# Understanding 2016-17 PSAT 8/9 Results A PARENT TUTORIAL 

## A Case Study: Ima B. Student's PSAT ${ }^{\text {TM }}$ 8/9 Score Report

Take a look at Ima B. Student's Sample Score Report below and on the next page. Use the corresponding information to help you interpret your student's PSAT 8/9 Score Report.


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## - What Are Ima's Scores?

Ima's Evidence-Based Reading and Writing score is 460 and Math is 440 . In Evidence-Based Reading and Writing, Ima's score exceeds the benchmark, and she is on track for college readiness. In Math Ima is close to meeting the benchmark. Test scores, cross-test scores, and subscores can give Ima a better understanding of areas to work on.

## What Are Her Score Percentiles?

Since Ima is in the ninth grade, the percentiles compare her scores with those of all ninth graders in the nation. Ima scored as well or better than 59\% of a nationally representative group of ninth-grade students in Evidence-Based Reading and Writing. In Math, she scored as well or better than $49 \%$ of a nationally representative group of freshmen.
Additional percentiles are available in Ima's online score report.

## How Will Ima Do on the SAT ${ }^{*}$ ?

The PSAT 8/9, PSAT/NMSQT ${ }^{\circ}$, and SAT ${ }^{\circ}$ are scored on a common scale. Therefore, if Ima had taken the SAT instead of the PSAT 8/9 on the same test date, she would have received the same score. By the time Ima takes the SAT, she will likely have had additional learning from school and practice. Her PSAT 8/9 results can help Ima focus her efforts in high school to be better prepared for the SAT.

## What Are Her Score Ranges?

No test measures precisely what someone knows, and many factors can affect results. That is why test makers think of each score as a range that extends from a few points below to a few points above the score earned.


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## How Can Ima Measure Her Progress?

When she becomes a sophomore, Ima can take the PSAT/NMSQT or the PSAT ${ }^{\text {w }} 10$ to measure the progress she's made since she took the PSAT 8/9. She can take advantage of practice resources by visiting satpractice.org.

## What Can We Learn from Ima's Answers?

The score report is designed to help students see how they performed by showing the skill areas covered (subscore and cross-test score), and whether the answer was correct, incorrect, or omitted. Students who test in the fall window will see answer-level details on their score reports. A full answer key will be available at psat.org/89-resources after the fall window ends.

## How Can Ima Improve Her Academic Skills?

Your Scores: Next Steps are based on her test scores, and the general skills that similarly performing students understand. Ima can see which skills she performed well on and which she needs to improve. Ima can log in to the full report online to see additional skills and improvement steps. (Note that she must be at least 13 years old to do so.) Ima can also link her account to Khan Academy ${ }^{\circ}$ for personalized practice recommendations.

## What Are Ima's Next Steps?

Under Get more next steps online, Ima is directed to studentscores.collegeboard.org to learn how to prepare for the SAT with Khan Academy and use her results to create a challenging coursework plan in high school.

