



ACCUPLACER i3: How It Works

Computer Adaptive Testing

ACCUPLACER is an adaptive test. This means that the questions are chosen for you on the basis of your answers to previous questions. This technique selects just the right questions for your ability level. Because the test works this way, you must answer every question when it is first given. Each test is untimed so that you can give each question as much thought as you wish. You can change your answer to a particular question before moving on to the next question, but you cannot leave a question out or come back to it later to change your answer. If you do not know the answer to a question, try to eliminate one or more of the choices. Then pick from the remaining choices.

Testing Time

The multiple choice tests are untimed.

What to Take with You to the Tests

On the day of the test, you should be sure to take photo identification.

Testing Regulations

Calculators, textbooks, protractors, notebooks, dictionaries, and/or electronic devices are not permitted.

At the End of the Test

Once you have completed a test, a score report will be created. A counselor will discuss the results with you.

Making an Appointment for Testing

To schedule your ACCUPLACER appointment, please contact 828.627.4500. The ACCUPLACER is administered Monday through Thursday at 9:00 AM, 1:00 PM, and 4:00 PM. Other times may be scheduled upon request.

Students with Disabilities

If you require test accommodations due to a documented disability, please contact the Disability Counselor at 828.627.4504 for information concerning your needs.

ACCUPLACER Tests

The placement tests may consist of reading, mathematics, writing and language use skills.

Sentence Skills

There are 20 Sentence Skills questions of two types.

The first type is **sentence correction** questions that require an understanding of sentence structure. These questions ask you to choose the most appropriate word or phrase to substitute for the underlined portion of the sentence.

The second type is **construction shift** questions. These questions ask that a sentence be rewritten according to the criteria shown while maintaining essentially the same meaning as the original sentence.

Within these two primary categories, the questions are also classified according to the skills being tested. Some questions deal with the logic of the sentence, others with whether or not the answer is a complete sentence, and still others with the relationship between coordination and subordination.

Reading Comprehension

There are 20 questions of two primary types on the Reading Comprehension test. The first type consists of a reading passage followed by a question based on the text.

Both short and long passages are provided. The reading passages can also be classified according to the kind of information processing required including explicit statements related to the main idea, explicit statements related to a secondary idea, application, and inference.

The second type of question, sentence relationships, presents two sentences followed by a question about the relationship between these two sentences. The question may ask, for example, if the statement in the second sentence supports that in the first, if it contradicts it, or if it repeats the same information.

Arithmetic Test

This test measures your ability to perform basic arithmetic operations and to solve problems that involve fundamental arithmetic concepts. There are 17 questions on the Arithmetic tests divided into three types.

Operations with whole numbers and fractions: topics included in this category are addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, recognizing equivalent fractions and mixed numbers, and estimating.

Operations with decimals and percents: topics include addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division with decimals. Percent problems, recognition of decimals, fraction and percent equivalencies, and problems involving estimation are also given.

Applications and problem solving: topics include rate, percent, and measurement problems, simple geometry problems, and distribution of a quantity into its fractional parts.

Elementary Algebra

A total of 12 questions are administered in this test.

The first type involves operations with integers and rational numbers, and includes computation with integers and negative rationals, the use of absolute values, and ordering.

A second type involves operations with algebraic expressions using evaluation of simple formulas and expressions, and adding and subtracting monomials and polynomials. Questions involve multiplying and dividing monomials and polynomials, the evaluation of positive rational roots and exponents, simplifying algebraic fractions, and factoring.

The third type of question involves the solution of equations, inequalities, word problems. solving linear equations and inequalities, the solution of quadratic equations by factoring, solving verbal problems presented in an algebraic context, including geometric reasoning and graphing, and the translation of written phrases into algebraic expressions.

Preparation & Sample Questions

To ensure that test scores accurately represent your skill levels, you may wish to review basic concepts in reading, grammar, arithmetic, trigonometry, and algebra before taking ACCUPLACER, especially if you have been away from school for more than a year. Many students find that SAT Preparation or SAT review books are helpful in refreshing their basic skills. These are available at local bookstores, public libraries, and online at the [SAT Preparation Center](#)TM.

[ACCUPLACER Sample Questions for Students \(Revised December 2007\)](#) (.pdf/241k)