 of 100 correct, about 67%). Retakes are unlimited with a 24-hour wait, each a fresh draw.

Suggested composite grade

Part	Weight
Unit quizzes (average of best scores)	20%
Mid exam (best score)	20%
Final exam (percent correct)	60%

Suggested letter scale

Letter	Composite
A	90–100
B	80–89
C	70–79
D	60–69
F	below 60

Suggested; the parent sets the grade. A passing final is the completion standard for the course record.

Study plan

The 91 offline hours are spread over the units in proportion to each unit's StudyWalks time. For each unit: read the matching sections of *Writing Guide with Handbook (OpenStax); Algebra and Trigonometry 2e, Prealgebra 2e, Introductory Statistics 2e and others (OpenStax); The Word on College Reading and Writing*, review the unit quiz misses, and write a one-page unit summary. Log the time as you go.

Unit	Title	StudyWalks	Offline, suggested	Unit total
1	English: Sentences That Hold Together	57 min	4 h 5 min	5 h 2 min
2	English: Punctuation That Does a Job	59 min	4 h 15 min	5 h 14 min
3	English: Words That Agree	57 min	4 h 5 min	5 h 2 min
4	English: The Right Word, and No Extra Ones	48 min	3 h 25 min	4 h 13 min
5	English: Writing That Knows Its Purpose	49 min	3 h 30 min	4 h 19 min
6	English: Order, Flow and Transitions	46 min	3 h 20 min	4 h 6 min
7	Math: Numbers, Ratios and Percents	1 h 16 min	5 h 30 min	6 h 46 min
8	Math: Expressions and Polynomials	43 min	3 h 5 min	3 h 48 min
Lessons and lectures		**21 h 7 min**	**91 h**	**112 h 7 min**
Quizzes, mid exam and final (stated time)		**8 h 6 min**	**—**	**8 h 6 min**

Unit	Title	StudyWalks	Offline, suggested	Unit total
9	Math: Lines, Inequalities and Systems	1 h 11 min	5 h 5 min	6 h 16 min
10	Math: What a Function Is and Does	50 min	3 h 35 min	4 h 25 min
11	Math: Quadratics and Other Curves	1 h 8 min	4 h 55 min	6 h 3 min
12	Math: Exponentials and Logarithms	46 min	3 h 20 min	4 h 6 min
13	Math: Angles, Triangles and Similarity	1 h 2 min	4 h 25 min	5 h 27 min
14	Math: Area, Volume, Circles and Trigonometry	1 h 7 min	4 h 50 min	5 h 57 min
15	Math: Data, Chance and Counting	1 h 9 min	5 h	6 h 9 min
16	Reading: What the Text Says and Means	1 h 13 min	5 h 15 min	6 h 28 min
17	Reading: How the Text Is Built	49 min	3 h 30 min	4 h 19 min
18	Reading: Arguments, Evidence and Paired Text	41 min	2 h 55 min	3 h 36 min
19	Science: Reading Scientific Data	47 min	3 h 25 min	4 h 12 min
20	Science: Experiments	56 min	4 h	4 h 56 min
21	Science: Evaluating Models and Viewpoints	43 min	3 h 5 min	3 h 48 min
22	Science: Science You Are Expected to Know	48 min	3 h 25 min	4 h 13 min
23	Capstone: Test Day	42 min	3 h	3 h 42 min
Lessons and lectures		**21 h 7 min**	**91 h**	**112 h 7 min**
Quizzes, mid exam and final (stated time)		**8 h 6 min**	**—**	**8 h 6 min**

Unit times are the unit's lecture runtime plus its lessons at the course's measured average lesson length; totals can differ from the learning hours by rounding.

Sources

- **Anchor (English):** OpenStax, *Writing Guide with Handbook*. Pinned to the edition archived June 4, 2026. CC BY-NC-SA 4.0
- **Anchor (Mathematics):** OpenStax, *Algebra and Trigonometry 2e*, *Prealgebra 2e* and *Introductory Statistics 2e*; Henry Africk, *Elementary College Geometry* (CUNY Academic Works, 2021). CC BY-NC-SA 4.0; geometry CC BY-NC-SA
- **Anchor (Reading):** Babin, Burnell, Pesznecker, Rosevear and Wood, *The Word on College Reading and Writing* (Open Oregon Educational Resources). CC BY-NC 4.0
- **Anchor (Science):** OpenStax, *Introductory Statistics 2e*, *Biology 2e*, *Chemistry 2e*, *College Physics 2e* and *Astronomy 2e*; Earle, *Physical Geology*. CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 (OpenStax); CC BY 4.0 (Earle)
- **Secondary witnesses:** *Writing for Success* (Saylor edition); Stitz and Zeager, *Precalculus*; Diez, Çetinkaya-Rundel and Barr, *OpenIntro Statistics*; Petrunin, *Euclidean Plane and Its Relatives*; Campbell, *Noteworthy: Reading Strategies in Practice*. Open licences, as stated in each book
- **Test structure:** ACT, *Preparing for the ACT 2025–2026*, used for section structure and timing only. No ACT question or passage is reproduced, and StudyWalks is not affiliated with ACT, Inc. © ACT, Inc.

This StudyWalks final is a readiness check built from the ACT Preparation course and modeled on the ACT's English, math, reading and science sections. Scores are StudyWalks scores on a 20–80 scale, not ACT scores, and do not predict an ACT score. StudyWalks is not affiliated with ACT, Inc.

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