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The final exams in the USA and Russia

The American system of education relies on various specialized or "standardized" tests, which students must take in order to apply to a particular university or program. These exams offer universities a common basis for comparison of applicants.

Each year hundreds of thousands of American high school students prepare to enter colleges and universities in the United States.

The two most popular exams are the SAT and ACT, which test the applicant's abilities in English, mathematics, reading and science [3].

The SAT and SAT Subject Tests are a suite of tools designed to assess your academic readiness for college. These exams provide a path to opportunities, financial support and scholarships [4].

The SAT includes a Reading Test, Writing and Language Test, and a Math Test. The SAT has an optional essay component, which some colleges will require. SAT questions focus on skills that matter most for college readiness and success, according to the latest research.

1. The Writing and Language Test also focuses on command of evidence. It asks you to do things like analyze a series of sentences or paragraphs and decide if it makes sense.

2. The SAT Essay also tests command of evidence. After reading a passage, you'll be asked to determine how the author builds an argument to persuade an audience through the use of evidence, reasoning, and/or stylistic and persuasive devices.

3. The Math Test focuses in-depth on three essential areas of math: Problem Solving and Data Analysis, Heart of Algebra, and Passport to Advanced Math.

The SAT includes texts from this global conversation. The goal is to inspire a close reading of these rich, meaningful, often profound texts, not only as a way to develop valuable college and career readiness skills but also as an opportunity to reflect on and deeply engage with issues and concerns central to informed citizenship [5].

The ACT is an internationally administered, standardized test that helps universities to evaluate candidates for undergraduate study. The ACT consists of 4 multiple-choice tests – in English, Mathematics, reading, and science – with an optional writing test [6].

The English test is a 75-question, 45-minute test that consists of 5 essays, or passages, each followed by a set of multiple-choice test questions. Short texts and essays in different genres provide a variety of rhetorical situations.

The mathematics test is a 60-question, 60-minute test designed to assess the mathematical skills students have typically acquired in courses taken up to the beginning of grade 12. The material covered on the test emphasizes the major content areas that are prerequisites to successful performance in entry-level courses in college mathematics. A student may use a calculator on the mathematics test.

The reading test is a 40-question, 35-minute test that measures a student's ability to read closely, reason logically about texts using evidence, and integrate information from multiple sources. Specifically, questions will ask a student to determine main ideas, locate and interpret significant details, make comparisons and etc.

The science test is a 40-question, 35-minute test that measures the interpretation, analysis, evaluation, reasoning and problem-solving skills required in the natural sciences. The test presents several authentic scenarios, each followed by a number of multiple-choice test questions. The science test focuses on multidimensional assessment, with questions that assess science in concert with science skills and practice.

If a student registers for the ACT with writing, he or she will take the writing test after the 4 multiple-choice tests. His or her score on the writing test will affect a student's score on the multiple-

choice tests. The test consists of one writing prompt that describes a complex issue and provides three different perspectives on the issue [1].

As well as Americans, each year hundreds of thousands of Russian middle and high school students prepare to enter colleges and universities in the United States.

The two most popular exams are the OGE and EGE, which test the applicant's abilities in school subjects. Basic State Examination, often abbreviated to the OGE, requires the student to pass exams in two school subjects – in Russian and Mathematics. It is a compulsory examination that each student has to pass before graduating from the middle school [7].

Basic State Examination in Russian language consists of two parts – a written and an oral part. Firstly, students pass the oral part of the exam which is a 4-question, 15-minute test that requires students to read the text, to recall it, to make up a monolog and a dialog in one of the three themes. Secondly, students have to pass the second – written – part of their exam. It's a 3-question, 235-minute written test that requires student to write two essays and to analyze a text.

Basic State Examination in Mathematics is a 25-question, 235-minute test that includes two parts. A multiple-choice test and some tasks where a student needs to write down the solution [8], [9].

Unified State Examinations, often abbreviated to the EGE, is a compulsory examination that a student has to pass before graduating from the high school. Each university sets a minimum EGE scores that a student must achieve in order to gain admission. This is a standardized quantitative examination. Students have to pass only one exam in Russian language to graduate from high school. If a student wants to apply to a University, he must take one more exams in other subject required by the University.

The Unified State Examinations in Russian language consists of two parts. The first is a December essay or Final Essay which is a 235-minute essay in one of the five themes the students are required to write down. The second part of the exam is a 27-question, 210-minute test that includes 26 multiple-choice tests and an essay [2].

If student is going to apply to a University, he won't be required to pass an exam in Basic Mathematics.

As for other subjects, it's up to student whether he or she'll take an exam in field-oriented Mathematics, Physics, foreign languages and etc. [8].

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