# **CONFIDENT QUANT**

### Productive, Focused, Energetic

With a limited time before your test day, you'll need to **energetically** power through your weeks of study. You will need to be extremely **productive** as you work on your practice PSAT questions, maximizing your Math skills and **focusing** on the Verbal foundations that will help you score the biggest points on test day.

**How to Use Your Study Plan:** The study plan below is based on your results, with your areas of opportunity on the left side of each week's plan and your areas of strength toward the right. Each week, the Recommended chapters cover the topics that are worth the most points on the PSAT, so be sure to prioritize those items. To make your prep as efficient as possible, choose Optional items that best fit your study needs and schedule. If you fall behind or don't have 4 full weeks to study, be sure to prioritize the Recommended items. Happy prepping!



## <u>WEEK 1</u> Format of the PSAT

Knowing what to expect on each section of the PSAT will give you confidence on test day—you'll have no surprises about what types of questions you'll be asked.

During these weeks, you'll:

- Become comfortable with the structure of the PSAT
- Learn the Kaplan Methods for each test section

#### Week 1

Overall Study	Reading	Writing and Language	Math
<ul> <li>Recommended:</li> <li>Chapter 1: Inside the PSAT</li> <li>Acquaint yourself with the format of the test by looking through the Practice Tests at the end of your book</li> </ul>	Recommended: Chapter 10: The Method for PSAT Reading Questions Chapter 11: PSAT Reading Passage Strategies	Recommended: Chapter 14: The Method for PSAT Writing and Language	<ul> <li><u>Recommended:</u></li> <li><b>Chapter 3:</b> The Method for PSAT Math Questions</li> <li><b>Chapter 4:</b> Linear Equations and Graphs</li> </ul>
Optional: Online Video: Introduction to the PSAT Practice Test 1 Review Practice Test 1	Optional: <b>Online Video:</b> The Method for PSAT Reading Questions	Optional: <b>Online Video:</b> The Method for PSAT Writing and Language Questions	<ul> <li>Optional:</li> <li>Online Video: The Method for PSAT Math Questions</li> <li>Chapter 5: Systems of Linear Equations</li> <li>Appendix 1 (online): Inequalities</li> </ul>

### WEEK 2 Highest-Yield Topics

Let's cut right to the chase: some topics are tested on the PSAT more heavily than others. That means that mastering those topics has the potential to earn you a ton of points on test day.

During these weeks, you'll:

- Study the highest point yield topics in Math and Writing and Language
- Learn strategies for every type of Reading question

#### Week 2

Reading	Writing and Language	Math
<ul> <li>Recommended:</li> <li>Chapter 12: PSAT Reading Question Types</li> <li>Chapter 13: Answering PSAT Reading Questions</li> </ul>	Recommended:Chapter 15: Spotting and Fixing ErrorsHow Much Do You Know?Sentence Structure:The BasicsCommas, Dashes, and ColonsAgreement:VerbsPronounsModifiersIdiomsHow Much Have You Learned?	Recommended:         Chapter 6: Ratios, Proportions, and Percents         Chapter 7: Tables, Statistics, and Probability         Optional:         Appendix 2 (online): Scatterplots

### WEEK 3 Areas of Opportunity and Practice Test

Now it's time to dig into some challenging topics. You can do this! Your goal is not to learn everything about, say, geometry or punctuation, but rather to learn the most commonly-tested PSAT concepts and to familiarize yourself with questions in that category.

It's also time for some authentic practice. Taking a Practice Test under real test-like conditions is the best way to solidify what you've learned and to practice test-taking strategies. Plus, your results will help you make a plan for your remaining study time until test day.

#### **Tips for Taking Practice Tests:**

Make the Practice Test count! Time yourself, eliminate distractions, and use your test-taking strategies (see Chapter 1), just as you would for the real test. Practice using the Methods for each test section (Math, Reading, and Writing and Language) on every question—even if doing so takes more time now, practicing will improve your speed so the Methods are second nature on the real test day.

After finishing the Practice Test, it is vital that you *review your results*. Dig into each question—think not only about why you got a question correct or incorrect but also about whether you approached the question strategically. For each question, ask yourself: What can I learn about this type of question? After reviewing, use your test results to help you plan what to study until test day.

During these weeks, you'll:

- Take a Practice Test
- Review the Practice Test
- Improve your performance on your areas of opportunity on each section of the test

### Week 3

Overall Study	Reading	Writing and Language	Math
Recommended:       Practice Test 2         Review Practice Test 2       Appendix 8 (online):         Chapter 16:       Paired Passages and         Countdown to Test Day       Primary Source         PassagesOR       Appendix 9 (online):         Literature Passages       Literature Passages	Recommended: Appendix 11 (online): Spotting and Fixing Issues How Much Do You Know? Development: Precision Relevance Revising Text Introductions and Conclusions	Recommended: Chapter 8: Functions Review chapter(s) based on Practice Test results	
	Optional: Appendix 11 (online): Spotting and Fixing Issues Organization: Conciseness Transitions Sentence Placement Graphs How Much Have You Learned?	<ul> <li>Optional:</li> <li>Appendix 3 (online): Exponents, Radicals, Polynomials, and Rational Expressions</li> <li>Appendix 4 (online): Geometry</li> </ul>	

1 Month Study Plan, More Confident in Math, More than 5 Hours per Week

K

### <u>WEEK 4</u> Strengths Focus

You've worked so hard! There's only one week left, but you are well-situated for success. Now things get kind of fun: take those topics you're awesome at, and get more awesome at them before test day! Celebrate your successes and take this opportunity to get even better. You'll also learn section management strategies for each section of the PSAT. Finally, do some light practice leading up to the big day.

During these weeks, you'll:

- Focus on your strongest topics to build confidence for test day
- Learn section management strategies for each section of the PSAT
- Do light practice until test day

#### Week 4

Reading	Writing and Language	Math
Recommended: Appendix 10 (online): PSAT Reading: Timing and Section Management Strategies	<ul> <li><u>Recommended:</u></li> <li><b>Appendix 12 (online):</b> PSAT Writing and Language: Section Management, Timing, and Efficiency</li> <li>Review strengths chapter(s) based on Practice Test results</li> </ul>	<ul> <li><u>Recommended:</u></li> <li><b>Chapter 9:</b> Quadratics</li> <li><b>Appendix 7 (online):</b> PSAT Math: Section Management, Timing, and Efficiency</li> <li>Review strengths chapter(s) based on Practice Test results</li> </ul>
Optional: <b>Online:</b> Reading Practice Set	Optional: <b>Online:</b> Writing and Language Practice Set	Optional: <b>Online:</b> Math (Calculator) Practice Set <b>Online:</b> Math (No-Calculator) Practice Set

Congratulations! You've put in the **productive**, **energetic** effort to complete your **focused** review of the PSAT, following the way of the **Confident Quant**. Feel confident in your expert preparation!