A PARENT TUTORIAL

Understanding 2018 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 her Math score is 530. In Evidence-Based Reading and Writing, Ima’s score is approaching the benchmark, 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 Ima’s 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 can Ima see her full report?
Ima is directed to psat.org/myscore to see her full score report, learn how to prepare for the SAT®, and see her potential for AP® coursework.
What are Ima's next steps?
When Ima accesses her full score report at psat.org/myscore, she'll also be able to connect to free, personalized practice on Khan Academy®, see her potential for AP coursework, and use the college- and career-planning resources at BigFuture™.

Will Ima be able to enter the National Merit Scholarship Program?
Ima has an NMSC Selection Index score of 139, which is double the sum of her Reading Test (23), Writing and Language Test (20), and Math Test (26.5) scores. This Selection Index score 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 did not meet entry requirements for the program or her score was provided for guidance purposes only and would not be considered in the National Merit Scholarship Program. In this case, Ima meets entry requirements and will be recognized if her score places her among the 50,000 high scorers. For entry requirements and information on the steps in the competition, see the 2018 PSAT/NMSQT Student Guide or visit www.nationalmerit.org.

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 psat.org/myscore.

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.

**NOTE:** For students at schools participating in the test administration study or research group or testing on Saturday, October 13, the actual questions, answers, and answer explanations won't be provided, and the score report won't include the correct answer column.