



KNOWLEDGE TO COLLEGE FROM A-Z

LECTURE NOTES Jean Burk

Thank you so much for coming to the 2015 Optimist Club Banquet.

Here is the handout from my speech, complete with notes. For more information about getting free college and raising test scores, go to www.collegeprepgenius.com Receive \$30 off the Comprehensive Digital Program (reg. \$129.95) with code: **OPTIMIST**

If you are interested in hosting one of my “Master the SAT Classes” at your school or in your city, you may contact us at 81-SAT-2-PREP (817-282-7737) or info@collegeprepgenius.com.

Thanks again,

Jean Burk
CEO

COLLEGE PREP GENIUS has been featured on FOX, NBC, CBS, ABC, WE, Forbes Living, UShopTV, ION and The Homeschool Channel.



COLLEGEPREPGENIUS

www.CollegePrepGenius.com

KNOWLEDGE TO COLLEGE FROM A-Z

4 P's for Path to College Success

Pre-College

Picking a College

Procedure to College

Paying for College

Preparing for College Tests

I. PRE-COLLEGE

A. High School Requirements

1. 3 Tier Degree Plan www.collegeprepregenius.com/roadmap
2. Create a College/Career Notebook
3. Gain some college credit

B. Be Well-Rounded

1. Academics
2. Volunteer Work
3. Leadership Skills
4. Test Scores

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C. Consider Average Starting Salary

1. College
 - a. Bachelor's Degree-48K
 - b. Associate's Degree-35K
 - c. Vocational-30K
2. Workforce-\$25K
3. Military-pay scale varies

D. Know College/School Choices

1. Community College
2. Four Year University
3. Trade School

Reasons To Go To College:

- ▶ Continue education/career skills
- ▶ Open doors to Study-Abroad
- ▶ Explore interests
- ▶ Freedom and responsibility
- ▶ Meet people

Lame Reasons Not To Go To College:

- ▶ Too expensive
- ▶ Too hard
- ▶ Grades not good enough
- ▶ Don't know what to study
- ▶ Something better to do
- ▶ None of my family went to college
- ▶ None of my friends are going

Which is the Right College:

The right college is the one that is the **BEST FIT** for each student!

<http://www.nacacnet.org/studentinfo/articles/Pages/Determining-the-Right-College-Fit.aspx>

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What to Study:

www.testingroom.com
www.careerfitter.com
www.yourfreecareertest.com
www.assessment.com

II. PICKING A COLLEGE

A. Set up a separate email

1. For college information
2. For scholarship searches

B. Search sites

1. US Dept. of Education www.nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator
2. Set up profile: creates graph with rank, GPA, SAT scores, (accepted/denied) www.cappex.com
3. Check out Tuition Tracker (you may be surprised, especially on private schools) www.tuitiontracker.org

C. Programs Listed by majors-alphabetically or geographically

1. <http://www.utexas.edu/world/univ>
2. <http://www.clas.ufl.edu/CLAS/american-universities.html>

D. 50 Criteria to Consider

- ▶ Location
- ▶ Cost
- ▶ Size of School
- ▶ Admissions Requirements
- ▶ Housing

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- ▶ Facilities
- ▶ Greek Life
- ▶ Affiliation
- ▶ More...A complete list can be found in *High School Prep Genius*

E. Three Types of colleges

1. Safe
2. Reach
2. Dream

F. Identify 10 Possible Choices

- ▶ Peruse Their Sites
- ▶ Request More Information
- ▶ Contact Admissions Counselor
- ▶ Fill out comparison worksheet
- ▶ Rank in order favorite to least

Large School

- ▶ More areas of specialized study
- ▶ More courses in each area
- ▶ More anonymity
- ▶ Greater range of extracurricular activities/organizations
- ▶ Larger libraries
- ▶ Graduate departments

Small School

- ▶ More personal atmosphere
- ▶ Small classes
- ▶ Persona discussions and interactions
- ▶ Greater chance for individual participation
- ▶ Easier access to faculty
- ▶ More flexible programs

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The College Visit

- ▶ Check site for specific visit dates
- ▶ Schedule with admissions counselor
- ▶ Sit in on a class
- ▶ Tour the campus' student center, library and bookstore
- ▶ Spend the night in a dorm
- ▶ Eat in the cafeteria
- ▶ Talk to students

III. PROCEDURE TO COLLEGE**A. Know the Terminology**

Early Action

- ▶ Early Action-Single Option
- ▶ Early Admission
- ▶ Early Decision
- ▶ Rolling Admissions
- ▶ Wait List

B. What is Needed

- ▶ Transcript
- ▶ Test Scores
- ▶ Letters of Recommendation
- ▶ Resume
- ▶ Application

C. The Application

- ▶ Double-check for errors
- ▶ Black Ink for paper ones
- ▶ Leave no blanks-Use n/a
- ▶ Sealed envelope
- ▶ Registered Mail
- ▶ Stand Out College Essay
- ▶ Meet the Deadline

D. Stand out Essay

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Sell Yourself

- ▶ Create Personal Statement
- ▶ Answer the Question
- ▶ Be Positive

E. Test Scores

1. Take the SAT and/or the ACT early
2. Keep taking until desired score
3. Send in best scores to schools
 - a. Super Score
 - b. Score Choice

IV. PAYING FOR COLLEGE

A. Average Sticker Price

1. Community College- 10K
2. Public-16K
3. Private-26K
4. Christian-31K
5. Ivy-League-55K

B. College Money

1. 50% loans
2. 40% Grants
3. 10% Scholarships

It takes the average student twenty years to pay off college loans.

C. College Expenses

1. Tuition
2. Books/supplies
3. Room/board
4. Fees
5. Misc. Personal
6. Transportation

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D. Acronyms to Know

1. EFC
2. FAFSA
3. FAFSA 4 Caster

Best way to pay for college is Scholarships!

Standardized Test Scores = The Best Scholarship Money!

SAT

PSAT

ACT

100% of all colleges will take either the SAT or ACT and they will convert the score if they prefer one over the other. E.g. SAT/1300 = ACT/29

SAT

- ▶ Used for college entrance
- ▶ Eligibility for scholarships
- ▶ Logic test-not about IQ
- ▶ Learnable test
- ▶ Offered 7 times a year
- ▶ No age limit (Start in 7th grade-no later than 9th grade if possible)
- ▶ No penalties for taking many times

PSAT

- ▶ Used for National Merit Competition
- ▶ Unbelievable scholarships available
- ▶ Offered once a year in October
- ▶ Use homeschool code to get booklet back in November
- ▶ Scores arrive in December
- ▶ Take in 9th and 10th grade for practice
- ▶ Only counts for scholarships in 11th grade

ACT

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- ▶ Used for college entrance
- ▶ Eligibility for scholarships
- ▶ Similar to SAT with content based on logic test
- ▶ SAT strategies work on ACT too-Learn Answer Choice Patterns
- ▶ Offered 6 times a year

Take both SAT and ACT- 99% the same test

Standardized tests put all students on an equal playing ground since a 4.0 at one school is not the same at another school. The SAT is the only numerical component that is common to all applicants. Schools go up on their rankings nationally based on their test scores, so the higher the score-the more money students get!

BOTTOM LINE: The SAT determines 1. Where a student gets to go to college?
2. Who's going to pay?

V. PREPARING FOR COLLEGE TESTS

A. Time Management Test

1. One minute per question
2. Questions can be answered in 30 seconds or less

B. Learnable Test

1. Only one right answer
2. Questions are purposely misleading
3. Wrong answers appear desirable
4. Tests same concepts every time
5. Learn hidden, recurring patterns

\$30 off (reg. \$129.95-Comprehensive Digital) Use code: OPTIMIST
<http://store.collegeprepgenius.com/shop/comprehensive-digital>

The Five P's of Success

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Proper
Preparation
Prevents
Poor
Performance

The information from the seminar and much more is found in *High School Prep Genius*.

TWO WAYS YOU CAN TO ACE THE SAT/PSAT TESTS:

- 1. Organize a class at your school/in your city!** Our certified teachers will teach a 2-day class (with minimum of students) that has helped thousands of students ace standardized tests, raise scores as much as 600 points and receive incredible scholarships-including free college! Contact Daniella at : 817.282.7737 or info@collegeprepgenius.com
- 2. Purchase our “Master the SAT Class” DVD Digital Program!** Start learning how to ace the SAT **now!** \$30 off (reg. \$129.95-Comprehensive Digital) Use code: OPTIMIST <http://store.collegeprepgenius.com/shop/comprehensive-digital>
You will also receive our award-winning “High School Prep Genius” and our complete Vocabcafé Book Series when you purchase the Comprehensive Digital Program.

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