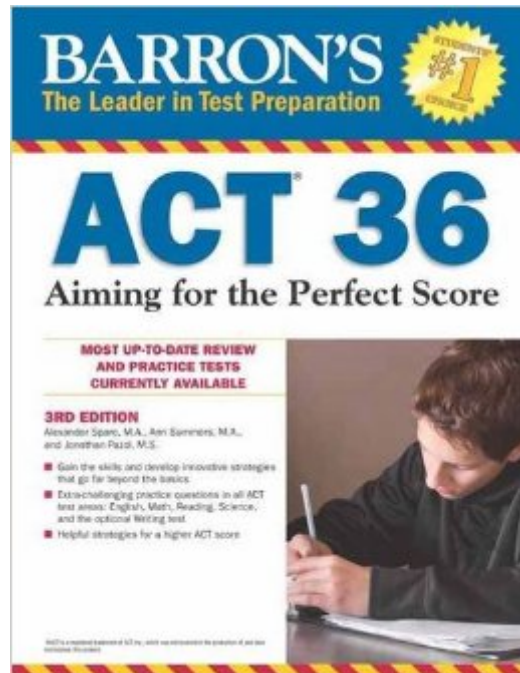


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Barron's ACT 36, 3rd Edition: Aiming For The Perfect Score



Synopsis

An ACT test score of 36 represents test-taking perfection. College-bound students who approach this score are virtually assured of acceptance into the nation's finest colleges. Students who are focusing on getting an exceptionally high or even perfect score on the ACT will want to get their hands on this innovative book. Inside, they'll find: Advice and strategies for tackling the ACT's most difficult questions and coming up with winning answers Extra-challenging practice tests in all ACT test areas: English, Math, Reading, Science, and the optional Writing test Instruction on reading efficiently and retentively Special tips for boosting your science score Detailed advice on writing a winning essay The book can be purchased with an optional CD-ROM presenting a full-length ACT practice test that closely matches the real ACT with answers, plus 50 extra-difficult questions with answers

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars See all reviews (45 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

I've been tutoring the ACT professionally for about 8 years. I'm only giving this book three stars because I don't think it delivers on its promise to get students to a perfect score. A much better title would be, "ACT prep for smart kids who want to improve their scores but who can't be bothered to learn every little thing the ACT will cover". My first area of concern is the English and Math sections. This book doesn't cover all tested concepts (of which there are many) for either section. It covers most of them. How are students supposed to get perfect scores without full coverage? My second

main area of concern is question and practice test realism. The writers don't work for the ACT and do not reliably duplicate the nuances and complexities of real ACT questions. Furthermore, they don't point students to the obvious source of better practice material, The Real ACT Prep Guide (published by the ACT). So although this book contains good advice, it's incomplete and certainly not a one-stop-shop for a perfect score. If you REALLY want a perfect score, you'll probably have to analyze several real ACT tests until you can identify what each problem is testing, not just get it right. Additionally, I'd recommend looking for books that just cover one section of the test. These books have a narrower focus and can therefore cover all the little concepts missing from ACT 36.

The book is great if you want to score 3 or 4 pointers higher on the practice tests. There are some things in this book that don't cover on the practice ACT tests online and on the ones within the Red Book (3rd edition). For instance, I don't necessarily agree with the reading and science strategies in this book. I tried using the strategy where I would try to simplify the reading passages. This did not turn out well. I increased my score of 22 on Reading to 29-30 average by simply locating where the specific examples are. No matter what the ACT questions, the answer will always be somewhere in the text. It took me over 5 practice tests to realize that. The science section is the same concept as well. I increased my score of 24 to 30 by doing the same. Overall, I think this book needs an update to match the current contents of the ACT. This deserves 4 stars because it does motivate me to work harder.

After taking majority of the ACTs practice books out there, including the Real ACT Book, I've noticed that some of these questions are more ambiguous than the rest. It doesn't happen very often, but it will definitely throw you off sometimes. The book overall is decent. The tips are similar other practice tests and are good for a beginner to get their feet wet with ACT tips and tricks. However, the practice tests are much harder than what the actual test is. I took off another star because this book isn't updated to the latest ACT standards as other reviewers have said. The practice tests aren't ranked by difficulty as the scale is the same for each test. So, don't be disheartened if you score lower on one test. I consistently scored 34-36s on Princeton, Real ACT, etc. tests, but only scored low 32-33s on these. Although it's a very solid book for tips, I would look at more realistic tests for practice.

I hardcore reviewed this book before the June Act. I did worse in June than I had previously!! It definitely helped for English grammar but other than that the book was too in-depth and had too much

unnecessary material that stressed me out for the test. I say just stick with the big red act book and dont spend money on this.

This was very helpful. Had amazing practice questions that defiantly challenged you, but will benefit you when the ACT comes around. I would defiantly recommend this for other high school students in order to prepare for the ACT.

This review is for the English portion of book only: I compared the questions in this Barron's book to the ones on the actual ACT tests. I found the Barron's questions to be much more difficult. The lessons, however, are helpful. The book also lacks practice questions.

I am VERY satisfied with ACT 36 3rd edition. I have bought my child this book, and we have really appreciated the content. Though there are changes to the ACT, they are quite subtle, so this book is still EXTREMELY helpful. I have gotten other books, and this one is by far the most helpful. Each edition keeps getting better and better. My child took a practice test last weekend and exceeded our expectations by getting a solid 32. I strongly recommend this to others who are hoping to do well on the ACT.

Personally, I think this book is great. I bought this book for my high school student, currently a junior, and for someone who didn't want to pay for an ACT tutoring class, this book is a great alternative option and can prepare a student just as well as a class. What I like most about this book is that it is geared more towards tips and other information on how to do well on the test rather than the actual practice tests. A key to doing well on the test is knowing tricks and tips that can help you recognize the easy ways that the testers will try to 'trick' you, and this book emphasizes these strategies. My child and I went through this together as well and she also found it very helpful that first she could refine and work on her strategies before solely focussing on the actual practice tests.

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