ACT vs SAT

General Info

- It is best to bubble in all answers if you don't finish; there's no penalty for guessing!
- Questions are all multiple choice.
- It is administered six times a year.
- It is better for math/science students, benefits with slower reading skills, and caters to students who prefer shorter tests (3 hours).
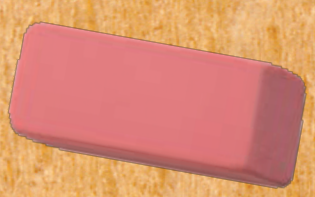
Test Prep

- PLAN Test (ACT): This preparatory test will not help with scholarships, but will gauge what a person's actual score will be.

Specifics

- **Four sections**
  - 45 minute English
  - 60 minute Math
  - 35 minute Reading
  - 35 minute Science
  - (optional essay)
- **English**
  - Easier vocabulary
  - Five short essays with 15 questions each
- **Reading** (four passages)
  - Prose Fiction
  - Social Science
  - Humanities
  - Natural Science
- **Math**
  - Calculator is a MUST!
  - It starts out easy and gets harder as the questions go on.
  - Algebra II is a big help.
- **Science**
  - Seven passages with graphs
  - Requires basic science knowledge and reasoning

✓ *"Don't worry too much about the science section on the ACT. The long words are in there to confuse you - skip them and pay attention to the graphs."*

- Connor Lawson, Senior

Put your math skills to the test!

For every positive 2-digit number, x, with tens digit t and units digit u, let y be the 2-digit number formed by reversing the digits of x. Which of the following expressions is equivalent to $x - y$?

A. $9(t - u)$
B. $9(u - t)$
C. $9t - u$
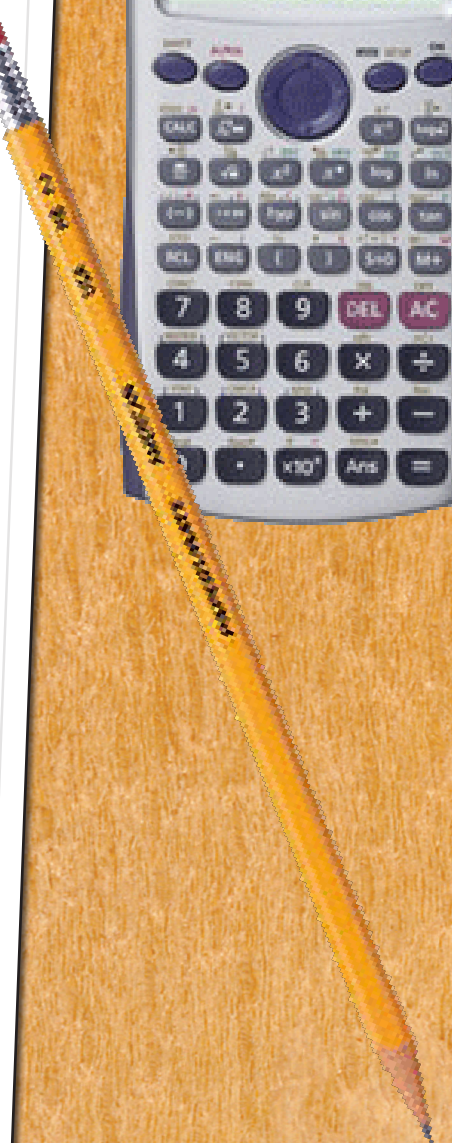D. $9u - t$
E. 0

Answer: A

General Info

- Bubble guessing can hurt your score, so only bubble unknown answers if you can eliminate at least one answer. If you are unable to finish a section within the time allotted, leave the questions blank.
- It is mostly multiple choice, except one math section that is open-answer.
- It is administered seven times a year.
- It is better for students who excel in reading and English, are logical thinkers, and who can handle a long test (5 hours).

Test Prep

- PSAT (SAT): This preparatory test allows prospective students to qualify for scholarships such as National Merit.

Specifics

- **10 Sections**
  - 25 minute essay
  - Three 25 minute Math
  - Three 25 minute Reading
  - Two 20 minute Writing Skills
  - One 10 minute Writing Skills
- **English**
  - Sentence corrections and paragraph revision
- **Reading**
  - Much harder vocabulary with longer passages
- **Math**
  - Calculator not necessary
  - More logic/thinking skills; no trigonometry.
  - Generally better for students who struggle in math.
- **No Science**

Put your math skills to the test!

Point A is a vertex of an 8-sided polygon. The polygon has 8 sides of equal length and 8 angles of equal measure. When all possible diagonals are drawn from point A in the polygon, how many triangles are formed?
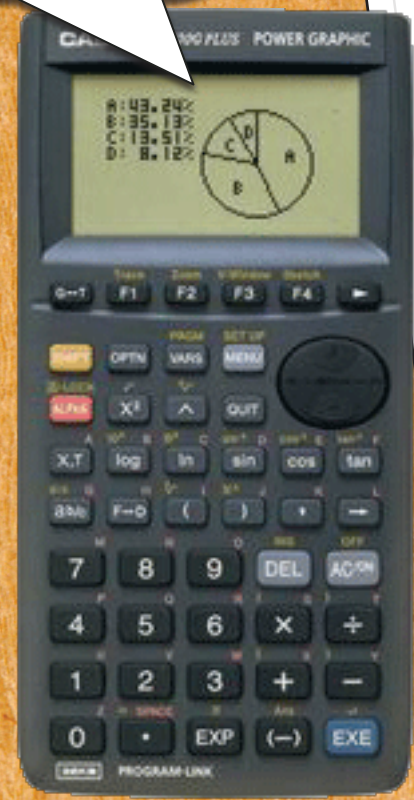
A. Four
B. Five
C. Six
D. Seven
E. Eight

Answer: C

"Eat gummy bears before you take the SAT! They keep you awake because the test is so long."

- Ryan Henry, Senior

Prepared by:
Will Bedwell
Taylor Herring
Staff Reporters