



TEST NINJAS

ACT PRACTICE EXAM

STUDENT PRACTICE BOOKLET

Test Ninjas ACT Craft & Structure Skill Drill

READING · 10-QUESTION FOCUSED PRACTICE

10

QUESTIONS

1

SECTION

STUDENT NAME

DATE

INSTRUCTOR

PLAN YOUR SESSION

- Choose whether you will use the suggested section times or work without a timer.
- Keep your responses in the section you are currently completing.
- Record one answer per item and make any corrections unambiguous.
- Set the answer materials aside until your practice session is finished.

BOOKLET INFORMATION

SUGGESTED TIMING

Self-paced · no fixed limit

USEFUL MATERIALS

Writing tool · scratch paper

RESULTS

Unofficial practice feedback

SESSION CUE

Begin when your instructor or personal timer is ready.

PUBLICATION NOTE

This booklet is an independently written practice resource. It is not an ACT test form, and results from it are not official scores.

STUDENT INITIALS

PRACTICE ASSESSMENT • 2026 EDITION

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READING TEST

40 MINUTES—10 QUESTIONS

DIRECTIONS: Build each answer from the passage itself. Numbering in the margin marks every fifth body line, and an item may point to a specific line or range. Revisit that evidence before selecting a response.

Record one response for each item; if more than one choice seems plausible, select the one best supported by the material provided.

NATURAL SCIENCE: This original passage describes a community research project.

On spring nights, migrating birds pass over cities in numbers that daylight observers rarely see. Their brief calls—some no longer than a clipped syllable—form an invisible record of movement. To biologist Maya Ortiz, the sky above the rooftops is a river overhead: busy, directional, and mostly hidden in darkness.

Ortiz's team studies these nocturnal flights with small microphones mounted on volunteer-owned buildings. Each station records sound from sunset to sunrise. Software then separates likely bird calls from wind, traffic, and rooftop machinery. The software offers a proposed species label, but Ortiz describes that label as an assistant's suggestion, not a judge's verdict.

The distinction matters. A warbler's call may change slightly with distance, and rain can blur its higher frequencies. Human reviewers therefore inspect a visual trace of each sound, called a spectrogram, and compare uncertain recordings with verified examples. A smudged trace can support several plausible identifications. In this project, confidence is recorded as a range rather than disguised as certainty.

Volunteers do more than provide roofs. After training, they check microphones, note nearby noise, and flag nights when weather may have affected a recording. These observations give the audio context. A sudden cluster of low sounds might indicate a flock, for example, or it might coincide with a delivery truck idling below.

At the end of each week, the team combines reviewed calls into maps. The maps do not trace individual birds. Instead, they show when and where call activity was concentrated. A chain of bright map cells along the river may suggest that migrants followed the waterway, but Ortiz waits for the pattern to recur before treating it as evidence of a route.

This patient approach has an unexpected advantage: it gives volunteers useful work even when a recording is ambiguous. A questionable call is not thrown away. Its weather notes, time stamp, and location remain part of the record. This surrounding information serves as ground truth for interpreting the signal. For Ortiz, uncertainty is not an empty space in the data; it is information about what the instruments and reviewers can responsibly claim.

The project makes migration more perceptible without pretending to make it fully visible. Its microphones catch fragments, its maps assemble patterns, and its reviewers mark the limits of both. Each stage narrows uncertainty without erasing it. The result is less like a census than a carefully annotated listening post.

CONTINUE →

1. Refer to lines 11–13. As used in the highlighted phrase, “verdict” most nearly means:
 - A. a recorded sound
 - B. a final decision
 - C. a legal punishment
 - D. a volunteer's opinion
2. The first paragraph primarily serves to:
 - F. list every species detected by the project
 - G. argue that nighttime migration should be stopped
 - H. present a phenomenon that is substantial but difficult to observe
 - J. compare urban rooftops with rural nesting sites
3. Which description best characterizes the author's perspective on the project's methods?
 - A. Dismissive because the recordings are incomplete
 - B. Uncritical because software labels are always accepted
 - C. Alarmed because volunteers control the results
 - D. Cautiously approving because the project makes useful claims while acknowledging limits
4. In context, the sentence in lines 17–20 emphasizes that:
 - F. some recordings reasonably permit more than one interpretation
 - G. spectrograms are physically damaged by rain
 - H. reviewers can identify every call after training
 - J. the project accepts only perfectly clear recordings
5. Why does the author describe volunteer observations immediately after explaining the review of spectrograms?
 - A. To replace expert review with amateur judgment
 - B. To show that contextual notes help reviewers distinguish bird calls from other sounds
 - C. To prove that delivery trucks cause birds to migrate
 - D. To introduce a second project that uses no microphones
6. Refer to lines 4–6. What is the main effect of comparing the night sky to the highlighted image?
 - F. It suggests that birds swim rather than fly.
 - G. It claims that migration occurs only above waterways.
 - H. It conveys coordinated movement that is real even though observers cannot easily see it.
 - J. It emphasizes the danger of rooftop flooding.
7. The passage presents volunteers primarily as:
 - A. owners of a separate database that competes with the team's
 - B. funders whose only role is purchasing equipment
 - C. untrained listeners who decide which species labels are final
 - D. sources of local observations that make instrument data easier to interpret
8. The contrast in the sentence in lines 43–46 mainly serves to:
 - F. show that each stage performs a distinct task within one cautious process
 - G. suggest that uncertainty disappears before mapping begins
 - H. criticize the reviewers for repeating the same action
 - J. rank microphones as more important than maps
9. As used in the sentence in lines 35–39, “ground truth” refers to:
 - A. soil measurements taken beneath each microphone
 - B. information about real conditions surrounding a recording
 - C. a species label produced solely by software
 - D. a map showing the exact path of one bird
10. Which choice best describes the passage's overall structure?
 - F. It presents a mystery and reveals that the recordings were fabricated.
 - G. It alternates instructions for volunteers with arguments against citizen science.
 - H. It introduces an observation challenge, explains a multistage response, and evaluates the response's limits and value.
 - J. It compares two unrelated migration projects and selects a winner.

SECTION COMPLETE · 3

Pause here and wait for the cue to begin the next section.
During timed practice, do not revisit a section after leaving it.



QUICK REFERENCE

Answer Key

Correct responses by section

READING · CRAFT & STRUCTURE SKILL DRILL

1 B	2 H	3 D	4 F	5 B	6 H	7 D	8 F	9 B
10 H								

ENHANCED ACT PRACTICE

How ACT Scoring Works

Each subject begins with a raw score: the number of scored questions answered correctly. There is no penalty for a wrong answer. ACT then converts each raw score to a 1–36 section score using the conversion for that specific test form, which accounts for small differences in form difficulty.

Official Score Structure

The enhanced ACT Composite is based on English, Math, and Reading. Science is optional and does not enter the Composite; students who take it receive a Science score and a STEM score.

REPORTED MEASURE	HOW IT IS DETERMINED	OFFICIAL RANGE OR SCORED MAXIMUM
Raw subject score	Correct answers on scored questions	English 40 · Math 41 · Reading 27 · Science 34
Section score	A form-specific raw-to-scale conversion	1–36 for each subject
Composite score	Average of English, Math, and Reading; round to the nearest whole number	1–36
STEM score	Average of Math and Science when Science is taken	1–36

Composite Example

English 24 + Math 27 + Reading 26 = 77

$77 \div 3 = 25.67$, which rounds to a Composite score of **26**. A Science score, if present, does not change this calculation.

Practice–test limitation: Raw-to-scale tables belong to a particular ACT form. This Test Ninjas publication does not designate field-test items or use ACT’s form-equating process, so its total correct count should be used to measure accuracy—not presented as an official 1–36 score. Use only the conversion table packaged with the exact official ACT practice form you completed.

ENHANCED ACT PRACTICE

ACT Composite National Ranks

A national rank is the percentage of recent ACT-tested high school graduates who earned that score or lower. These official ranks are based on graduates from 2023–2025 and apply to ACT scores reported for tests taken from September 2025 through August 2026. The mean Composite score in this reference group is 19.2.

Official Composite-Score Table

For example, a Composite score of 22 has a national rank of 72: 72% of the reference group scored 22 or below.

COMPOSITE	NATIONAL RANK	COMPOSITE	NATIONAL RANK
36	100	18	52
35	99	17	46
34	99	16	40
33	98	15	34
32	97	14	27
31	96	13	20
30	94	12	12
29	92	11	5
28	91	10	2
27	88	9	1
26	86	8	1
25	83	7	1
24	80	6	1
23	76	5	1
22	72	4	1
21	68	3	1
20	63	2	1
19	57	1	1

Interpret carefully: A national rank describes position within ACT’s comparison group; it is not an admission probability, grade, or percentage of questions answered correctly. Colleges may use different score policies and comparison ranges.

Source: ACT National Ranks for English, Math, Reading, Science, Composite, and STEM Scores, 2025–26 reporting year. Values checked August 2026.



TEST NINJAS PRACTICE ASSESSMENT

End of Practice Assessment

Your practice booklet is complete. Check your work only after the timing conditions you selected have ended.

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