

00_Test Prep for the NJGPA & Second Pathways

Content Area: **Math**
Course(s):
Time Period: **Semester**
Length: **3-4 Weeks**
Status: **Published**

General Overview, Course Description or Course Philosophy

This course is designed for senior students who must participate in the NJDOE Portfolio Appeal Process because they have not successfully completed the math portion of the NJ High School Graduation Assessment Requirement. In this course, students will receive targeted instruction in mathematics based on their needs as reflected in state-wide standardized testing. They will be prepared for a fall retake of the math section of the NJGPA as well as a variety of alternative assessments and then prepare a portfolio of constructed response tasks to show their proficiency in the subject. This course is mandatory for those identified students. Grades will be reflected as P/F.

OBJECTIVES, ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS, ENDURING UNDERSTANDINGS

Unit Goals:

- Develop effective test-taking strategies and techniques for the NJGPA retake, PSAT, and SAT/ACT.
- Enhance problem-solving skills, critical thinking, and time management for standardized tests.
- Create a comprehensive portfolio showcasing mastery of test preparation strategies and performance improvement.

Enduring Understandings:

- Successful test performance requires a combination of content knowledge, strategies, and practice.
- Understanding test structure, question types, and scoring systems is essential for optimizing results.
- Reflective analysis of practice tests and targeted review are key to continuous improvement.

Essential Questions:

- How can I develop effective strategies to tackle different question types and sections of standardized tests?
- What is the role of content mastery, practice, and strategic pacing in achieving optimal test scores?
- How does ongoing self-assessment and targeted review contribute to progress and growth in test performance?

CONTENT AREA STANDARDS

MA.K-12.1	Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
MA.K-12.2	Reason abstractly and quantitatively.

MA.K-12.3	Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.
MA.K-12.4	Model with mathematics.
MA.K-12.5	Use appropriate tools strategically.
MA.K-12.6	Attend to precision.
MA.K-12.7	Look for and make use of structure.
MA.K-12.8	Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning.

RELATED STANDARDS (Technology, 21st Century Life & Careers, ELA Companion Standards are Required)

LA.RST.9-10.3	Follow precisely a complex multistep procedure when carrying out experiments, taking measurements, or performing technical tasks, attending to special cases or exceptions defined in the text.
LA.RST.9-10.7	Translate quantitative or technical information expressed in words in a text into visual form (e.g., a table or chart) and translate information expressed visually or mathematically (e.g., in an equation) into words.
WRK.K-12.P.5	Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
TECH.K-12.P.5	Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.

STUDENT LEARNING TARGETS

Refer to the 'Declarative Knowledge' and 'Procedural Knowledge' sections.

Declarative Knowledge

Students will understand:

- Test structure, question formats, and content areas covered in the NJGPA retake, PSAT, SAT and ACT.
- Problem-solving techniques for math sections with and without a calculator.
- Effective use of the calculator for math problem-solving.
- Targeted content review and reflection on practice test performance.

Procedural Knowledge

Students will be able to:

- Analyze test blueprints and question formats.
- Set personalized score improvement goals.
- Utilize strategies for tackling algebra, geometry, and quantitative comparison questions.
- Practice pacing and prioritization for the no calculator section.

- Effectively use the calculator for complex calculations.
- Use strategies for interpreting and analyzing graphs and data
- Simulate timed test-taking conditions.
- Reflect on strengths and areas for improvement.
- Focused review of identified weak areas.
- Fine-tuning strategies based on performance patterns.

EVIDENCE OF LEARNING

Refer to the 'Formative Assessments' and 'Summative Assessments' sections.

Formative Assessments

- Formative assessments at the end of each week to evaluate procedural knowledge and understanding.
- Weekly quizzes assessing declarative knowledge and test-taking strategies.

Summative Assessments

- Mid-unit and end-unit practice tests under timed conditions for skills application.
- Culminating portfolio assessment evaluating the depth of understanding, clarity of explanations, and application of test preparation strategies and progress.

RESOURCES (Instructional, Supplemental, Intervention Materials)

- IXL Skill Plans
 - [NJGPA](#)
 - [PSAT](#) | [SAT](#) | [ACT](#)
- [Pearson NJGPA Practice Tests](#)
- [Khan Academy SAT Practice](#)

INTERDISCIPLINARY CONNECTIONS

- Career Readiness
 - Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.

ACCOMMODATIONS & MODIFICATIONS FOR SUBGROUPS

See link to Accommodations & Modifications document in course folder.