

INSTRUCTIONS

Using My Answer Key

AUDIENCE: Examinees, parents/guardians, testing staff **PRODUCT:** The ACT
PROGRAM: National, Special **MODE:** Paper, online

Using this document: This document is designed to help examinees better understand how to use ACT[®] My Answer Key.

The Basics

My Answer Key includes the *Answer Key Report* and the *Test Booklet*. If you took the ACT with writing, you also receive a copy of the writing prompt and the writing test scoring rubric.

Paper testing: If you tested on paper, you get access to a digital copy of your bubbled *Answer Document* and—if you did the writing test—a copy of your submitted essay.

Answer Key Report

The *Answer Key Report* shows answers to test questions in a table. Each entry in the Correct Answer row corresponds to an entry in the Your Answer row directly below it.

- If your answer was correct, you see a plus (+) sign in the Your Answers row.
- If your answer was incorrect, you see your incorrect answer as a letter (A–J for paper testing; A–D for online testing)
- If you omitted answering the item, you see a dash (–).
- If you gridded more than one response (only relevant to the *Answer Document* for paper testing), you see an asterisk (*).
- A caret (^) in both rows indicates a field-test question. Field-test questions are used to evaluate future ACT questions and are not scored.

Paper testing: The *Answer Document* copy for paper testing DOES include the field-test answers.

Test Booklet

The *Test Booklet* includes all test questions EXCEPT field-test questions. The field-test questions were removed, and the remaining questions were renumbered. No answers or field-test indicators (place holders) are included.

Reviewing Your Scored Answers

To review your scored answers, compare the *Answer Key Report* to the *Test Booklet*. The example below shows how answers appear in the report and how they match the question numbers in your booklet. Field-test questions are marked with a caret (^).

Correct Answers	D	A	D	C	B	A	^	B	A	C	D	C	B	A	^	A	C	A	C
Your Answers	+	B	+	+	+	+	^	+	+	D	A	+	+	B	^	+	+	+	B
Numbering in the Test Booklet	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑		↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑		↑	↑	↑	↑
	1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	10	11	12	13		14	15	16	17

Skip-Logic Approach

To avoid confusion due to the absence of field-test item reporting, use the skip-logic approach:

1. **One-by-one:** Compare each answer in the *Answer Key Report* with the corresponding numbered answer in the *Test Booklet*.
2. **Skip the carets:** If you see a caret in the *Answer Key Report*, SKIP it as if it doesn't exist.
3. **Move on:** Pick up with the next answer in the *Answer Key Report*, comparing it to the next numbered answer in the *Test Booklet*.

Paper testing: It may be easier to review your test without using the *Answer Document* copy because field-test questions have NOT been removed from that document. As a result, the question numbers on the *Answer Document* copy DO NOT match those in the *Test Booklet* and *Answer Key Report*. If you would like to use the *Answer Document* copy, remove the field-test questions first by crossing them out: In the *Answer Key Report*, any question marked with a caret (^) is a field-test question. Cross out those question numbers on the *Answer Document* copy and renumber the remaining questions to match the *Test Booklet* and *Answer Key Report*.

Results Not Included

You may see one of the following notices in the *Answer Key Report*:

- If you did not register/pay for a subject, you see this:
EXAMINEE WAS NOT REGISTERED FOR THE [TEST SUBJECT NAME].
- If you paid but skipped the subject on test day, you see this:
NO RESPONSES WERE RECEIVED FOR THE [TEST SUBJECT NAME].