

HIGH SCHOOL MATHEMATICS
Preparing for the ACT Explore, ACT Plan, ACT, and
Michigan Merit Exams for Students

1. Review using *Test Preparation questions* to prepare for standardized tests. These items are designated as *Test Preparation* located in each *Practice and Applications* section of the Algebra 1, Geometry and Algebra 2 textbooks. All textbooks correlate these items to the lesson for the day.
2. **Vocabulary** must be reviewed for every lesson, building from 8th grade mathematics and beyond. Incorporating a culminating activity at the conclusion of every chapter such as, matching activity, crossword puzzles, foldables, that include terminology, definitions, examples as well as non-examples. You can create graphic organizers (see appendix) to assist in recall of key information.
3. *Give yourself **timed practice*** on 10 ACT standardized multiple-choice test items for 10 minutes every week. This practice will help to keep you mindful of how much time that is spent on each item. The goal is to spend less time on items that you are most familiar with, while allowing for extra time for those items that require more thought. Also this strategy will help you feel less stress while taking a timed test.
4. All **chapter tests** can be used in your textbooks as a **timed ACT practice**. Each textbook has a section designated with ACT-type questions. You may request from your teacher additional exams for study on their own. All textbooks provide additional SAT/ACT Chapter Tests or Standardized Chapter Tests that are published in the ancillary materials that are correlated to every chapter. These assessments include multiple-choice, quantitative comparison, and open-ended items. The goal is to make sure you are comfortable with these exams. Record on the exam how far you were able to complete given 10 minutes, then continue working on the exam.
5. Incorporate **application problems** in your practice in order to build proficiency in solving problems in real-world context.
6. You should also incorporate **Mixed Review** problems in order to spiral review concepts taught and learned earlier in the school year in order to build retention.
7. You are encouraged to attend **ACT tutorial programs**. These programs can assist in increasing your score significantly.

Special Note: All mathematics students must prepare for the standardized testing programs. All students must be proficient users of TI-84PLUS/ TI-Nspire Graphing calculators. These calculators are used as a tool to examine patterns, find lines-of-best-fit, and evaluate permutations, and more. They should be viewed as an essential tool similar to a ruler.