

# A PARENT TUTORIAL

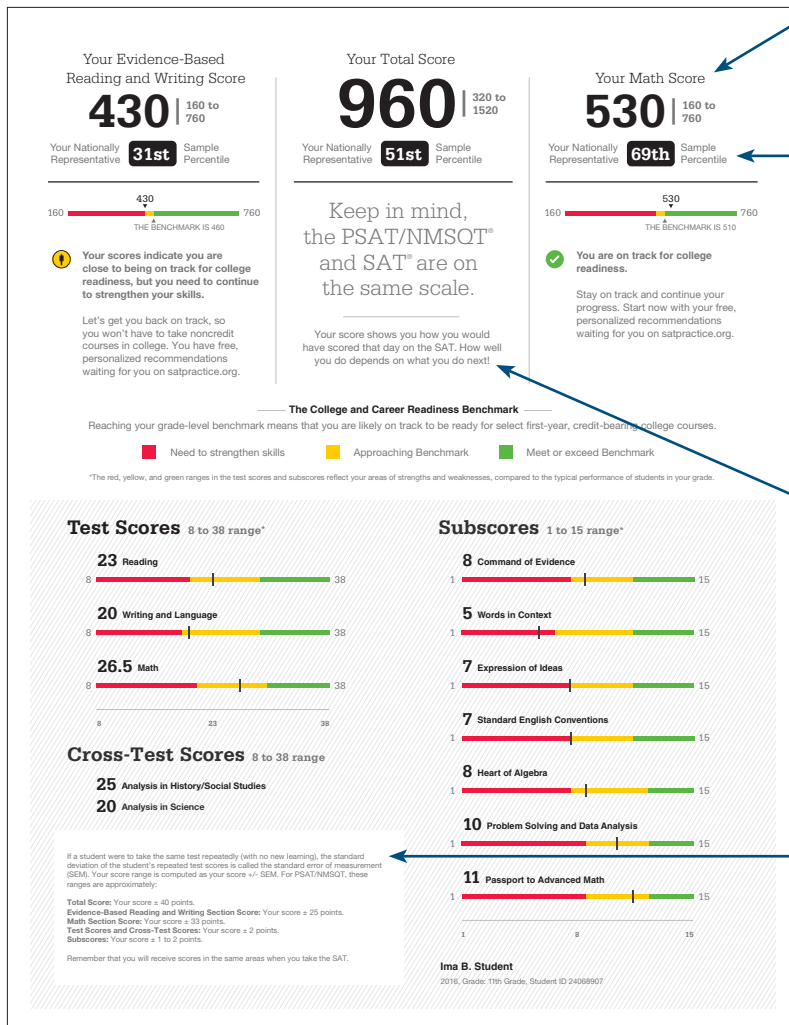
# Understanding 2016 PSAT/NMSQT® Results

## A Case Study: Ima B. Student's PSAT/NMSQT® Score Report

Take a look at Ima B. Student's sample score report below and on the back. Use the information to help you interpret your student's PSAT/NMSQT® Score Report.

### What Are Ima's Scores?

Ima's Evidence-Based Reading and Writing score is 430 and Math is 530. In Evidence-Based Reading and Writing, Ima's score is approaching the benchmark (explained on the report), but she is not quite on track for college readiness. In Math, however, Ima is exceeding the benchmark and is on track. Test scores, cross-test scores, and subscores can give Ima a better understanding of areas to work on.



### What Are Her Score Percentiles?

Since Ima is in the 11th grade, the percentiles compare her scores with those of all 11th graders in the nation. Ima scored as well as or better in Evidence-Based Reading and Writing than 31% of a nationally representative group of juniors. In Math, she scored as well as or better than 69% of a nationally representative group of juniors. Additional percentiles are available in Ima's online score report.

### How Will Ima Do on the SAT®?

The PSAT/NMSQT and SAT are scored on a common scale; therefore if Ima had taken the SAT instead of the PSAT/NMSQT on the same test date, she would have received the same score. When Ima takes the SAT, she will likely have had additional learning from school and practice. Her PSAT/NMSQT results can help Ima focus her efforts in high school to be better prepared for the SAT.

### What Are Her Score Ranges?

No test measures precisely what someone knows, and many factors can affect results. That is why test makers think of each score as a range that extends from a few points below to a few points above the score earned.

**National Merit Scholarship Corporation**

National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) conducts the National Merit Scholarship Program, an academic competition for recognition and college scholarships. To designate students who qualify for recognition in its 2016 competition, NMSC will consider the 2016 PSAT/NMSQT Selection Index scores of some 1.6 million test-takers (usually high school seniors) who meet program entry requirements. For more information, please visit: [www.nationalmerit.org](http://www.nationalmerit.org).

If any of your responses to NMSC's "Entry Requirements" questions (see right-hand column) are inaccurate or there has been a change in plans that may affect program entry, write immediately to:

**National Merit Scholarship Corporation**  
 Attn: Scholarship Administration  
 1560 Sherman Avenue, Suite 200  
 Evanston, IL 60201-4897

Include your name and home address along with your high school name, address, and six-digit code number.

**Your NMSC Selection Index**  
**139**

NMSC uses a Selection Index based on PSAT/NMSQT scores as an initial screen of students who enter its scholarship programs. To calculate your Selection Index, double the sum of your Reading, Writing and Language, and Math Test scores.

**Eligibility Information**  
 If your Selection Index places you among the 50,000 high scorers who qualify for National Merit Scholarship Program recognition, you will be notified next September.

**Entry Requirements**  
 (Information you provided on your answer sheet)

High school student: **YES**  
 Year to complete high school and enroll full-time in college: **2018**  
 Years to be spent in grades 9-12: **4**  
 U.S. Citizenship: **YES**

**Your Scores: Next Steps**  
 Additional skills and improvement suggestions can be found in your online score report.

Your score indicates that you are already likely able to:

**Reading Test**  
 23  
 5 to 38

Improve your skills by focusing on the following suggestions:

- Draw reasonable inferences and logical conclusions from challenging texts
- Analyze information presented quantitatively in such forms as graphs, tables, and charts and relate that information to information presented in somewhat challenging text
- Determine how the selection of specific words shapes meaning and tone in a challenging passage

**Writing and Language Test**  
 20  
 8 to 38

- Revise text as needed to improve the exactness or content appropriateness of word choices within somewhat challenging texts
- Retain or add information or ideas to a piece of text to support claims or points in challenging text
- Use a variety of sentence structures to accomplish a rhetorical purpose such as persuading an audience
- Revise text as needed to improve the exactness or content appropriateness of word choices within challenging texts

**Math Test**  
 26.5  
 8 to 38

- Interpret a linear inequality in one variable with rational coefficients that represents a context. Select the equation of a line of best fit and interpret the slope and intercept of the line in the context of the situation (when a linear model is appropriate)
- Determine how a graph may be affected by a change to its equation
- Determine the value of a constant or coefficient for an equation with no solution or infinitely many solutions
- Using a specified model, make a prediction and compare the predicted values with the actual values in the data set
- Interpret sample statistics understanding and using margin of error
- Using a specified model, make a prediction and compare the predicted values with the actual values in the data set
- Solve and interpret a quadratic function or equation that represents a context and requires multiple steps
- Within a context, compare the center of two separate data sets with different spreads
- Calculate and interpret frequency distributions using tables and other representational methods
- Determine whether two events are independent given their probabilities

**Get more next steps online**  
[studentscores.collegeboard.org](http://studentscores.collegeboard.org)

**SAT Practice**  
 Connect to Khan Academy for FREE, world-class SAT practice on [satpractice.org](http://satpractice.org).

**AP and Course Work**  
 See which AP courses may be good matches for you.

**Register for the SAT**  
 Select an SAT test date and register for it now.

**Ima B. Student** 2016, Grade: 11th Grade

## Will Ima Be Able to Enter the National Merit® Scholarship Program?

Ima has an NMSC Selection Index of 139, which is double the sum of her Reading (23), Writing and Language (20), and Math (26.5) Test scores. This index is used by National Merit Scholarship Corporation to designate students to be recognized in its National Merit Scholarship Program.

If an asterisk had appeared next to Ima's score, it would mean she does not meet entry requirements for the program. In this case, Ima meets entry requirements, but her score is not likely to take her further in the competition for awards. For entry requirements and information on how the competition works, see the *2016 PSAT/NMSQT Student Guide* or visit [www.nationalmerit.org](http://www.nationalmerit.org).

## How Can Ima Improve Her Academic Skills?

**Your Scores: Next Steps** are based on her test scores, and what general skills similarly performing students understand. Ima can see which skills she performed well on and which she needs to improve. When she goes online and logs in to the full report online, she can see additional skills and improvement steps. Ima can also link her account to Khan Academy\* for personalized practice recommendations.

### Score Report

## What Are the Next Steps for Ima?

Under **Get more next steps online**, Ima is directed to [studentscores.collegeboard.org](http://studentscores.collegeboard.org) to learn how to prepare for the SAT and see her potential for challenging AP® course work.

## When Should Ima Take the SAT?

As a junior, Ima should begin planning when she will take the SAT. Most students take the SAT for the first time in their junior year. By planning now, Ima can ensure she has adequate time to practice for the SAT. She can take advantage of practice resources by visiting [studentscores.collegeboard.org](http://studentscores.collegeboard.org).

## How Can Ima Learn from Her Answers?

Using her score report with her PSAT/NMSQT test booklet, Ima can see the actual questions, correct answers, and difficulty level alongside her own answers. She can use her online score report to review the questions she answered incorrectly or omitted, and to see detailed answer explanations.

**Your Question-Level Feedback**

**Writing and Language**

Question #	Correct	Your Answer	Difficulty	Subscore	Cross-Test Score
1	D	C	SEC		
2	B	A	COE		
3	B	A	WC		
4	B	A	WC		
5	C	D	SEC		
6	D	A	COE, EOI		
7	B	A	COE		
8	A	A	WC		
9	D	A	WC		
10	A	A	HSS		
11	D	C	WC, HSS		
12	D	B	WC, HSS		
13	D	A	COE		
14	A	C	HSS		
15	C	B	COE, HSS		
16	B	C	HSS		
17	D	C	HSS		
18	B	D	HSS		
19	A	A	SCI		
20	C	D	COE, EOI, SCI		
21	B	D	COE, SCI		
22	D	A	WC, SCI		
23	B	D	WC, SCI		
24	D	C	WC, SCI		
25	C	A	WC, SCI		
26	B	A	HSS, SCI		
27	B	C	WC, SCI		
28	A	C	COE, SCI		
29	D	A	WC, HSS, SCI		
30	B	A	HSS, SCI		
31	D	A	COE, HSS, SCI		
32	A	A	HSS, SCI		
33	C	A	COE, HSS, SCI		
34	B	B	WC, HSS, SCI		
35	A	B	HSS, SCI		
36	C	O	HSS, SCI		
37	B	C	HSS, SCI		
38	C	D	HSS, SCI		
39	C	A	HSS, SCI		
40	C	A	HSS, SCI		
41	B	A	HSS, SCI		
42	B	A	COE, SCI		
43	A	B	HSS, SCI		
44	A	A	WC, SCI		
45	A	C	COE, SCI		
46	D	A	COE, SCI		
47	C	B	HSS, SCI		

**Math Test—Calculator**

Question #	Correct	Your Answer	Difficulty	Subscore	Cross-Test Score
1	D	C	SEC		
2	A	A	HDA		
3	B	D	SEC		
4	D	C	HDA		
5	C	A	PSI		
6	D	A	COE, EOI, HSS		
7	B	C	PSD		
8	C	B	PSD		
9	A	A	WC, EOI, HSS		
10	D	C	PSD		
11	D	C	COE, EOI, HSS		
12	A	A	PSD		
13	B	B	PSD		
14	D	A	PSD, SCI		
15	D	A	WC, EOI, SCI		
16	B	A	SEC		
17	B	D	SEC		
18	A	B	EOI, SCI		
19	B	B	EOI, SCI		
20	C	D	COE, EOI, SCI		
21	A	A	COE, EOI, SCI		
22	A	B	WC, EOI, SCI		
23	C	B	WC, EOI		
24	D	C	SEC		
25	C	D	SEC		
26	A	A	COE, EOI		
27	A	D	EOI		
28	B	A	COE, EOI		
29	D	A	WC, EOI		
30	C	B	SEC		
31	D	A	EOI		
32	B	A	SEC		
33	D	A	SEC		
34	D	B	EOI		
35	D	B	SEC		
36	B	A	EOI		
37	C	D	COE, EOI		
38	A	A	SEC		
39	C	B	COE, EOI		
40	D	A	WC, EOI		
41	D	B	SEC		
42	A	B	SEC		
43	C	B	COE, EOI		
44	B	C	WC, EOI		

**Math Test—No Calculator**

Question #	Correct	Your Answer	Difficulty	Subscore	Cross-Test Score
1	D	C	HDA		
2	A	A	FAM		
3	B	A	FAM		
4	A	A	FAM		
5	C	A	HDA		
6	B	A	HDA, SCI		
7	A	A	HDA		
8	B	C	HDA		
9	C	C	HDA		
10	A	A	HDA, HSS		
11	A	A	FAM		
12	C	A	FAM		
13	B	A	FAM		
14	2	2	HDA		
15	90	80	HDA		
16	1	2	FAM		
17	0	2	FAM		

**Key**

- Correct
- Incorrect
- Unanswered
- Easy
- Medium
- Hard

**Cross-Test Score**

HSS Analysis in History/Social Studies  
 SCI Analysis in Science

00609-007 16024110

### Score Report