

# Preview the 2021 Digital AP Exams



 CollegeBoard

**AP**<sup>®</sup>

# Before Exam Day: Download the App

In early April, AP students will be able to download our new digital testing app to their desktop or laptop computers (PC or Mac).

If you're on a school-managed Chromebook, someone from your school will install the app for you.

2021  
AP  
Exams

## Download the Digital Testing App

Download requires Windows 8 or later and 200 MB of available space. Once you've installed the app, login with your username and password.

 [Download for Windows](#)

Already installed? [Open the app](#)

### Installation Instructions

Click the download button above, then follow these instructions to install the app on your device.

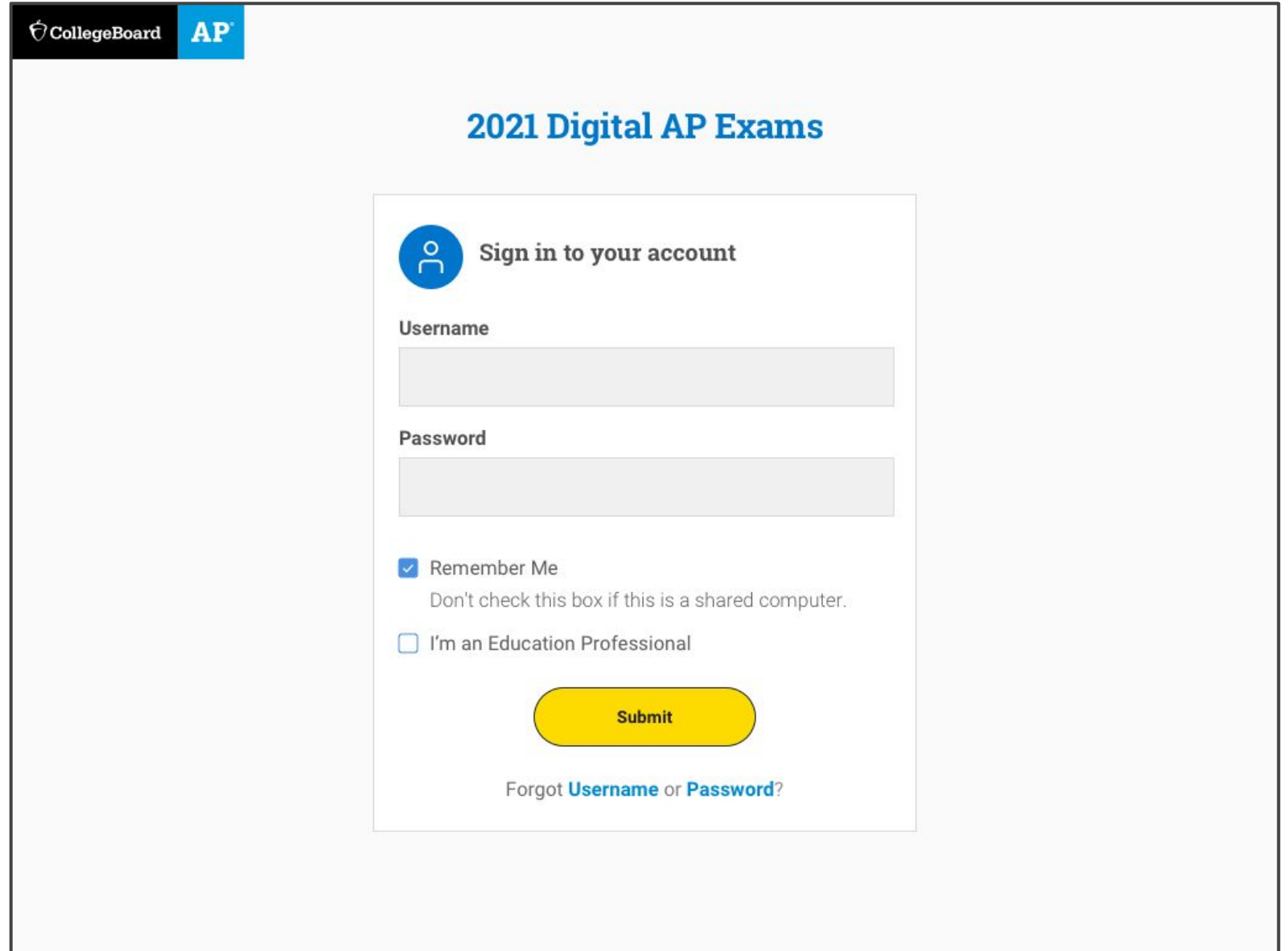
- 1 Find Your Download**  
In your Downloads folder, double-click on "cb-digital testing.exe."
- 2 Open the App**  
Double-click the Acorn icon to open the app.
- 3 Confirm**  
If you see a message asking if you're sure you want to open the app, click "Open."
- 4 Log In**

# Before Exam Day: Log In

You'll need your College Board username and password to use the app.

If you check **Remember Me**, you won't need to log in each time you return.


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The screenshot shows the login interface for the 2021 Digital AP Exams. At the top left, there is a 'CollegeBoard' logo and an 'AP' badge. The main heading is '2021 Digital AP Exams'. Below this is a 'Sign in to your account' section with a user icon. It contains two input fields for 'Username' and 'Password'. There are two checkboxes: 'Remember Me' (checked) and 'I'm an Education Professional' (unchecked). A yellow 'Submit' button is located below the checkboxes. At the bottom, there is a link for 'Forgot Username or Password?'.

CollegeBoard AP

## 2021 Digital AP Exams

 Sign in to your account

Username

Password

Remember Me  
Don't check this box if this is a shared computer.

I'm an Education Professional

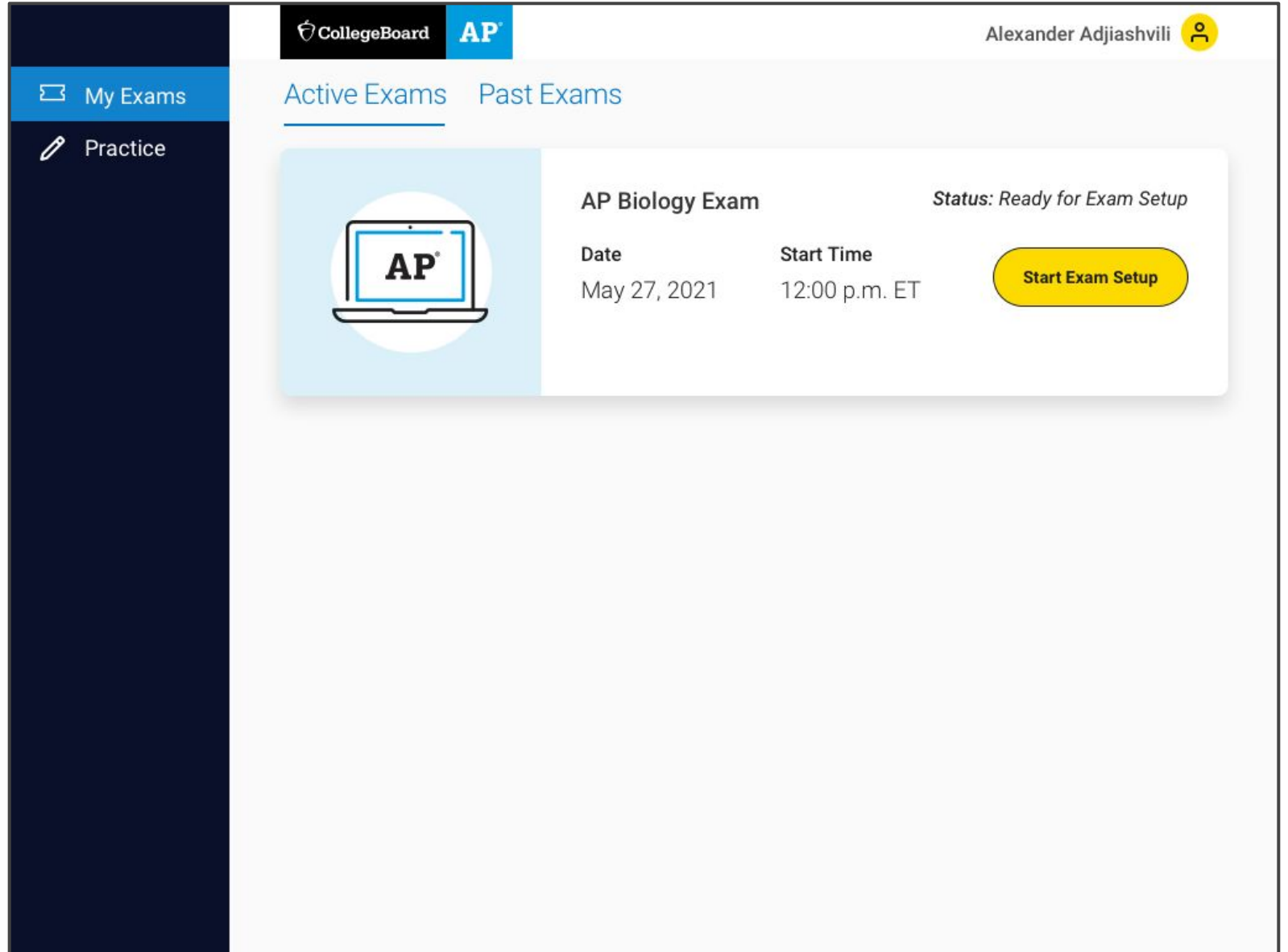
**Submit**

Forgot [Username](#) or [Password](#)?

# 3 Days Before Test Day: Complete Exam Setup

3 days before your test, you'll run through exam setup in the app where you'll confirm some information about yourself and your device.

You must **complete exam setup for every digital AP Exam you take**, and it's critical that you complete this step before test day.



The screenshot displays the CollegeBoard AP app interface. At the top, the CollegeBoard logo and 'AP' are visible on the left, and the user's name 'Alexander Adjashvili' with a profile icon is on the right. Below the header, there are two tabs: 'My Exams' (selected) and 'Practice'. The main content area shows 'Active Exams' and 'Past Exams' sections. Under 'Active Exams', there is a card for the 'AP Biology Exam'. The card includes a laptop icon with 'AP' on the screen, the exam title, and the status 'Ready for Exam Setup'. Below the title, the date is 'May 27, 2021' and the start time is '12:00 p.m. ET'. A yellow button labeled 'Start Exam Setup' is positioned to the right of the date and time.

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# 30 Minutes Before Your Exam: Check In

30 minutes before your exam's start time, you'll launch the app and check in for your exam.

You'll review some privacy policies, type a security statement, and get ready to test.

It's important that you check in on time. **You won't be able to check in once your exam starts.**

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The screenshot shows the 'Digital Test Security Statement' screen in the AP Exams app. At the top, there is a 'Help' icon, a timer indicating 'Testing Begins In: 03:02', and an 'Exit' button. The main heading is 'Digital Test Security Statement'. Below the heading, instructions state: 'Type the test security statement—exactly as it appears in the box on the left—into the box on the right.' There are two text boxes: the left one contains the security statement text, and the right one is empty for input. At the bottom, there are 'Back' and 'Next' buttons, and a progress indicator showing 'Step 2 of 4'.

Help Testing Begins In: 03:02 Exit

## Digital Test Security Statement

Type the test security statement—exactly as it appears in the box on the left—into the box on the right.

**Test security statement**

I will not give or receive help during this exam. I will not share or post references to this exam during the testing window. If anyone helps me or if I help them, we will both be investigated.

My answers will be entirely my own. Plagiarism software and analyses will be used to review my responses.

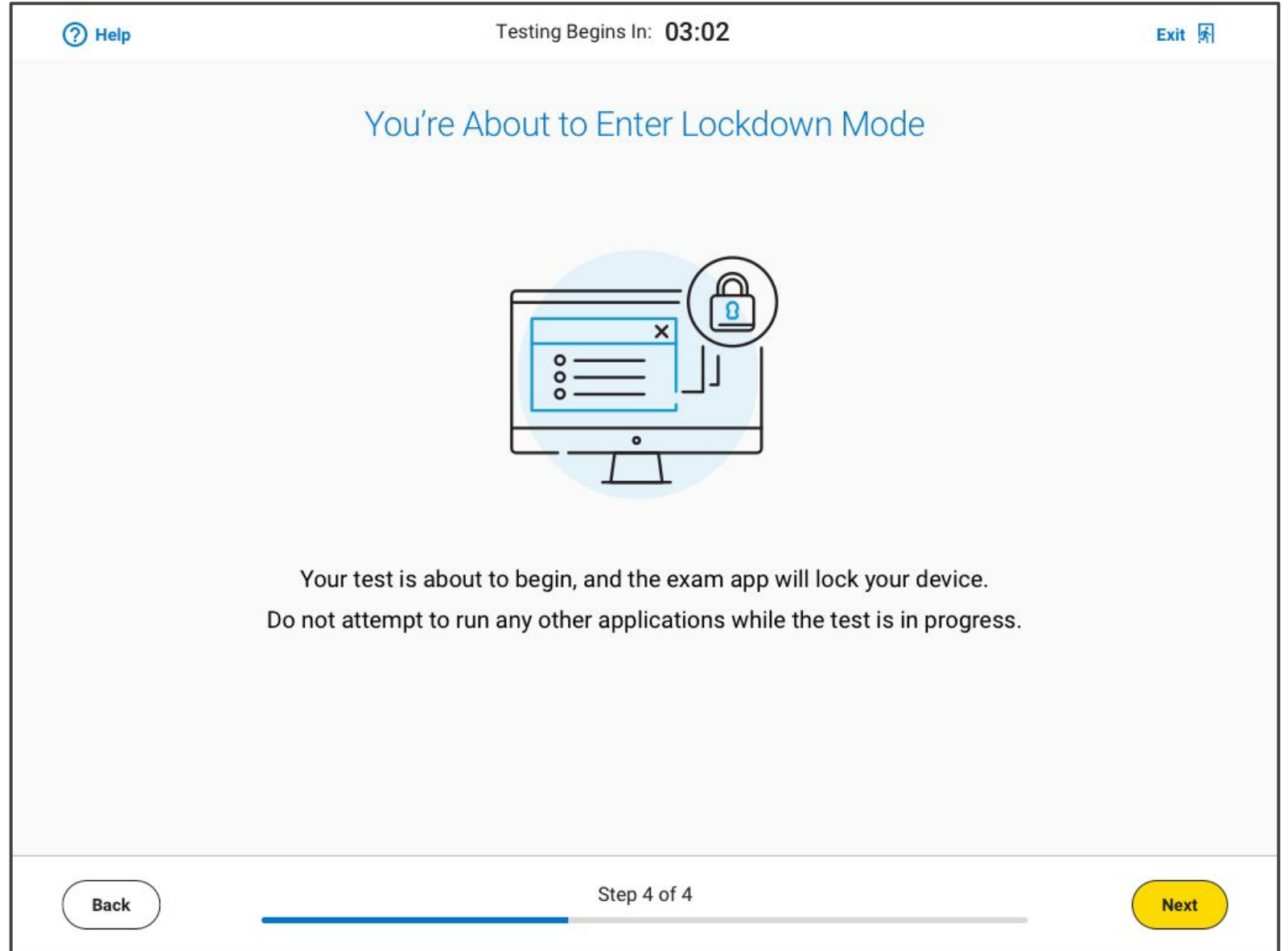
If I attempt to cheat, my score will be canceled, and college admissions offices can be notified. I will also be disqualified from taking future AP or SAT exams in high school and CLEP exams in college.

**Type the test security statement here.**

Back Step 2 of 4 Next

# Lockdown Mode

Right before the exam begins, the app will lock your device. You'll need to close all other applications before testing begins.

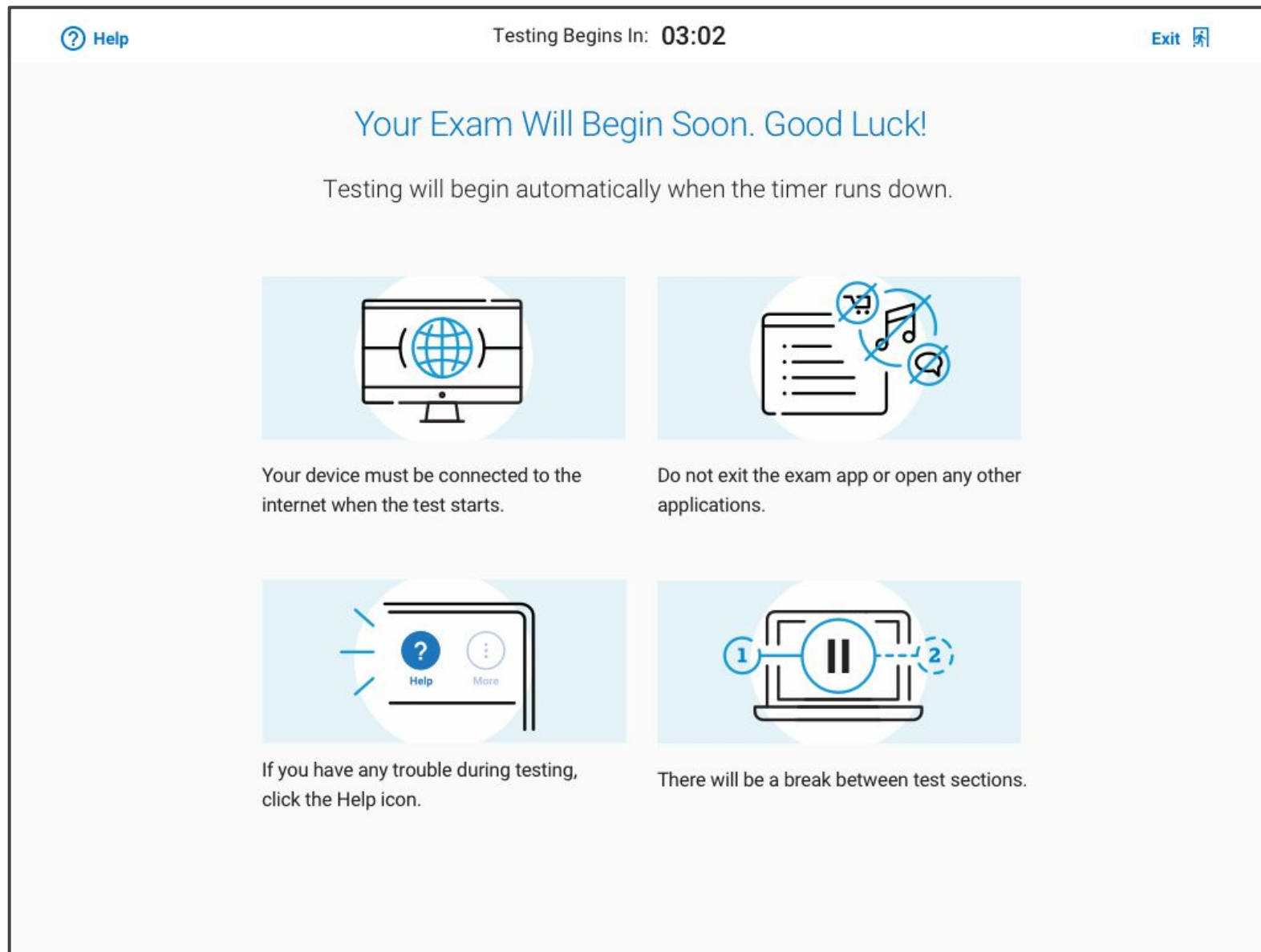


The screenshot shows the exam app interface during a lockdown mode warning. At the top left, there is a "Help" icon with a question mark. At the top center, it says "Testing Begins In: 03:02". At the top right, there is an "Exit" button with a square icon. The main heading in the center is "You're About to Enter Lockdown Mode" in blue text. Below this is an illustration of a computer monitor with a lock icon on the screen and a padlock icon to its right. The text below the illustration reads: "Your test is about to begin, and the exam app will lock your device. Do not attempt to run any other applications while the test is in progress." At the bottom left is a "Back" button, at the bottom center is a progress bar labeled "Step 4 of 4", and at the bottom right is a "Next" button.



# Digital Exams Start Automatically

If you finish check-in before your exam's start time, you'll see a timer counting down. When time expires, the exam will start automatically.



The screenshot shows the digital exam interface. At the top left is a "Help" icon with a question mark. At the top center, it says "Testing Begins In: 03:02". At the top right is an "Exit" icon with a door symbol. The main heading is "Your Exam Will Begin Soon. Good Luck!". Below this, it says "Testing will begin automatically when the timer runs down." There are four instructional cards arranged in a 2x2 grid:

- Top Left:** An icon of a computer monitor with a globe on the screen. Text below: "Your device must be connected to the internet when the test starts."
- Top Right:** An icon of a document with a musical note and a crossed-out exit icon. Text below: "Do not exit the exam app or open any other applications."
- Bottom Left:** An icon of a mobile device screen showing a "Help" button with a question mark and a "More" button with three dots. Text below: "If you have any trouble during testing, click the Help icon."
- Bottom Right:** An icon of a laptop with a large "II" (pause) symbol in the center, flanked by two numbered circles (1 and 2) connected by a dashed line. Text below: "There will be a break between test sections."

# Testing Toolbar: Directions

At the top left of every testing screen, you can access general exam directions as well as section-specific directions.

The screenshot displays the AP U.S. History testing interface. At the top, the subject 'AP U.S. History' and the current time '1:40:00' are shown. A 'Directions' button is visible in the top left, and 'Annotate', 'Help', and 'More' icons are in the top right. The main content area is divided into two columns: 'Exam Directions' and 'Section Directions'. The 'Exam Directions' column contains text about the exam's duration and structure, a note about source materials, and a warning to pace oneself. The 'Section Directions' column specifies the time for Section 2 (1 hour, 40 minutes) and lists the types of questions (1 DBQ and 2 SAQs), along with a note that all questions are required and a list of suggested time allocations for each question type. A 'Continue' button is located at the bottom right of the content area.

AP U.S. History 1:40:00

Directions ^ Hide Annotate Help More

## Exam Directions

The AP United States History exam is 3 hours and 15 minutes long. Section 1A lasts 55 minutes and has 55 multiple-choice questions. Section 1B lasts 40 minutes and has 3 short answer questions. Section 2 lasts 1 hour and 40 minutes, and has 1 document-based question (DBQ) and 2 short answer questions.

Source materials may have been edited for the purpose of this exam.

**Please note that you are responsible for pacing yourself. The clock will turn red when 5 minutes remain, but the proctor or app will not give you any other time updates.**

**Do not spend too much time on any one question, but remember that you cannot go back to a question once you've submitted it.**

## Section Directions

### Section 2: 1 Hour, 40 Minutes

1 Document-Based Question (DBQ) and 2 Short-Answer Questions (SAQ)

**Please note: All questions in this section are required.**

You are advised to spend:

- approximately 15 minutes reading the question and planning your answer to Question 1, the document-based question (DBQ),
- approximately 45 minutes writing your answer to the DBQ.
- approximately 40 minutes answering the two short-answer questions.

The DBQ requires your response in essay form. You may use scratch paper to organize your answers and for prep work, but no credit will be given for work on scratch paper, you must enter your answers in this app.

Continue

Back Next



# Testing Toolbar: Timer

During the exam, a timer will count down the time remaining for each section.

You can hide the timer, except during the last 5 minutes of a section.

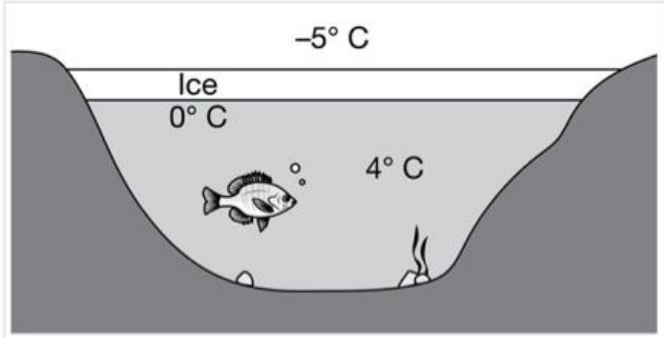
Once time expires on the last section of the exam, your answers will be submitted automatically.

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AP Biology 4:59

Directions ▾ Annotate Reference Help More

Questions 47 - 50 refer to the following diagram.



As shown in the diagram, when environmental temperatures drop below freezing, a layer of ice typically forms on the surface of bodies of freshwater such as lakes and rivers.

47

Which of the following best describes how the structure of ice benefits the organisms that live in the water below?

- (A) The water molecules in ice are closer together than those in liquid water, so the ice prevents the passage of air to the water, maintaining a constant gas mixture in the water
- (B) The water molecules in ice are closer together than those in liquid water, so the ice forms a barrier that protects the organisms in the water from the freezing air temperatures
- (C) The water molecules in ice are farther apart than those in liquid water, so the ice floats.
- (D) The water molecules in ice are farther apart than those in liquid water, so the ice floats, preventing

5 Minutes Remaining

If you're not done when time expires, the work you've completed will be submitted automatically. ✕

Alexander Adjashvili Question 47 of 60

Next

# Testing Toolbar: Annotate

You can highlight any part of a passage or question that you might want to return to or leave yourself a note to organize your thoughts.

Section 2 1:58:00

[Directions](#) Annotate Help More

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The first Buy Nothing Day—a day on which people are urged to purchase no goods—was organized in Canada in 1992 as a way to increase awareness of excessive consumerism. A Buy Nothing Day has been held yearly since then in many nations. An online article, “Buy Nothing Day: 2006 Press Release,” urged worldwide acceptance of taking a “24-hour consumer detox as part of the 14th annual Buy Nothing Day” in order to “expose the environmental and ethical consequences of overconsumption” (“Buy Nothing Day,” courtesy *Adbusters*, [www.adbusters.org](http://www.adbusters.org)).

Write an essay that argues your position on the establishment of an annual Buy Nothing Day.

In your response you should do the following:

- Respond to the prompt with a thesis that presents a defensible position.
- Provide evidence to support your line of reasoning.
- Explain how the evidence supports your line of reasoning.
- Use appropriate grammar and punctuation in communicating your argument.

1

Write an essay that argues your position on the establishment of an annual Buy Nothing Day.

Your response will be saved automatically.

**B** *I* U  $x^2$   $x_2$  ↶ ↷ Ω ✂ 📄 📋

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N/A1 | 2 | 3Next

# Testing Toolbar: Reference Sheet

In most STEM courses, you'll have access to a reference sheet with commonly used formulas.

If your AP Exam requires or allows calculators, you must bring your own.

AP Physics 2 1:20:00  
Directions ▾ Pause Hide Annotate Reference Help More

AP Physics 2 Reference CLOSE X

Constants and Conversion Factors

<b>Proton mass</b> $m_p = 1.67 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$	<b>Electron mass</b> $m_e = 9.11 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$	<b>Universal gas constant</b> $R = 8.31 \text{ J/(mol} \cdot \text{K)}$
<b>Neutron mass</b> $m_n = 1.67 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$	<b>Avogadro's number</b> $= 6.02 \times 10^{23} \text{ mol}^{-1}$	<b>Boltzmann's constant</b> $k_B = 1.38 \times 10^{-23} \text{ J/K}$
<b>Electron charge magnitude</b> $e = 1.60 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$	<b>Speed of light</b> $c = 3.00 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}$	<b>Acceleration due to gravity at Earth's surface</b> $g = 9.8 \text{ m/s}^2$
<b>1 electron volt</b> $1 \text{ eV} = 1.60 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}$	<b>Universal gravitational constant</b> $G = 6.67 \times 10^{-11} \text{ m}^3/\text{kg} \cdot \text{s}^2$	
<b>1 unified atomic mass unit</b> $1 \text{ u} = 1.66 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg} = 931 \text{ MeV}/c^2$	<b>Coulomb's law constant</b> $k = 1/4\pi\epsilon_0 = 9.0 \times 10^9 \text{ N} \cdot \text{m}^2/\text{C}^2$	<b>1 atmosphere pressure</b> $1 \text{ atm} = 1.0 \times 10^5 \text{ N/m}^2 = 1.0 \times 10^5 \text{ Pa}$
<b>Planck's constant</b> $h = 6.63 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J} \cdot \text{s} = 4.14 \times 10^{-15} \text{ eV} \cdot \text{s}$ $hc = 1.99 \times 10^{-25} \text{ J} \cdot \text{m} = 1.24 \times 10^3 \text{ eV} \cdot \text{nm}$	<b>Vacuum permeability</b> $\mu_0 = 4\pi \times 10^{-7} \text{ (T} \cdot \text{m)/A}$	

# Testing Toolbar: Zoom and Expand

You can **Zoom In** and **Zoom Out** to get a closer look at any part of a question. You can find the Zoom In/Out buttons under **More**.

You can also make one side of the screen bigger than the other with the **Expand Left** or **Expand Right** controls.

The screenshot displays the AP Biology testing interface. At the top, it shows 'AP Biology', 'Directions', a timer at '1:40:00', and icons for 'Annotate', 'Reference', 'Help', and 'More'. The 'More' menu is open, showing 'Zoom In' and 'Zoom Out' options. Below the toolbar, a diagram of a synapse is shown, labeled with 'Neurotransmitter', 'Presynaptic Neuron', 'Synapse', and 'Postsynaptic Neuron'. The diagram illustrates the process of neurotransmission. To the right of the diagram, question 1a is displayed, asking for predictions about the effectiveness of two models (A and B) for preventing the effect of a neurotoxin. The interface also includes a text input area with a rich text editor toolbar and a 'Next' button at the bottom right.

# Testing Toolbar: Help

On every screen, you have access to a **Help** page where you can view frequently asked questions.

The screenshot shows a 'Help' modal window with a close button (X) in the top right corner. Below the title, there are two buttons: 'Expand All' and 'Collapse All'. A list of seven topics is displayed, each with a plus sign (+) on the right side, indicating they are collapsed. The topics are: 'You Cannot Go Back During Testing', 'No Penalty for Guessing', 'Testing Timers', 'Calculator Policies', 'Restarting the Test', 'Exiting the Test Early', and 'Testing Disturbances'. At the bottom of the modal is a yellow button labeled 'Close Help'.

	Expand All	Collapse All
You Cannot Go Back During Testing		+
No Penalty for Guessing		+
Testing Timers		+
Calculator Policies		+
Restarting the Test		+
Exiting the Test Early		+
Testing Disturbances		+



# Multiple-Choice Questions

Most AP Exams are a combination of multiple-choice and free-response questions.

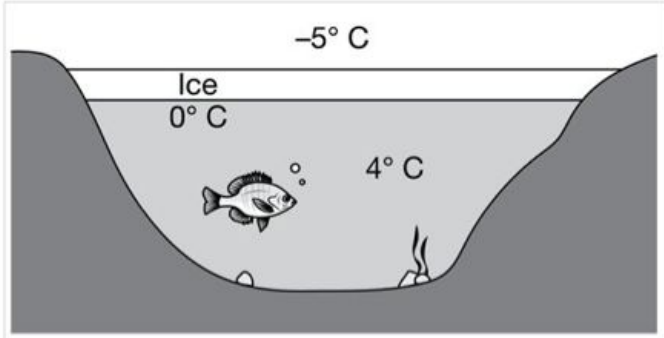
Some multiple-choice questions are centered on the screen while others have stimulus content on the left, and questions and answers on the right.

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AP Biology 1:20:00

[Directions](#) [Annotate](#) [Reference](#) [Help](#) [More](#)

Questions 47 - 50 refer to the following diagram.



The diagram shows a cross-section of a lake. At the top, the air temperature is  $-5^{\circ}\text{C}$ . A layer of ice is on the surface, labeled "Ice" and  $0^{\circ}\text{C}$ . Below the ice, the water temperature is  $4^{\circ}\text{C}$ . A fish is shown swimming in the  $4^{\circ}\text{C}$  water. The lake bottom is shown with some vegetation.

As shown in the diagram, when environmental temperatures drop below freezing, a layer of ice typically forms on the surface of bodies of freshwater such as lakes and rivers.

47

Which of the following best describes how the structure of ice benefits the organisms that live in the water below?

- (A) The water molecules in ice are closer together than those in liquid water, so the ice prevents the passage of air to the water, maintaining a constant gas mixture in the water
- (B) The water molecules in ice are closer together than those in liquid water, so the ice forms a barrier that protects the organisms in the water from the freezing air temperatures
- (C) The water molecules in ice are farther apart than those in liquid water, so the ice floats, maintaining the warmer, denser water at the lake bottom
- (D) The water molecules in ice are farther apart than those in liquid water, so the ice floats, preventing

Alexander Adjashvili Question 47 of 60

[Next](#)



# Multiple-Choice Questions: No Going Back

On multiple-choice questions, you won't be able to move back and forth between questions or return to questions you've already answered.

Remember: there's no penalty for guessing.

AP Biology 1:20:00

Directions ▾ Hide

Annotate Reference Help More

Questions 47 - 50 refer to the following diagram.

47

Which of the following best describes how the structure of ice benefits the organisms that live in the water below?

Ice  
0° C  
-5° C

As shown in the diagram, when temperatures drop below freezing, a layer of ice typically forms on the surface of bodies of freshwater such as lakes and rivers.

in ice are closer together water, so the ice prevents the water, maintaining a in the water

in ice are closer together water, so the ice forms a the organisms in the water

from the freezing air temperatures

C The water molecules in ice are farther apart than those in liquid water, so the ice floats, maintaining the warmer, denser water at the lake bottom

D The water molecules in ice are farther apart than those in liquid water, so the ice floats, maintaining

Next Question Stay on This Question

Alexander Adjashvili Question 47 of 60 Next

# Breaks Between Sections

Between sections, you'll have a break. A timer will let you know when the next section starts.

Just like at the beginning of the exam, when the time expires, the exam will resume automatically.

Testing Resumes In: 04:59



The Exam Will Continue Soon

When the timer above reaches zero, your exam will resume automatically.

# Free-Response Questions

On free-response questions, you'll type directly into the app, and all your work will be saved automatically. Any special characters you need are available in the text editor.

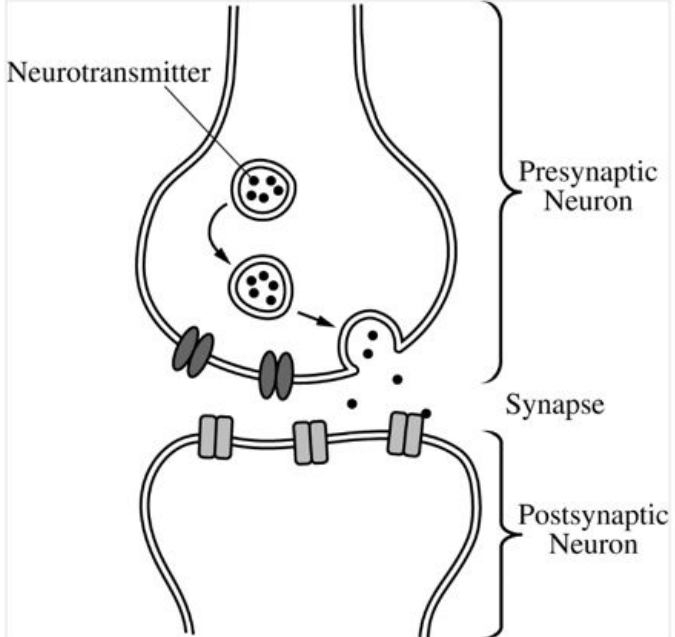
There are no files to upload, and you won't submit any handwritten work.

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AP Biology 1:40:00

[Directions](#) [Annotate](#) [Reference](#) [Help](#) [More](#)

Questions 1a - 1e refer to the following diagram.



Neurotransmitter

Presynaptic Neuron

Synapse

Postsynaptic Neuron

1a

The researcher proposes two models, A and B, for using acetylcholinesterase (AChE), an enzyme that degrades acetylcholine, to prevent the effect of the neurotoxin. In model A, AChE is added to the synapse. In model B, AChE is added to the cytoplasm of the postsynaptic cell. Predict the effectiveness of EACH proposed model. Provide reasoning to support your predictions.

Your response will be saved automatically.

**B** / U x<sup>2</sup> x<sub>2</sub> ↶ ↷ Ω ✂ 📄 📋

°	∞	≤	≥	≠
≈	π	Δ	Σ	X
α	β	ε	θ	κ
λ	μ	ν	ρ	σ
τ	ω	̄	̂	̂
→	↔			

As shown in the diagram, when environmental

Alexander Adjashvili 1a 1b 1c 1d 1e | 2a-2e | 3a-3g

Next

# Free-Response Questions: No Going Back

Once you move on from any free-response question, you cannot go back to it.

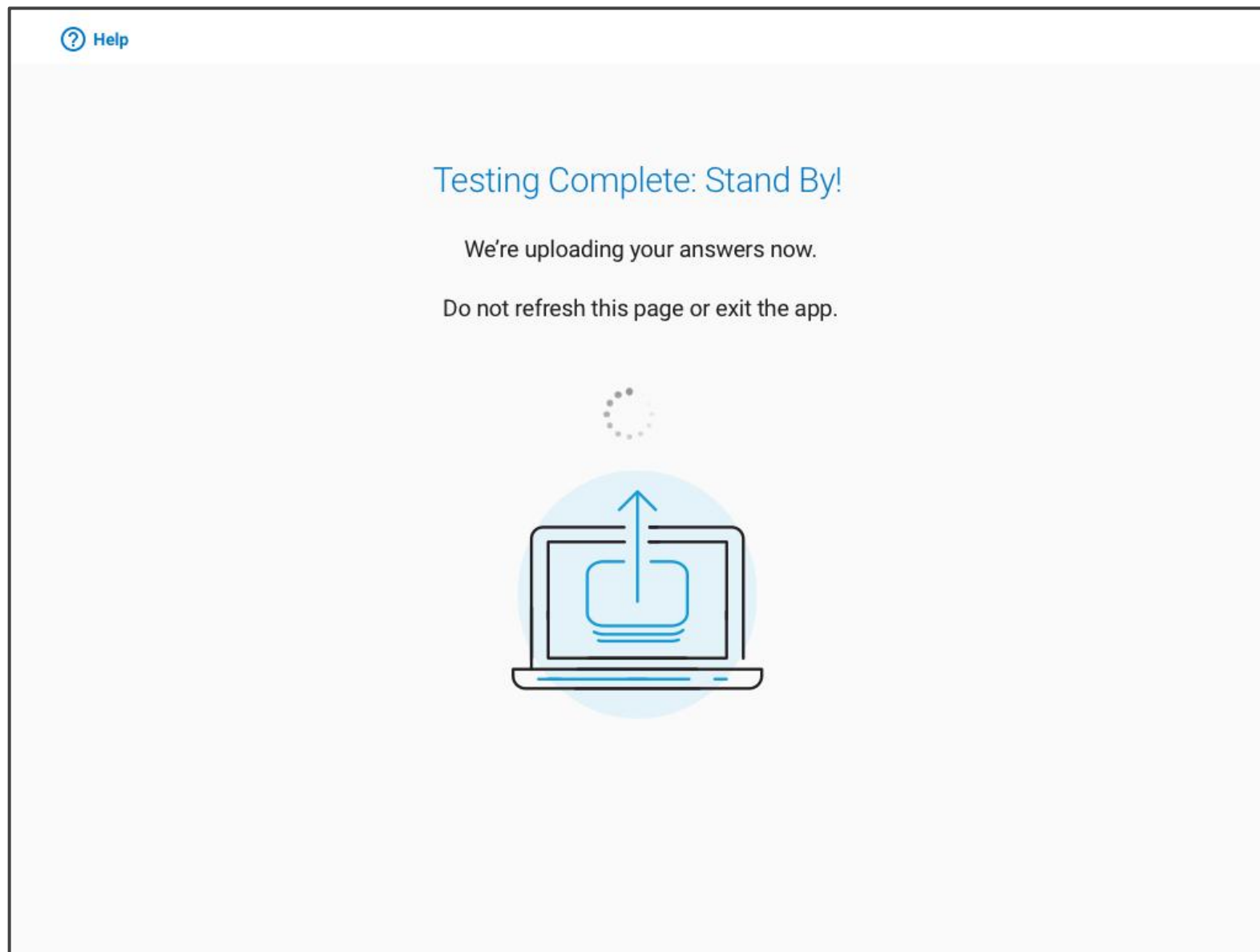
But on free-response questions that have more than 1 part, you can go back and forth between parts until you're done working on the entire question.

The screenshot shows the AP Biology exam interface. At the top, it says "AP Biology" and "Directions". A timer shows "1:40:00". There are icons for "Annotate", "Reference", "Help", and "More". The question text reads: "Questions 1a - 1e refer to the following diagram." Below this is a diagram of a synapse. The diagram shows a presynaptic neuron with vesicles containing neurotransmitters, a synapse, and a postsynaptic neuron. Labels include "Neurotransmitter", "Synapse", and "Postsynaptic Neuron". The question part "1a" asks: "The researcher proposes two models, A and B, for using acetylcholinesterase (AChE), an enzyme that degrades acetylcholine, to prevent the effect of the neurotoxin. In the synapse. In model B, AChE is located on the postsynaptic cell. Predict the effect of the neurotoxin on the postsynaptic cell. Provide reasoning to support your prediction. Your response will be saved automatically." A white pop-up box in the center says "Reminder: You Can't Go Back" and "Once you move on from any free-response question, you cannot return to it." It has two buttons: "Next question" and "Stay on this question". At the bottom, it shows the student's name "Alexander Adjashvili" and a progress indicator "1a 1b 1c 1d 1e | 2a-2e | 3a-3g".

# After Your Exam: Answer Submission

When testing time expires, the app will end the exam and your completed answers will be submitted automatically.

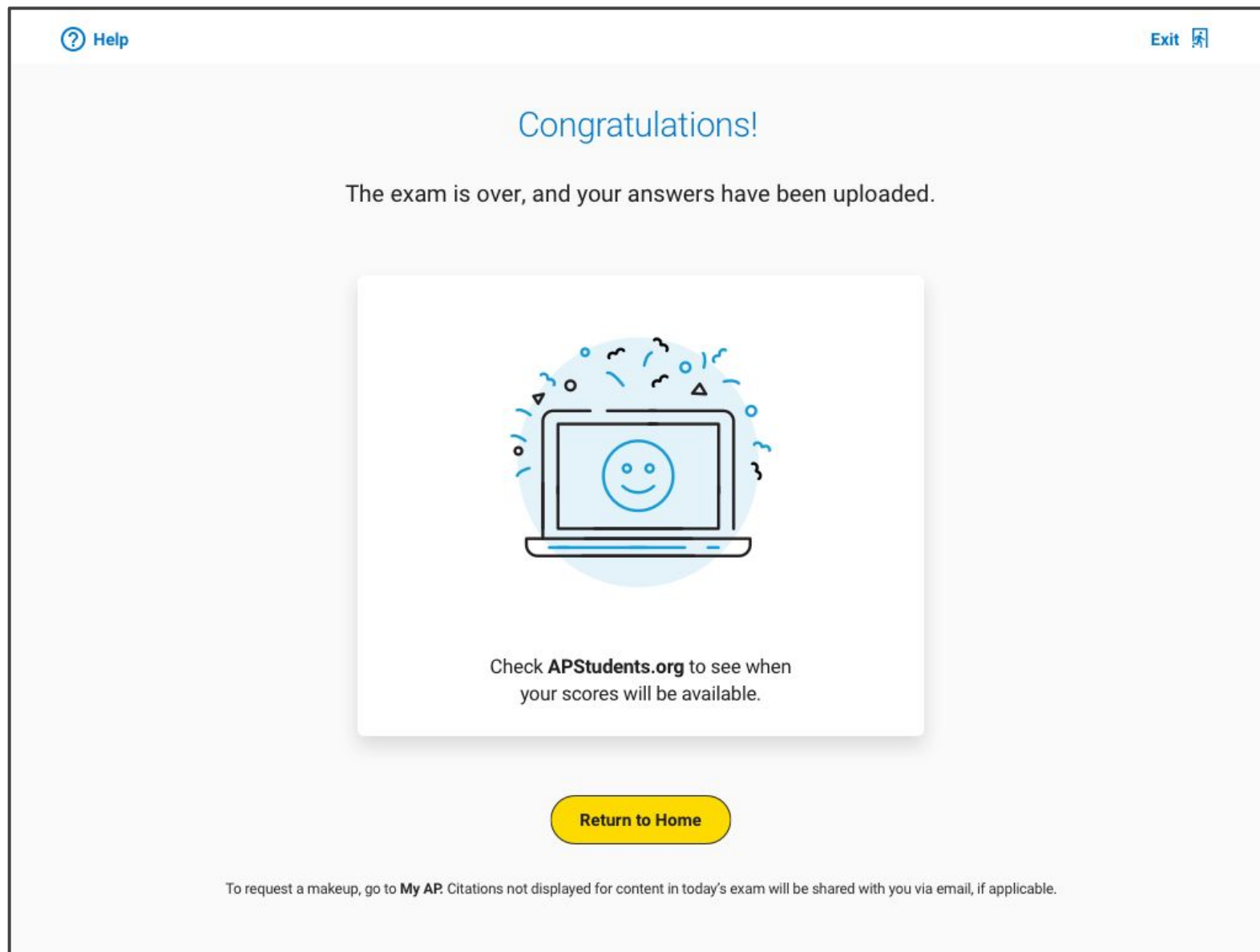
Do not exit the app until you see a “congratulations” message, confirming that we received your answers.



# After Your Exam: Answer Submission Complete

When you see this screen, you're all set!

Check [AP Students](#) to see when your results will be posted.



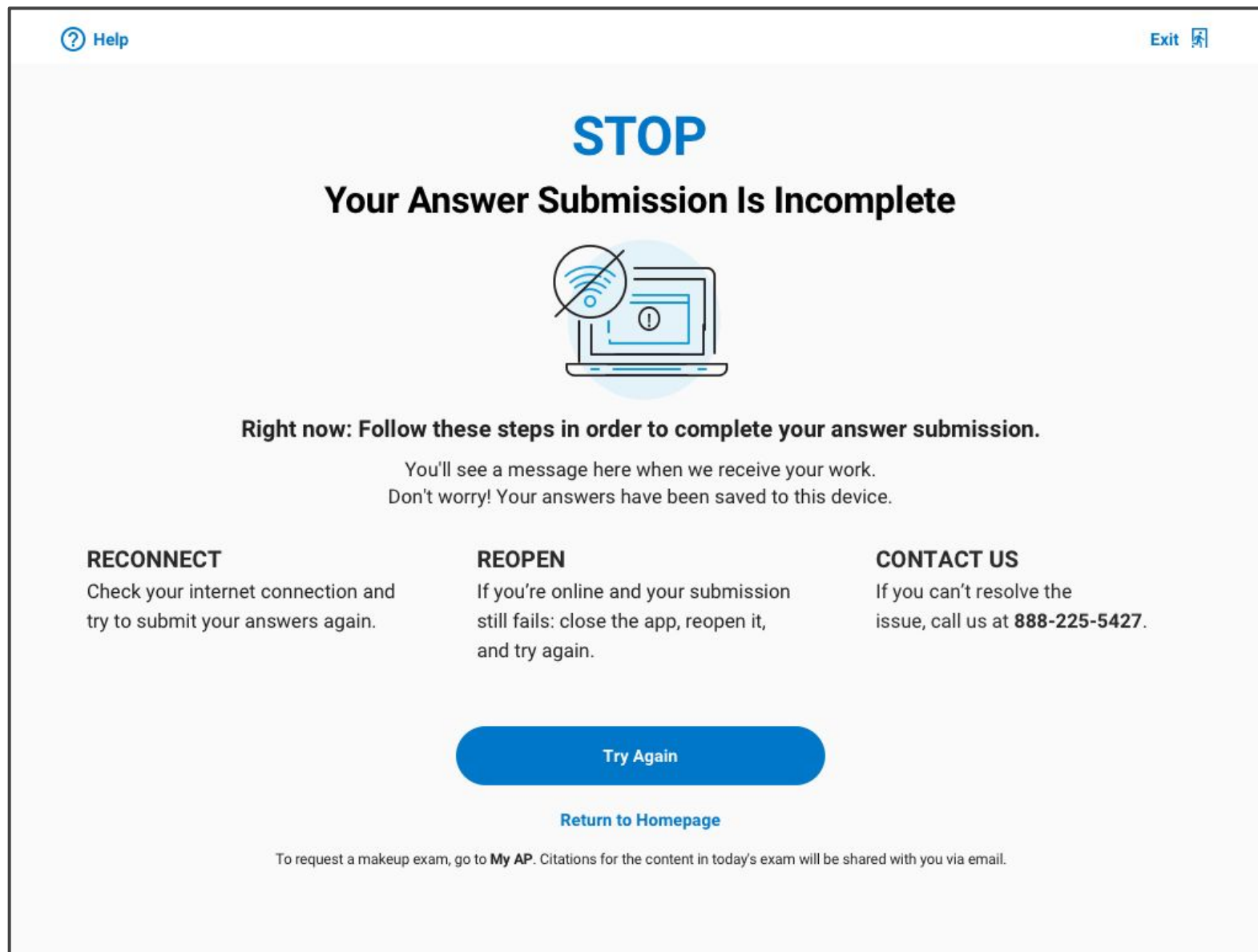
The screenshot shows a web interface with a light blue background. At the top left is a "Help" link with a question mark icon, and at the top right is an "Exit" link with a window icon. The main content area features the word "Congratulations!" in a large, blue, sans-serif font. Below this, a message states: "The exam is over, and your answers have been uploaded." In the center is a white square containing a blue illustration of a laptop with a smiling face on its screen, surrounded by celebratory confetti. Below the illustration, the text reads: "Check [APStudents.org](#) to see when your scores will be available." At the bottom center is a yellow button with the text "Return to Home". At the very bottom of the page, a small line of text says: "To request a makeup, go to [My AP](#). Citations not displayed for content in today's exam will be shared with you via email, if applicable."



# After Your Exam: Answer Submission Incomplete

If your internet connection drops at the end of the test, we'll show you some immediate steps that you'll take to complete your answer submission.

If you run into an issue you can't recover from, you can go to [My AP](#) to request a makeup.



The screenshot shows a mobile application interface with a white background. At the top left is a 'Help' icon and text, and at the top right is an 'Exit' icon. The main content is centered and features the word 'STOP' in large blue letters. Below it is the title 'Your Answer Submission Is Incomplete' in bold black text. A central icon depicts a laptop with a Wi-Fi signal icon crossed out and a red warning symbol on the screen. Below the icon, the text reads: 'Right now: Follow these steps in order to complete your answer submission. You'll see a message here when we receive your work. Don't worry! Your answers have been saved to this device.' Three columns of instructions are provided: 'RECONNECT' (Check your internet connection and try to submit your answers again.), 'REOPEN' (If you're online and your submission still fails: close the app, reopen it, and try again.), and 'CONTACT US' (If you can't resolve the issue, call us at 888-225-5427.). A large blue button labeled 'Try Again' is positioned below these instructions, followed by a blue link 'Return to Homepage'. At the bottom, a small line of text states: 'To request a makeup exam, go to My AP. Citations for the content in today's exam will be shared with you via email.'

# Next Steps

In early April, AP students will be able to download the app and start practicing.

You'll need your College Board username and password to use the exam app, so make sure you have that info handy.

Good luck on your 2021 digital AP Exam!

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The screenshot shows the CollegeBoard digital practice interface. At the top left is the CollegeBoard logo. At the top right is the user's name, Alexander Adjashvili, next to a profile icon. Below the logo are two navigation tabs: "My Exams" and "Practice", with "Practice" selected. The main content area has two tabs: "Active Practice" (selected) and "Past Practice". There are two cards displayed under "Active Practice". Each card features a laptop icon with "AP" on the screen. The first card is titled "AP Biology Exam App Demo DIGITAL PRACTICE" and has a status of "Ready for Exam Setup" with a yellow "Start Exam Setup" button. The second card is titled "AP Biology Digital Practice DIGITAL PRACTICE" and also has a status of "Ready for Exam Setup" with a yellow "Start Exam Setup" button.