



# ACT COMPASS Placement Testing

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# Presentation Overview

- What is the ACT COMPASS Placement Test?
- Why should I prepare for this test?
- How can I prepare for this test?



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# What is the ACT COMPASS Placement Test?

- This computerized, untimed, proctored test, produced by ACT
  - Includes multiple-choice testing for Reading, Writing, and Math
  - Determines your placement in English, math, foreign language, and other courses and programs
  - Is available to be taken twice: one time for free, and a second time for a retest fee



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## Why should I prepare for this test?

- By preparing for this test and scoring at a higher level, you will save
  - **Time** – You may save yourself up to four semesters of developmental coursework
  - **Money** – Each of these developmental classes require tuition, fees, and books





## BUZZ WORDS

### Developmental Coursework

- What is it?
  - **Developmental Coursework** includes a series of classes that begin with the number “0” and include MATH 090, ENG 020, and GSD 085 to name a few.
- How does this apply to me?
  - If you placed into one or more of these courses, this means that you need a little more preparation in a given subject area before you are ready for college-level coursework.



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## BUZZ WORDS

### Developmental Coursework

- Why should I know about this?
  - **Developmental Coursework** will provide you with the foundation to be successful once you reach college-level courses.
  - Please be aware that **developmental** classes
    - DO count as credits toward full-time student status
    - DO affect your grade-point-average
    - DO NOT transfer to four-year institutions
    - DO NOT count toward AA or AS degrees.





# Developmental Coursework

## Developmental Coursework – English: Reading Courses

English 020:  
College  
Reading I

English 021:  
College  
Reading II

English 101:  
Rhetoric

- Placement into these courses is determined by your ACT COMPASS Placement Test scores.
- Please note that effective March 1, 2011, ACT COMPASS scores will only be good for 24 months.



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# Developmental Coursework

## Developmental Coursework – English: Reading Courses

English 020:  
College  
Reading I

English 021:  
College  
Reading II

English 101:  
Rhetoric

- You must receive a “C” or higher to move onto the next level.
- EAP (English for Academic Purposes) classes are also available to non-native speakers.



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# Developmental Coursework

## Developmental Coursework – English: Writing Courses

English 098:  
Fundamentals  
of English

English 099:  
Fundamentals  
of Writing

English 101:  
Rhetoric

- Placement into these courses is determined by your ACT COMPASS Placement Test scores.
- You must receive a “C” or higher to move onto the next level.
- EAP classes are also available to non-native speakers.



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# Developmental Coursework

## Developmental Coursework – Math Courses



- Placement into these courses is determined by your ACT COMPASS Placement Test scores.
- You must receive a “C” or higher to move onto the next level.
- MATH 095: Elementary Geometry is an additional **developmental** math course explained on the next slide.





# Developmental Coursework

## Developmental Coursework – Math Courses



- MATH 095 is a requirement for all students wishing to participate in college-level math courses.





# Developmental Coursework

## Developmental Coursework – Math Courses



- You may not have to take MATH 095 if
  - You completed one year of high school geometry with a “C” or better or
  - You successfully passed the ACT COMPASS Geometry Placement Test with a score of 50 or higher.





## How can I prepare for this test?

1. Apply to JJC to become eligible to participate in free ACT COMPASS preparation services.
2. Visit the Academic Skills Center “ACT COMPASS Preparation” website.
3. Work through the Study Guides and make a follow-up appointment with an ASC tutor and/or enroll in a free online ACT COMPASS preparation course.



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# How can I prepare for this test?

- Visit the Academic Skills Center “ACT COMPASS Preparation” website to find
  - ACT COMPASS Review Sessions
  - ACT COMPASS Sample Questions
  - ACT COMPASS Study Guides
  - ACT COMPASS Pretesting – available to re-testers only
  - Final Exam Review Packets
  - JJC Library Resources
  - Math Learning Center – available for a few questions
  - *My Math Test*

**Highly  
recommended!**



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# How can I prepare for this test?

- **ACT COMPASS Review Sessions (Highly recommended!)**
  - Available at Main Campus (Houbolt in Joliet), Romeoville Campus, the Morris Education Center, and City Center Campus (downtown Joliet) by appointment
  - To make an appointment,
    1. Apply to JJC
    2. Call 815-280-2261 and ask for an “ACT COMPASS Review Session”

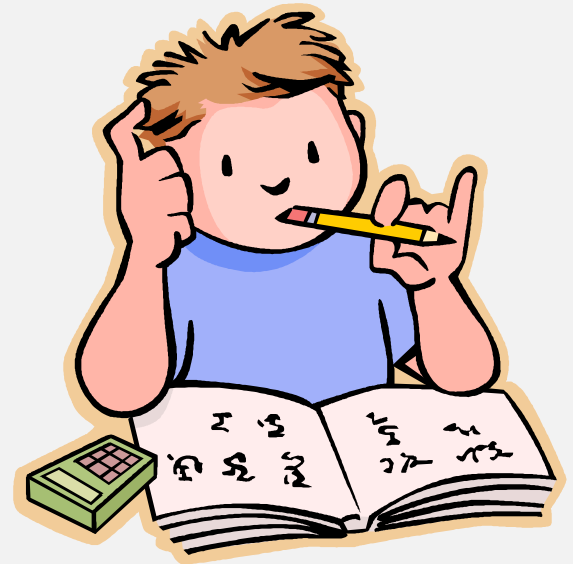


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# How can I prepare for this test?

- **ACT COMPASS Sample Questions**
  - Available online in web (html) and document (PDF) formatting
  - Created by the ACT



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# How can I prepare for this test?

- **ACT COMPASS Study Guides (Highly recommended!)**
  - Available online in document (PDF) formatting for Pre-Algebra, Algebra, College Algebra, Geometry, Reading, and Writing
  - Include questions, answers, solutions, formulas, and tips
  - Created by the ASC Math Tutorial Assistant and proofread by JJC Math Department staff



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# How can I prepare for this test?

- **ACT COMPASS Pretesting (Highly recommended!)**
  - Available at the Academic Skills Center to re-testers
  - Provides a diagnosis of what areas specifically need to be practiced within the subjects of
    - Reading
    - Writing
    - Pre-Algebra
    - Algebra





# How can I prepare for this test?

- **Final Exam Review Packets**

- Available online in document (PDF) formatting
- Created by the JJC Math Department to assist students in preparing for all of the JJC Developmental Math Courses (i.e. MATH 090, MATH 094, and MATH 098)



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# How can I prepare for this test?

- **JJC Library Resources**

- Available through the JJC Main Campus Library
- Include English textbooks and resources, math textbooks and resources, and ESL resources

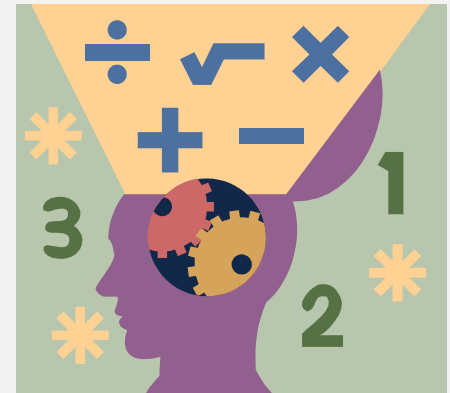


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# How can I prepare for this test?

- **Math Learning Center – available for a few questions**
  - Designed to assist students who only have a few quick questions
  - This is not intended to be a full one-on-one or group ACT COMPASS Review Session; for this service, you must go to the Academic Skills Center





# How can I prepare for this test?

- *My Math Test*

- Available online to those students wishing to retake the ACT COMPASS Math Test
- Offers thousands of sample questions and includes short videos and animated explanations



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