ACT Prep

1. **Name and describe the types of ACT science passages**

- **Charts and Graphs (Data Representation)**
  - *Questions ask you to read & interpret the graphs, tables, diagrams, etc. Can have short passages.*
  - *30% - 40% of the questions*

- **Experiments (Research Summary)**
  - Usually describes two or more experiments or studies (occasionally just one experiment).
  - combination of reading text and charts and graphs in the same question.
  - *45% - 55% of the questions*

- **Conflicting Points of View (Conflicting Viewpoints or Battling Scientists).**
  - Presents two or more scientists views or hypothesis that do not agree (these passages involve lots of reading).
  - *15% - 20% of the questions*

ACT Prep

1. Explain the ACT guessing strategy.

- **Answer all questions even if you are guessing. Do this:**

Position: 1   2   3   4

A   B   C   D

F   G   H   J

- If you have no idea which is the correct answer or you are out of time, choose one of these "positions" (like B & G, or D & J) and always use those letter pairs for your guess answers.

- If you can use process of elimination to "cross out" one of the four answers, you making an educated guess.

  - In this case, go with your best hunch, or use the first answer that you did not eliminate.

  - Example: You know F & J are wrong but unsure about G & H

F   G   H   J   **Your answer is G because it is the first answer not crossed off.**

ACT Prep

2. How will the guessing strategy improve your ACT score?

- If you know the correct answer for half of the questions and you guess using just one pair of letters on the remaining half, *your score will probably be a 22 – 23.*

- **This is called the letters of the day strategy.**

- **If you answers 16 - 17 questions correct (40% - 43%) and guess using the letter of the day strategy, you should score a 20,**

If you know the correct answer for half of the questions and you make educated guesses on the remaining half, narrowing the choices to two, *your score will be 25 - 27.*

- **This is called the educated guessing strategy.**

ACT Prep

1. What are the "four steps " used as you read and answer ACT science reasoning passages?

Step 1. **Skim and identify the passage. Do not read the passage carefully at first!**

You should be able to complete this step in less than a minute.

Skim the passage to find what each paragraph in the passage is all about.

Only read the first and last sentences.

Look over any charts and diagrams just enough to get an idea of what they are about.

Don't try to read or interpret the data just yet. You just want to know what sort of data is available.

Identify the passage as data representation, research summary, or conflicting viewpoints.

Look carefully at any words in italics or bold print.

ACT Prep

Step 2. **Read the question and all the answers.   Read each question and all the answer choices.**

Be sure you are clear about what the question is asking. You want to answer the question on the test, not some other question.

Step 3. Eliminate obviously incorrect answers. Cross off any answers you're sure are incorrect.

Eliminating incorrect answers is a big help in determining the correct answer.

Step 4. Choose the correct answer from the remaining choices.

Choose the answer that is most correct.

If you don't know the correct answer, guess.

Never leave an answer choice blank.

ACT Prep

1. How is the ACT science exam constructed?

A 40-question, 35-minute test scored: 0 – 36

There are three types of passages, followed by questions.
Data Representation questions are 38% of the test.
Research Summaries questions are 45% of the test.
Conflicting Viewpoints are 17% of the test.

2. Why is it important to know how the test is constructed ?

For most students there is not enough time to answer all 40 questions.
Students must learn to manage the testing time. Knowing how many questions you should attempt and which questions to answer will give you more time to answer more accurately the questions you will attempt .
Some students find they are better at answering certain types of questions.
Thus , you should spend more time on those questions and guess on the questions you are not good at.