## ACT English Prep Cheat Sheet by frenological via cheatography.com/150441/cs/39139/

#### BASIC STRATEGIES

Go with the shortest answer

possible. Ignore this rule if the

may already be the shortest.

shortest answer makes no sense.

The original (NO CHANGE) answer

LESS IS MORE

#### CROSS OUT THE CRAP

Whenever you are hunting down the subject, or whenever you think a grammar question is tricky, **CROSS OUT THE CRAP.** 

Crap includes: prepositional phrases, non-essential phrases, and descriptions

#### READ VERTICALLY

skill being tested.

tested at a time.

Use the answer choices to

More than one skill can be

help you determine the

#### WHEN IN DOUBT

If there is a **NO CHANGE** option, it is right 25% of the time. If there is an "OMIT" option, that is right 50% of the time.

SUBJECT- VERB AGREMENTCOMPLETE SENTENCESTRANSITION WORDSEXAMPLE: The A complete sentence as the bright colors and one verb, as long as it the bright colors is bacutiful.Other transitions: "in closing, generally, as, after, while, until, before complete sentences joined together to create one sentence. COMMA+FANBOYS: for, and, nor, but, or, yet, soEXAMPLE: A subject: The the friends dog sought are robbing shelter from the banks.Two agreeing sentences: consequently, thus, therefore, because of, furthermore, in fact, indeed, moreoverSEMICOLON: No comma or FANBOYS needed EXAMPLE: Savannah likes soccer and tennis, but she loves pro-wr- esting more.Subjects can pronouns.A verb: Manny hought: Kyle terrorizing the hought: Kyle terrorizing the hought: Sav throught: Save annah loved pro-wrestling, she went to gets good grades. hought is a collection of words that is fully understan- udable.Two disagreeing sentences: conversely, despite, ironically, however, she id not get called back.Watch out for propositional phrases!A complete thought is a collection of words that is fully understan- dable.	SENTENCES			SENTENCES (co	nt)		
Compound and provided section is a serifacted and provided section is completed back. <ul> <li>COMPOUND SENTENCE</li> <li>COMMAHFANBOYS: for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so</li> <li>EXAMPLE: A subject: The provide and provided section is provided and provided section is completed and provided section is completed.</li> <li>Complete is completed and provided section is provided section.</li> <li>EXAMPLE: A complete is a section is provided section is completed and provided section.</li> <li>Complete is a section is completed and provided section is completed and provided section.</li> <li>Complete is a secould beack.</li> <li>Completed back.</li></ul>	VERB		TRANSITION WORDS	butterfly with	also just be one subject	**in closing,	
their verbs in number (singular or plural).three requir- ements.Two complete sentences joined together to create one sentence.EXAMPLE: CAMPLE:A subject: The dog sought are robbingTwo agreeing sentences: consequently, thus, therefore, because of, furthermore, in fact, indeed, moreoverTwo agreeing sentences: consequently, thus, therefore, because of, furthermore, in fact, indeed, moreoverSEMICOLON: No comma or FANBOYS neededSubjects can be nouns or pronouns.A verb: Manny be nouns or proluly carried pronouns.EXAMPLE: He studies; thus, he gets good grades.COMPLEX SENTENCEEXAMPLE: hey are throught.Two disagreeing sentences: conversely, despite, ironically, however, still, though, yet, nonetheless, in spile of, nevert- helessTwo disagreeing sentences: conversely, despite, ironically, however, still, though, yet, nonetheless, in spile of, nevert- helessEXAMPLE: Bar interviewed for the job; however, he did not get called back.FARALLEL STRUCTURE IF YOU START ONE WAY, YOU KEEP IT THAT WAYWatch out for prepositionalA complete thought is a fully understan-EXAMPLE: Sam interviewed for the job; however, he did not get called back.Farallel stilling, and smilling.Punctuation: He smilled – roguishly, strangely – at the woman in the coffee shop.Punctuation: He smilled – roguishly, strangely – at the woman in the coffee shop.Watch out for words that is fully understan-A complete for the job; however, he did not get called back.Punctuation: He smilled – roguishly, strangely – at the woman in the coffee shop.Watch out for words that is fully un	Subjects	A complete	Read the previous sentence.	is beautiful.	makes sense.	while, until, before	
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MODIFIERS			APOS
MODIFIERS ARE ADJECTIVES/ADVE- RBS/DESCRIPTIVE PHRASES	SUPERLATIVE	SUPERLATIVES	
EXAMPLE: Elegantly dressed, the queen floated into the room.	·	Superlatives are just modifiers that distinguish differences between things or ideas.	
A MODIFYING CLAUSE GOES NEXT TO WHAT IT MODIFIES		ng two things, use <b>-er/-</b> <b>ss</b> .	WEIRI
EXAMPLE: Driving home late after work, he proceeded cautiously.		When comparing three or more things, use <b>-est/iest, most, least.</b>	
BAD EXAMPLE: Racing through the red light, the police officer pulled Liam over.	<b>more</b> than vani chocolate ice c	EXAMPLE: I like chocolate ice cream more than vanilla, but peanut butter chocolate ice cream is my most favorite.	
COMMAS		_	Often, to con tions a
SEPARATE ITEMS IN A LIST	INTROD- UCTORY PHRASES	NON-ESSENTIAL PHRASES	
Millie remembered to bring her toothbrush, face wash, and sword.	Over the weekend, Millie slayed many a demon.	Millie, smart and brave, was soon praised by all in the town.	EXAM was ve about he cou

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## POSTROPHES

CONTRACTIONS	POSSESSION
When checking whether a word is a contraction or not, try pulling it apart into two words.	If one owner: 's
EXAMPLES: it's (it is), you've (you have), you're (you are), they've (they have), we've (we have), he's (he is), it's (it is), who's (who is)	If more than one owner: <b>s'</b>
WEIRD POSSESSIONS:	

its, whose, your, their, ours

SEMICOLONS, COLONS, AND LONG DASHES					
SEMICOLONS	COLONS	LONG DASHES			
Semicolon = ;	Colon = :	Long Dash =			
They can only be used to CONNECT TWO COMPLETE SENTENCES.	A COMPLETE SENTENCE must come BEFORE the colon.	If using a single long dash, a COMPLETE SENTENCE must go BEFORE it.			
Often, they are used to connect transi- tions as well.	Colons are used to set off: lists, explan- ations, definitions, quotes, etc.	If you want to add some drama, you can replace two commas with two long dashes for effect.			
EXAMPLE: Mike was very worried about Will; in fact, he couldn't even sleep because of it.	EXAMPLE: Papa could often be heard singing his favorite song: "You are My Sunshine."	EXAMPLE: The Rainbow Room deadly quiet, hauntingly still was not as empty as it seemed.			

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COMMONLY CONFUSED WORDS					
Then/Than	lts/lt's	Two/To/To	00	There/Their/- They're	
Then refers to time.	<b>Its</b> is possessive pronoun.	<b>Two</b> is a n 2.	umber, as in	There usually refers to a place, like <i>here and</i> <i>there</i> .	
EXAMPLE: He went to the store; then he went home.	EXAMPLE: I love <b>its</b> color!	To is a pre the beginn infinitive.	eposition or ing of an	Their is a possessive pronoun.	
Than is a compar- ison.	It's is a contraction that means <i>it is</i>	<b>Too</b> mean indicate a amount.	s also or to large	They're is a contraction of <i>they are</i>	
EXAMPLE: She like big dogs more <b>than</b> little ones.	EXAMPLE: It's (It is) so good to see youi!	EXAMPLE monsters Tokyo to d Tokyo was away, and bellyaches	went <b>to</b> lestroy it, but s too far they had	EXAMPLE: They're (They are) going over there to get their money back.	
PRONOUNS					
PRONOUNS MUST BE CLEAR WHO VERSUS WHOM					
It needs to be obvious what the Who is a subject. Subjects					
pronoun is re	eferring to.		get to do thing	gs.	

## PRONOUNS (cont)

EXAMPLE: Bob and they bough	EXAMPLE: Who will be singing for us tonight?					
PRONOUNS M NUMBER/GEN ANTECEDENT BEFORE IT)	EXAMPLE: I know this guy <b>who</b> will eat anything for a dollar.					
EXAMPLE: The buildings more	Whom is an object. Objects get stuff done to them.					
EXAMPLE: The Pea Ridge was contest score.	EXAMPLE: To whom are you speaking?					
IRREGULAR V	ERBS					
Today, I	Yesterday, I	For years, I				
begin	began	have begun				
break	broke	have broken				
bring	brought	have brought				
build	built	have built				
choose	chose	have chosen				
go	went	have gone				
lead	led	have led				
ring	rang	have rung				
rise	rose	have risen				
run	ran	have run				
see	saw	have seen				
seek	sought	have sought				

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IRREGULAR VERBS (cont)				
shrink	shrank	have shrunk		
sing	sang	have sung		
sink	sank	have sunk		
speak	spoke	have spoken		
swim	swam	have swum		

#### THESE ARE NOT WORDS -- SO, STOP USING THEM

irregardless, funner, where at, its', could of, kinda, boughten

#### PREPOSITIONS



### CAN A SQUIRREL DO THIS WITH A TREE?

PREPOSITIONS						
about	above	across	after	against	around	
along	among	at	behind	before	beneath	
beside	between	beyond	by	down	during	
except	for	from	in	near	of	
off	on	opposite	out	outside	over	
past	regarding	round	since	to	through	
under	until	up	with	within		
The squirrel and tree metaphor doesn't always work, but it's still						
helpful.						

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