SAT/PSAT
WORD GAMES
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SAT/PSAT WORD GAMES

Michele R. Wells
About the Author

Michele R. Wells has been a writer and editor of test prep materials for companies such as The Princeton Review and Learning Express, LLC, since 2001. She volunteers regularly with the Everybody WINS Power Lunch program, a NYC-based literacy program for kids. A senior editor at one of the world’s largest publishing companies, she has more than a decade of experience in nonfiction book and multimedia publishing. Michele holds a BA in dramatic writing and art history and is pursuing a master’s in film, both from New York University.
Acknowledgements

Jennifer Pollock, editor extraordinaire, conceptualized the idea for this book. Sheryl Posnick not only edited, but also dealt with various obstacles to make sure that this book came together as it should. Eric Titner, production editor, worked to make this book the best it could be. Thanks so much to all of you!

It’s one thing to write about it, but Lauren Casteline King and Andrea Laurencell are in the trenches, teaching vocabulary and test preparation to students every day. A big thank you to both of you for taking the time to review the manuscript and provide feedback and advice.

And finally, writing two books in six months takes up a lot of time. Thanks to my family (Rita Sr., Rita Jr., Cheryl, John, Nathan, Colby, and Blake) for understanding where my priorities had to be this year.
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If you’ve picked up this book, you’re probably interested in increasing your PSAT or SAT score. That means you’re already aware of the effect these exams can have on your future, and that’s great. But you’ve also got algebra homework to do, football games to attend, musical instruments and Spanish verbs to practice, chores to do, maybe an after-school job and other responsibilities, and—oh yeah—a social life to maintain. You don’t have time to spend on more stuff related to school, much less exams that are probably months away at this point, right?

But think about it like this—you probably play games of some kind or another, either on your mobile phone, computer, or a game console, several times a week—maybe even every day. Playing those games can increase your online ranking, and maybe even make your friends jealous when you beat out their high scores, but playing the ones in this book can have a positive effect on your future. They can help you build a killer vocabulary and put yourself on stronger ground for gaining admission to the college of your choice.

Before we get to just how these games can help increase your scores, let’s take a look at the test itself so you’ll know exactly what to expect.
INTRODUCTION

What Are the PSAT and SAT Exams?

The SAT is one of the two main standardized tests used by admissions teams to help evaluate your potential fit as a student at their colleges or universities. The SAT is designed to measure the verbal and mathematical skills you will need as you progress through your academic career. (The other main test is the ACT, which is designed to measure what you’ve learned in various academic subjects.)

The PSAT is an exam that not only prepares you to take the SAT, but also offers a chance to win National Merit Scholarships and access college- and career-planning tools through the College Board. The PSAT measures critical reading, writing, and math skills.

What Is the SAT Used For?

College admissions teams use your SAT score as part of the evaluation process, to decide if you will be a good addition to the diverse group of students at their schools. But that's not the only thing they look at—and frequently, it's not even the deciding factor.

Admissions teams look at individuals, not just scores and grades. They want well-rounded students, not just those who can churn out perfect tests or straight As.

Are you an athlete? Maybe you’re an actor or a dancer? How about an artist? Do you do volunteer work, speak another language, or organize events for your school? Make sure you mention all these things on your application, because admissions teams are looking for students who can contribute to the diversity of campus life. So don’t worry if your GPA isn’t perfect—just be sure to highlight the great work you do in other areas of your life.

What Skills Are Tested on the SAT?

The SAT exam tests the skills you’re currently learning in high school, and those which you’ll need to do well in college: critical reading, writing, and mathematics. The critical reading section tests your knowledge of sentence completion and your ability to respond to reading passages. The writing section contains a short essay, as well as multiple-choice questions on grammar, usage, and error identification. The
INTRODUCTION

The mathematics section tests your knowledge of algebra, geometry, statistics, arithmetic operations, and probability.

Who Takes the PSAT and SAT?
According to the College Board, the organization that administers the SAT, approximately two million students take the SAT every year. But here’s a little secret—not all of them prepare for the exam in advance. By using this book, you’re giving yourself an edge over the competition!

Where Do I Sign Up for the SAT?
Registration forms and information for the PSAT and SAT exams can be found at your school’s guidance office, or you can register online at www.collegeboard.com. This website also offers detailed information about test dates in your area, practice tests, college-search and career information, information on sending your scores to the colleges of your choice, and many other services.

When Do I Take the SAT?
The SAT exam is offered several times a year, on Saturday mornings. You can find a schedule online at www.collegeboard.com, or at your school’s guidance office. There is no limit to the number of times you can register for and take the exam.

If you’re a high school freshman, don’t worry about registering for the SAT yet—you’ve got plenty of time before you really need to take it. Although it couldn’t hurt to start reading SAT prep books, working on your vocabulary, or doing other positive things (such as playing the games in this book!), your best bet at this point would be to focus on your studies and the extracurricular and civic activities that interest you.

Sophomores might consider taking the PSAT. The PSAT is usually taken in October, so make sure you use some of that free time you have in the summer to brush up, as National Merit Scholarships are awarded based on PSAT scores. If you are enrolled in any AP classes this year, you might also want to think about taking the corresponding SAT subject test as soon as you complete that course, so the information is still fresh in your mind.
INTRODUCTION

If you’re a high school junior or senior, you can take the SAT several times, up until December of your senior year. If you’re planning to apply for early decision to any colleges or universities, you will need to prepare in the summer and take the SAT during or before October of your senior year.

Where Do I Take the SAT?
You can take the SAT on many high school and college campuses. When you register, you’ll be given a list of sites in your local area; just pick the one that is most comfortable and convenient for you.

It’s also a good idea to do a “dry run” before the actual test date—figure out how you’ll get to the test site around the same time of day as your test (typically early in the morning), so you don’t wind up getting surprised by road closures, construction, train or bus delays, bad online directions, or other things that can make you late (and stress you out!) on the day of the test.

How is the SAT Scored?
Okay, you did it—you’ve taken the SAT. Now what? The first thing that happens is that your answers are calculated into a score by computer. The points are awarded this way: For the Critical Reading and Math sections, one point is added for each correct answer and 1/4 point is subtracted for each incorrect multiple-choice answer. Nothing is subtracted for incorrect responses in the Math section or for questions you didn’t answer.

Essays are scored by two independent readers (usually experienced high school or college teachers), who rate your work on a scale from 1 to 6. These scores are added together to produce a combined subscore. For example, if the first reader gives your essay a 5 and the second reader gives you a 6, your combined subscore would be an 11 (5 + 6). If you do not write an essay, you will receive a score of 0 on this section.

There is also an unscored section, which could be in the Critical Reading, Math, or multiple-choice Writing section. This section helps the College Board analyze whether the test is a fair and accurate representation of skills tested by the exam. Questions in the unscored section are not factored into your final SAT score.
Once your raw scores have been determined, they are then converted into a scaled score (from 200 to 800 for each test section, with additional subscores reported for the essay and multiple-choice writing questions).

**How is Your Score Reported?**
The College Board will send your scores to you. They will also send your scores to the schools you requested on your application. You can also send score reports to schools from your “My SAT” account on www.collegeboard.com, but you may have to pay a fee if you choose to send score reports after you’ve taken the exam.

**How Did My Score Rate?**
As of this writing, the average total score is around 1538, which breaks down to approximately 520 in Math, 510 in Writing, and 508 in Critical Reading. This average score is acceptable for most colleges and universities. Some schools require a score of 2100 or more, which would put you in the 90th percentile—meaning that you scored better than 90 percent of other test-takers during that particular exam.

A perfect score is 2400. Typically, fewer than 1 percent of all students who take the SAT get a perfect score.

**What’s the Deal with Percentile?**
Your score report will also include two percentile rankings. The first measures your SAT exam scores against those of all students who took the test, nationwide. The second measures your scores against only the students in your state who took the test.

The higher your percentile ranking, the better. For example, if you receive a 65 in the national category and a 67 in the state category, that means your scores were better than 65 percent of students nationwide and 67 percent in your state. In other words, out of every 100 students who took the test in your state, you scored higher than 67 of them.

**What If I Didn’t Get the Score I Wanted?**
Did you know that you can hide your lowest SAT scores? It used to be that students who didn’t do as well as they would have liked on the SAT
were stuck—the College Board sent all scores, even the embarrassing ones, to the colleges and universities to which the students had applied. But the College Board changed the rules recently, and now you’re free to decide which scores you want them to send to prospective colleges. So, if you’re not happy with your score, sign up to take the test again—and select the best combined score to be sent in with your application.

Now that you know what the tests are, how they are used, and what to expect on Test Day, let’s get down to what you really want to know—how to use this book to get great results on the PSAT and SAT exams.
Preparing for the PSAT and SAT exams doesn’t have to be a chore. Studies have shown that playing word games are an effective way to build your vocabulary—and even better, you’ll have fun while you do it!

This book is broken into three sections:

In Part I, you’ll learn how to break down difficult or unfamiliar words into easy-to-understand parts, and how to apply that knowledge to guess the meaning of these words. Part I also includes some general test-taking strategies.

Part II is the fun part—the games. In this section, you will work toward building an awesome vocabulary by doing crossword puzzles, word scrambles, acrostics, and more. The answers are provided at the end of each chapter, but try not to look at them unless you’re absolutely, positively stumped. The games in this book are structured to help you work with spelling, learn new words, and improve your grammar. The games are made up of over 500 of the words most frequently found on the PSAT and SAT exams—so you can be confident that many of the words you’re learning will turn up on test day.

The final section of this book contains test-taking strategies, checklists to help you prepare for the big day, and anxiety-busting exercises—to help ensure that you are at the top of your game when you walk into the testing facility to take the exam.
In the back of the book, you will find a glossary that defines all of the words used in this book, as well as a section on great books and websites you should check out for additional PSAT and SAT vocabulary word study.

Are you ready? Okay then—let’s get started!
PART I

UNDERSTAND BASIC VOCABULARY SECRETS
Chapter 1

Know Your Common Prefixes and Suffixes

Knowing the meaning of common prefixes and suffixes will help you figure out the definition of many familiar and unfamiliar words on the PSAT and SAT exams.

What Exactly Are Prefixes and Suffixes?

Prefixes and suffixes are attached to base words in order to add information and meaning. A prefix is an attachment that comes before a base word or stem. A suffix is an attachment that comes after the base word or stem. A stem is the main part of a word—the part that prefixes or suffixes are attached to—but might not actually be a full word by itself.

The word repayment, for example, is made up of the prefix re- (which means again), the stem pay, and the suffix -ment (which means action or process). So, with an understanding of suffixes, prefixes, and stems, you could figure out that the meaning of repayment is the process of paying money back.
**Common Prefixes**

The following are some examples of prefixes you might encounter when studying PSAT and SAT vocabulary words, along with their meanings.

- *a-, ab-, an-* (apart or without)
- *ad-* (toward or near)
- *ante-* (before)
- *anti-* (against)
- *auto-* (self)
- *bi-* (two)
- *bio-* (life)
- *circum-* (around)
- *co-, com-, con-* (with or together)
- *de-* (away or off)
- *di-, dis-* (not or apart)
- *dys-* (bad or problematic)
- *em-, en-* (restrict or cause)
- *equi-* (equal)
- *ex-* (former)
- *extra-, exo-* (outside of)
- *fore-* (in front of or before)
- *hyper-* (over)
- *hypo-* (under)
- *geo-* (earth)
- *im-, in-* (not)
- *inter-* (between)
- *micro-* (tiny)
- *mis-* (wrong)
- *mono-* (one)
- *multi-* (many)
- *neo-* (new)
- *non-* (not)
- *ob-, oc-, of-, op-* (against, on, over, or toward)
- *omni-* (all)
- *pan-* (all)

- *para-* (beyond)
- *peri-* (around or about)
- *poly-* (many)
- *post-* (after)
- *pre-* (before)
- *pro-* (favoring or for)
- *re-* (again)
- *retro-* (backward)
- *semi-* (half)
- *sub-* (under or below)
- *super-* (exceeding or above)
- *therm-, thermo-* (heat)
- *trans-* (across)
- *tri-* (three)
- *un-* (not)

**Common Suffixes**

- *-able, -ible* (capable or worthy of)
- *-acy* (state or quality)
- *-age* (condition)
- *-al* (act or process of, or pertaining to)
- *-ance, -ence* (state or quality)
- *-ary* (related to)
- *-ate* (become)
- *-dom* (place or state of being)
- *-en* (make or become)
- *-er, -or* (one who)
- *-esque* (like or reminiscent of)
- *-gram, -graph* (written or drawn)
- *-hood* (class)
KNOW YOUR COMMON PREFIXES AND SUFFIXES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prefix</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>-ic, -ical</td>
<td>pertaining to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-iou, -ous</td>
<td>characterized by</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-ish</td>
<td>having the quality of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-ive</td>
<td>having the nature of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-less</td>
<td>without</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-log, -logue</td>
<td>speech</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-logy</td>
<td>the study of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-oid</td>
<td>resembles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-ory, -tory</td>
<td>relating to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-ous</td>
<td>possessing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-phile</td>
<td>strong love for</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-phobe, -phobia</td>
<td>fear of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-ship</td>
<td>position held</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-y</td>
<td>characterized by</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Derivational Suffixes

There are suffixes that change the meaning of the base word or stem. These are called derivational suffixes (don’t worry, you don’t need to remember that), and some common examples are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Suffix</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>-able, -ible</td>
<td>capable of being</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-ation, -sion, -tion</td>
<td>state of being</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-ful</td>
<td>notable for</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-fy</td>
<td>make or become</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-ify</td>
<td>make or become</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-ily</td>
<td>in what manner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-ise, -ize</td>
<td>become</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-ism</td>
<td>belief or doctrine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-ist</td>
<td>one who</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-ity, -ty</td>
<td>having the quality of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-ment</td>
<td>condition or result of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-ness</td>
<td>state of being</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Derivational suffixes can combine with each other too, but the spelling may change (as in predictability, which is predict combined with -able and -ity).

Okay, now that you’ve reviewed some prefixes and suffixes and how they work, let’s put that knowledge into action!
Exercise 1

Each word below contains a prefix. Using what you’ve learned, choose the best available definition.

1. microcosm
   a. to make something larger
   b. a sign of fear
   c. a smaller system which is representative of a larger one
   d. a vast expanse of land

2. foreshadow
   a. to darken
   b. to suggest something in advance
   c. to follow
   d. to retaliate

3. engender
   a. to bring into existence; to cause
   b. knowledge
   c. to promise to marry
   d. to grow

4. commingle
   a. to bring forward
   b. to mix or blend
   c. a quick movement
   d. to soften

5. extraordinary
   a. from the past
   b. exceptional or unusual
   c. from above
   d. large
Exercise 2

Each word below contains a suffix. Using what you’ve learned, choose the best available definition.

1. historical
   a. dry
   b. extremely funny
   c. something that belongs to a man
   d. relating to what happened in the past

2. provenance
   a. place or source of origin
   b. a gift
   c. the act of being proper or correct
   d. happiness

3. fiefdom
   a. a type of instrument
   b. unhappiness
   c. a domain controlled by a dominant person or lord
   d. a small area

4. travelogue
   a. a vacation
   b. a language
   c. confrontation
   d. the journal or documentation of a trip

5. humanoid
   a. resembling or having the characteristics of a human
   b. false or fake
   c. a very young person
   d. an alien
Exercise 3

Each word below contains a prefix and a suffix or derivational suffix. Using what you’ve learned, choose the best available definition.

1. decentralize
   a. to cause to be more populated
   b. in the very middle of an area
   c. to move downward
   d. to move away from an established main point

2. monograph
   a. a work of writing on a single subject
   b. a diverse group
   c. a drawing made with many colors
   d. a signature

3. apprehension
   a. to climb
   b. fearful expectation
   c. a course that comes before a meal
   d. the state of being angry

4. nullify
   a. to take apart
   b. to make invalid
   c. to bring together
   d. to make liquid

5. approbation
   a. a decision
   b. restriction
   c. concern
   d. official approval
Answers

Exercise 1
1. c. a smaller system which is representative of a larger one
2. b. to suggest something in advance
3. a. to bring into existence; to cause
4. b. to mix or blend
5. b. exceptional or unusual

Exercise 2
1. d. relating to what happened in the past
2. a. place or source of origin
3. c. domain controlled by a dominant person or lord
4. d. the journal or documentation of a trip
5. a. resembling or having the characteristics of a human

Exercise 3
1. d. move away from an established main point
2. a. work of writing on a single subject
3. b. fearful expectation
4. b. make invalid
5. d. official approval
Now that you know the meanings that prefixes and suffixes bring to vocabulary words, you’re ready to review the most common roots—the base of the words to which prefixes and suffixes are attached. Once you know these, you can guess the meaning of almost any unfamiliar word on the PSAT and SAT exams.

**Root Words**

English is made up of words derived from Latin and Greek roots, as well as words from German, French, and other languages. Any familiarity you have with other languages can be an advantage when trying to guess the meaning of a word, because if you can recognize even a small part of it, you’ve improved your chances of figuring out the definition.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>List of Common Root Words</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>acro (top, height, tip)</td>
<td>ceive, cept (take)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>aer, aero (air)</td>
<td>celer (fast)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>aesth, esth (beauty)</td>
<td>cent, centi (hundred)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>agr, agri, agro (farm)</td>
<td>centr, centro (center)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>alg, algo (pain)</td>
<td>cephal, cephalo (head)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ambi, amphi (both)</td>
<td>chrom, chromo, chromat, chromato (color)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ambul (move)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ami, amo (love)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>andr, andro (male)</td>
<td>circle, circum (around)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>anim (spirit, life)</td>
<td>claim, clam (speak)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ann, enn (year)</td>
<td>cline (lean)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>anth, antho (flower)</td>
<td>cogn, cogni (learn)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>anthrop, anthropo (human)</td>
<td>cred (believe)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>apo, apho (away, separate)</td>
<td>crypto (hidden)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>aqu, aqua (water)</td>
<td>cycl (circle)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>arbor (tree)</td>
<td>dem, demo (people)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>arch (most important)</td>
<td>dendr, dendri, dendro (tree)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>archa, archae, archi (ancient)</td>
<td>dent, dont (tooth)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>art (skill)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>arthr, arthro (joint)</td>
<td>dic, dict (speak)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>aster, astr (star)</td>
<td>domin (master)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>act (to do)</td>
<td>don, donat (give)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>audi (to hear)</td>
<td>duc, duct (lead)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>avi (bird)</td>
<td>dyn, dyna, dynam (power)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bar, baro (pressure)</td>
<td>ego (self)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bell, belli (war)</td>
<td>endo (inside)</td>
</tr>
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<td>bene (good)</td>
<td>equ, equi (equal)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bibli (book)</td>
<td>fer (carry)</td>
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<td>bio (life)</td>
<td>flect (bend)</td>
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<tr>
<td>blast (cell)</td>
<td>flor, flora, fleur (flower)</td>
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<tr>
<td>capt, cept (capture, hold)</td>
<td>fract, frag (break)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cardi, cardio (heart)</td>
<td>fug (escape)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>carn, carni (flesh)</td>
<td>gastr, gastro (stomach)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>caust, caut (burn)</td>
<td>gen, gene, geno (birth)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cede, ceed (yield)</td>
<td>geo (earth)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**List of Common Root Words (continued)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Root Word</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ger</td>
<td>(old age)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gram</td>
<td>(written)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gyn</td>
<td>(female)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>helic, helico</td>
<td>(spiral)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>heli, helio</td>
<td>(sun)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hem, hema, hemo</td>
<td>(blood)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>herbi</td>
<td>(plant)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hetero</td>
<td>(other)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>homeo, homo</td>
<td>(same)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hydr, hydro</td>
<td>(water)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>imag</td>
<td>(likeness)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iso</td>
<td>(equal)</td>
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<tr>
<td>ject</td>
<td>(throw)</td>
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<td>spec, spect, spic</td>
<td>(see)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LEARN ROOT WORDS

sphere (ball)  ter, terr, terra (earth)
spir (breathe)  the, theo (god)
stell (star)  therm, thermo (heat)
techno (skill)  urb (city)
tel, tele, telo (far)  vac (empty)
tele (far away)  verb (word)
temp, tempo (time)  vid, vis (to see)
term, termin (end)

WATCHING FOR WORDS

There's no way to provide a complete list of all root words that occur in the English language, but the list provided is a great start to figuring out many PSAT/SAT vocabulary word meanings. As you go through your daily life, keep an eye out for more word roots, and watch for them to reappear in other words. The more you know, the more you can figure out—and the better your vocabulary will be!

Now, let's try some exercises to put your knowledge of root word meanings to work.

Exercise 1

Using what you've learned, choose the best available definition for each word.

1. genuflect
   a. to run
   b. to bend at the knee
   c. to jump
   d. to solve
2. intercept
   a. to make known
   b. to come together
   c. to seize or hold before arrival
   d. to come between

3. concede
   a. to hinder
   b. to return
   c. to display arrogance
   d. to yield or accept as true

4. carnivorous
   a. looking for danger
   b. feeding on animal flesh
   c. seeking out parties or events
   d. excitable

5. inscription
   a. enrollment
   b. the beginning
   c. the writing or dedication on something
   d. a disaster

**Exercise 2**

Using what you’ve learned, fill in the correct letters to complete the word base.

1. An instrument used to measure the pressure of the atmosphere: __ __ __ __ meter

2. Marine animals that move by expelling water from a tube under the head: __ __ __ __ __ __ pod
LEARN ROOT WORDS

3. Moving in a direction away from a center or axis:
   _______ ifugal

4. The study of the operation of aircrafts:
   _______ nautics

5. The act of speaking words that are to be written or transcribed:
   _______ ation

6. To make something move in a way that resembles lifelike action:
   _______ ate

7. Something done out of love for or goodwill toward others:
   _______ anthropy

8. To cut into:
   _______ 

9. The process of learning:
   _______ ition

10. A particular concept or understanding of beauty:
    _______ etics
LEARN ROOT WORDS

Answers

Exercise 1
1. b. to bend at the knee
2. c. to seize or hold before arrival
3. d. to yield or accept as true
4. b. feeding on animal flesh
5. c. the writing or dedication on something

Exercise 2
1. barometer
2. cephalopod
3. centrifugal
4. aeronautics
5. dictation
6. animate
7. philanthropy
8. incise
9. cognition
10. aesthetics
In Chapter 1, you learned the meanings of common prefixes and suffixes. In Chapter 2, you learned the meanings of common base words. Now, it’s time to put this knowledge to use.

Let’s practice before moving on to the more complex vocabulary needed to play the games in the next section of the book, and on the PSAT and SAT exams.

In the following exercises, put it all together by combining base words with prefixes and suffixes to create new words.
Exercise 1
Match the word parts from column A to the word parts in column B to create words that match the definitions that follow. Some word parts will be used more than once.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Column A</th>
<th>Column B</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>con</td>
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<tr>
<td>un</td>
<td>spect</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. To keep or store; protect: ___________________
2. To respond or change due to a stimulus: ________________
3. To go over and above: ________________
4. To charge with an offense: ________________
5. To keep safe; to avoid wasteful use of: ________________
6. To trick; to be false: ________________
7. To order or send back; to return to custody: ________________
8. An idea: ________________
9. Special regard or esteem: ________________
10. To foretell or declare in advance: ________________
11. To cause to begin; to form: ________________
12. A command or principle intended as a general course of action: ________________
13. To be worthy of something: ________________
14. To turn aside: ________________
15. To acquire or come into possession: ________________
16. To ask with authority: ________________
17. With the exclusion of: ________________
18. To view critically or closely: ________________
19. To keep back or hold: ________________
20. To surpass; to go ahead or in front of: ________________

**Exercise 2**

Match the word parts from column A to the word parts in column B to create words that match the definitions that follow. Some will be used more than once. An asterisk (*) denotes that two entries from column B are used (don’t forget to drop the silent e if necessary).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Column A</th>
<th>Column B</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>auto</td>
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<td>or</td>
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</table>

1. An instrument that measures the movement of the heart: ________________
2. Emitting or reflecting light: ________________
3. The act of moving from one country or region to another: ________________
4. Of or relating to a signature: ________________
5. One who is sworn to give a verdict in a dispute: ________________
6. The study of living organisms: ________________
7. To tell a story in detail: ________________
8. Of or relating to the eye: ________________
9. Of or relating to sound: ________________
**Exercise 3**

Insert definitions for the following words based on your knowledge of prefixes, suffixes, and base word meanings.

1. bibliomania: ________________________________________
2. enumerate: _________________________________________
3. vacuous:  __________________________________________
4. temporal:  _________________________________________
5. autobiographic:  _____________________________________
6. paternally: _______________________________________
7. chromatograph:  _____________________________________
8. bioavailability:  ______________________________________
9. amphibious:  _______________________________________
10. anthropologic:  _____________________________________
DECONSTRUCT AND REBUILD

Answers

Exercise 1

1. preserve
2. react
3. exceed
4. indict
5. conserve
6. deceive
7. remand
8. concept
9. respect
10. predict
11. conceive
12. precept
13. deserve
14. deflect
15. receive
16. demand
17. except
18. inspect
19. reserve
20. precede

Exercise 2

1. cardiograph
2. luminous
3. migration
4. autographic
5. juror
6. biology
7. narrate
8. optic
9. phonic
10. biography
11. cardiology
12. jury
13. kinetic
14. luminance
15. narrator
16. luminary
17. phony
18. autograph
19. narration
20. migrate

Exercise 3

Answers will vary; possible answers are provided.

1. bibliomania: extreme love or passion for books
2. enumerate: to determine the number of
3. vacuous: emptied; lacking content
4. temporal: relating to time
5. autobiographic: about one’s self
6. paternally: relating to a father
7. chromatograph: an instrument for analyzing color
8. bioavailability: the rate at which a substance is absorbed into an organism
9. amphibious: able to exist on land and in water
10. anthropologic: relating to the study of humans
Build an Awesome Vocabulary with Games
In this chapter, you’ll put what you’ve learned in Part I to use with these fun vocabulary-building crossword puzzles.

Instructions

Using the clues that follow each puzzle, solve by filling in the white squares to form PSAT and SAT vocabulary words. The answers will read from left to right or from top to bottom.

If you need help, a word list containing all the words used in this chapter can be found on page 38. Scan the list to see if you can identify the word you’re looking for. If you’re completely stumped, give yourself a break by turning to another game or doing something else for a while. You can always come back and finish a game at another time.

Answers to all the puzzles can be found at the end of the chapter—but don’t peek until you’ve given each game your very best shot!
Crossword Puzzle #1:
Spoken Word

The answers to this puzzle all have something to do with speaking or reciting. If you get stuck, take a look at the word list at the end of the chapter to see if you can find the word to match the definition in the clue.

Across
3. An overused expression.
6. Correct and proper inflection and intonation in speech.
7. Ranting speech.
12. A short story or account of something interesting.
13. Speaking two languages.
15. Quiet; not inclined to speak.
16. A statement that is widely accepted as true.
17. A statement of values.
19. To implore or beg.

Down
1. Blatant; conspicuous and offensive outcry.
2. To plead with or urge someone to action.
4. Vocabulary.
5. To make defamatory or contemptuous statements.
8. To give notice; tell.
10. Slang.
11. An official command or instruction.
12. To express well in words.
14. A phrase that cannot be translated literally into another language.
18. A negative or disparaging remark.
Crossword Puzzle #2: War and Peace

The words in this puzzle can be used in the context of the military, battle, or warfare. If you get stuck, take a look at the word list at the end of the chapter to see if you can find the word to match the definition in the clue.

Across
3. To vanquish completely; make someone or something cease to exist.
4. To decode; interpret.
9. To free from the power or control of others; release from bondage.
10. Someone who lives by plundering or theft.
12. Someone who opposes war.
14. To give up a position of leadership.
15. Warlike.
17. To avoid or escape.
18. Treachery; betrayal.
20. A tactic; a deliberate, coordinated movement.

Down
1. To examine in detail; to seek orders or votes.
2. To put into danger; threaten.
5. Acting like a tyrant.
6. Suited for war; related to military life.
7. A police officer or soldier, especially in France.
8. To move to action; stir up.
11. To wipe out completely.
13. To seize by force.
16. To push out of a position of authority.
19. To destroy or reduce drastically.
Crossword Puzzle #3: Order in the Court

In this puzzle, all the words you’ll find will have something to do with legal disputes or the courtroom. If you get stuck, take a look at the word list at the end of the chapter to see if you can find the word to match the definition in the clue.

Across
2. Advice, policy, or plan of action.
6. Unbiased; fair.
7. The philosophy, science, and study of law.
9. To intimidate with strong language.
12. A written statement that is false and malicious.
13. To read carefully.
14. The resolution of a dispute by an impartial party.
17. Fair and equal; having good judgment or common sense.
18. To insist or assert, usually without proof.
20. Eager or prone to engaging in lawsuits.

Down
1. An official reprimand or condemnation.
3. Fair and equal.
4. Happenings; events that could lead to a grave consequence.
5. To argue in favor of something; a person who argues in favor of something.
8. A law or legislative act.
10. To agree.
11. To argue or debate; oppose; verbal disagreement or controversy.
15. Opponent.
16. Burden or responsibility.
19. Made less severe.
Crossword Puzzle #4: A Dark and Stormy Night

The answers in this puzzle can all be found in spooky stories. If you get stuck, take a look at the word list at the end of the chapter to see if you can find the word to match the definition in the clue.

**Across**
5. Able to perceive things (such as the future).
7. A prediction, omen, or sense of doom.
9. Obscure; requiring secret or mysterious knowledge.
11. A lyric poem lamenting the dead.
15. Dreary; barren.
18. Horrible or terrifying.
19. Of or relating to a burial or grave.
20. Of or related to the night.

**Down**
1. Wishing harm to others.
2. A ghost-like appearance.
3. Fearful.
4. Bloody; gory.
6. Suspicious; fearful.
8. A somber, mournful song, usually for the dead.
10. A city of the dead.
12. Harmful or evil.
14. Foreshadowing evil; foreboding.
16. A person who foretells events or sees the future.
17. Hidden; mysterious.
Crossword Puzzle #5: Love and Marriage

Words in this puzzle can all be used in the context of romance—love, marriage, infatuation, and everything in between. If you get stuck, take a look at the word list at the end of the chapter to see if you can find the word to match the definition in the clue.

Across
2. To fill with love for someone or something.
4. Foolishly and impractically romantic.
5. Relationship or close connection.
6. Of or related to the relationship between spouses.
10. A relationship or special feeling of closeness.
13. Promise to marry.
14. Unlawful or illicit lover.
15. Passionate; giving off intense heat.
16. Harmony; mutual understanding.
17. Showing love.
18. Kiss.
20. Of or relating to marriage.

Down
1. To come to terms; bring back together; make compatible.
3. Hatred of marriage.
7. Loyalty; devotion.
8. A narrative poem, often in lyric form and about love.
9. Of or relating to marriage; matrimonial.
11. Hot; passionate.
12. Foolishly or extravagantly in love.
19. Cared for; loved.
Crossword Puzzle #6: An Apple a Day

You will often hear the answers in this puzzle in doctor’s offices or hospitals. If you get stuck, take a look at the word list at the end of the chapter to see if you can find the word to match the definition in the clue.

Across
5. To make better; lessen the seriousness.
7. To waste away; cause to lose flesh.
12. A remedy for all diseases and ills.
13. Sterile; thoroughly clean and free of disease.
14. To lessen; make better.
15. Of or related to birth.
16. Occurring among members of a family.
17. To become fixed or rigid.
18. Of or related to the eye.
19. Swell out.
20. To introduce a microorganism in order to treat or prevent a disease; vaccinate.

Down
1. Of or related to the sense of smell.
2. Inbuilt; genetic.
3. To rouse; excite to activity.
4. Just begun; in early stages of development.
6. Deep or instinctive; relating to the innards.
8. Existing or present, but concealed or inactive.
9. To wither away; decay.
10. To vomit; to throw back exactly.
11. To examine closely.
Crossword Puzzle #7: The Natural World

This puzzle features words that all have to do with different facets of nature—plants, animals, farming, and growing. If you get stuck, take a look at the word list at the end of the chapter to see if you can find the word to match the definition in the clue.

Across
1. Of or related to plants.
3. Able to withstand adverse conditions.
4. Occurring naturally or originating in a particular region.
5. Workable; able to grow.
7. Of or related to trees.
9. Feeding only on plants.
10. Fertile; fruitful.
13. Strong saline or salt water.
14. To nurture; prepare and improve.
17. Animal-like.
18. A young ox or steer.

Down
2. Of or relating to earth or land.
6. The science or practice of farming.
8. Young animal between one and two years of age.
9. Suitable for living.
11. Of or related to the countryside and farming.
12. Corn.
15. Wild; untamed.
16. Extremely dry; lacking sufficient rainfall.
Crossword Puzzle #8: Money Matters

The answers within this puzzle all relate to money and finance. If you get stuck, take a look at the word list at the end of the chapter to see if you can find the word to match the definition in the clue.

Across
1. A person who gives charitable gifts.
2. Begging for money or food.
3. Someone who would do anything for money.
4. Wasteful and extravagant behavior.
5. To lessen or reduce.
6. Insignificant; a small amount.
7. Habitually lacking money; poor.
8. Completely impoverished.
9. Generosity; giving or bestowing liberally.
10. Property pledged as security for a debt; accompanying; secondary.

Down
1. Not generous; unwilling to spend.
2. Economical.
3. Miserly.
4. Wealthy, rich.
5. Extreme poverty; lack of essential necessities.
6. Fake.
7. A very small sum.
8. Stinginess.
9. To steal money by falsifying documents.
10. Extreme poverty.
Crossword Puzzle #9: The Write Stuff

Words relating to the art and craft of writing make up the answers to this puzzle. If you get stuck, take a look at the word list at the end of the chapter to see if you can find the word to match the definition in the clue.

**Across**

6. Of or relating to letters and letter-writing.
8. Tell a story.
15. Concerned with writing and spelling.
16. Wordy.
17. Collection of writings.
18. A written history; to write a history.
19. Figurative; not literal.

**Down**

1. Writing materials; notepaper.
2. Complicated; long-winded.
3. To shorten or edit down, keeping the essential elements.
4. Brief or terse in writing or speech.
5. Overused; trite.
7. Of or along or relating to a line.
9. Forming a whole; sticking together.
10. Obsession with books.
11. To go off-subject; turn attention away.
12. Capable of being read or deciphered.
Crossword Puzzle #10: The Rainbow Connection

The answers to this puzzle pertain to different forms of art and artists. If you get stuck, take a look at the word list at the end of the chapter to see if you can find the word to match the definition in the clue.

Across
1. To whiten; turn pale.
5. Having a reddish color.
6. A person who excels in an art (especially music).
8. Bright, beaming.
9. Someone who dabbles in the arts.
12. Without hue; free from color.
13. Furnace or oven for drying or hardening pottery or bricks.
14. Tightly woven material used for tents and sails; a framed cloth for painting.
16. A range or particular use of color; a flat tray to hold paint.
17. Dark-colored.

Down
2. Red in color; furious.
3. Multicolored.
4. Appreciation of beauty or art.
5. Glowing.
7. Showing varying rainbow colors.
10. Glowing brightly; radiant.
11. A craftsperson.
15. Green in color.
16. Pale; lacking color.
## Word List for Chapter 4

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Answers

Crossword Puzzle #1: Spoken Word

Across
3. cliché
6. elocution
7. harangue
12. anecdote
13. bilingual
15. taciturn
16. axiom
17. manifesto
19. beseech

Down
1. vociferous
2. persuade
4. lexicon
5. malign
8. apprise
9. loquacious
10. jargon
11. mandate
12. articulate
14. idiom
18. aspersion

Crossword Puzzle #2: War and Peace

Across
3. annihilate
4. decipher
9. emancipate
10. brigand
12. pacifist
14. abdicate
15. bellicose
17. elude
18. perfidy
20. maneuver

Down
1. canvass
2. jeopardize
5. despotic
6. martial
7. gendarme
8. incite
11. obliterate
13. usurp
16. oust
19. decimate
Crossword Puzzle #3: Order in the Court

Across
2. counsel
6. dispassionate
7. jurisprudence
9. browbeat
12. libel
13. peruse
14. arbitration
17. judicious
18. allege
20. litigious

Down
1. censure
3. equitable
4. incidents
5. advocate
8. statute
10. concur
11. dispute
15. adversary
16. onus
19. mitigated

Crossword Puzzle #4: A Dark and Stormy Night

Across
5. clairvoyant
7. foreboding
9. arcane
11. elegy
15. desolate
18. ghastly
19. funereal
20. nocturnal

Down
1. malevolent
2. apparition
3. tremulous
4. sanguinary
6. apprehensive
8. dirge
10. necropolis
12. maleficent
13. nefarious
14. ominous
16. augur
17. cryptic
Crossword Puzzle #5: Love and Marriage

Across
2. enamor
4. quixotic
5. kinship
6. connubial
10. affinity
13. betroth
14. paramour
15. torrid
16. rapport
17. amorous
18. osculate
20. marital

Down
1. reconcile
3. misogamy
7. fidelity
8. ballad
9. conjugal
11. fervent
12. infatuated
19. cherished

Crossword Puzzle #6: An Apple a Day

Across
5. palliate
7. emaciate
12. panacea
13. antiseptic
14. assuage
15. natal
16. hereditary
17. ossified
18. ocular
19. distend
20. inoculate

Down
1. olfactory
2. inherent
3. stimulate
4. nascent
6. visceral
8. latent
9. atrophy
10. regurgitate
11. scrutinize
Crossword Puzzle #7: The Natural World

Across
1. botanical
2. terrestrial
3. hardy
4. indigenous
5. viable
6. agriculture
7. arboreal
8. yearling
9. herbivorous
10. fecund
11. habitable
12. cultivate
13. brine
14. maize
15. feral
16. arable
17. bestial
18. bullock

Down
2. benefactor
3. mendicancy
4. frugal
5. mercenary
6. profligacy
7. affluent
8. privation
9. mercenary
10. counterfeit
11. curtail
12. nominal
13. impecunious
14. destitute
15. pittance
16. parsimony
17. munificent
18. embezzle
19. parsimony
20. collateral

Crossword Puzzle #8: Money Matters

Across
2. benefactor
3. mendicancy
6. mercenary
9. profligacy
11. curtail
14. nominal
15. impecunious
17. destitute
18. parsimony
19. embezzle
20. collateral

Down
1. stingy
2. benefactor
4. frugal
5. penurious
7. affluent
8. privation
10. counterfeit
12. pittance
13. munificent
16. indigence
CROSSWORD PUZZLES

Crossword Puzzle #9: The Write Stuff

Across

Down

Crossword Puzzle #10: The Rainbow Connection

Across

Down
In this chapter, you will deconstruct a PSAT/SAT vocabulary word to find at least 10 new words hidden inside. If any of these vocabulary words are unfamiliar, be sure to look them up in the glossary at the back of the book.

**Instructions**

Rearrange the letters in each PSAT/SAT vocabulary word to spell as many new words as you can. Each word must be made up of a minimum of three letters—one- and two-letter words do not count. Try to find at least 10 words for each before moving on to the next puzzle.

For an extra challenge, set a timer or stopwatch for 10 minutes. See how many words you can find before time is up!

The answers are found at the end of the chapter. If you’re not familiar with some of the words you find in the answer key, look them up in a dictionary to supercharge your word power!
ANAGRAMS

Anagram Puzzle #1

PARAGON

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Anagram Puzzle #2

ARDUOUS

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ANAGRAMS

Anagram Puzzle #3

DISDAIN

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Anagram Puzzle #4

WISTFUL

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Anagram Puzzle #5

VARIED

Anagram Puzzle #6

TIRADE
ANAGRAMS

Anagram Puzzle #7

BEDLAM

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Anagram Puzzle #8

CALLOUS

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Anagram Puzzle #9

RIBALD

Anagram Puzzle #10

PALPABLE
## Anagrams

### Answers

#### Anagram Puzzle #1

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<tr>
<td>bal</td>
<td>blame</td>
<td>lade</td>
<td>med</td>
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<tr>
<td>bald</td>
<td>blamed</td>
<td>lam</td>
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</tr>
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<td>bale</td>
<td>bled</td>
<td>lamb</td>
<td>mel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>baled</td>
<td>dab</td>
<td>lambed</td>
<td>meld</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>balm</td>
<td>dal</td>
<td>lame</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>bam</td>
<td>dale</td>
<td>lamed</td>
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<tr>
<td>bead</td>
<td>dam</td>
<td>lea</td>
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### Anagram Puzzle #8

<table>
<thead>
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<th>coals</th>
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<tr>
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<td>col</td>
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<tr>
<td>als</td>
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<td>locals</td>
<td>sau</td>
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<td>also</td>
<td>colas</td>
<td>locus</td>
<td>scull</td>
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<tr>
<td>call</td>
<td>cols</td>
<td>oca</td>
<td>sol</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>calls</td>
<td>cos</td>
<td>ocas</td>
<td>sola</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>callus</td>
<td>cull</td>
<td>olla</td>
<td>sou</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>caul</td>
<td>culls</td>
<td>ollas</td>
<td>soul</td>
</tr>
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<td>cauls</td>
<td>lac</td>
<td>sac</td>
<td>sulcal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>coal</td>
<td>lacs</td>
<td>sal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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</table>

### Anagram Puzzle #9

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>abri</th>
<th>bard</th>
<th>dib</th>
<th>lib</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>aid</td>
<td>bid</td>
<td>dirl</td>
<td>libra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ail</td>
<td>bird</td>
<td>drab</td>
<td>lid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>air</td>
<td>birl</td>
<td>drail</td>
<td>lidar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>alb</td>
<td>bra</td>
<td>drib</td>
<td>lira</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>arb</td>
<td>brad</td>
<td>lab</td>
<td>rabid</td>
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<td>braid</td>
<td>lad</td>
<td>rad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>aril</td>
<td>braid</td>
<td>laid</td>
<td>raid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bad</td>
<td>bridal</td>
<td>lair</td>
<td>rail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bail</td>
<td>dab</td>
<td>laird</td>
<td>rial</td>
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<td>rib</td>
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<td>darb</td>
<td>lari</td>
<td>rid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bar</td>
<td>dial</td>
<td>liar</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Anagram Puzzle #10

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>aba</th>
<th>apple</th>
<th>lab</th>
<th>pall</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>able</td>
<td>baa</td>
<td>label</td>
<td>palp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ala</td>
<td>baal</td>
<td>lap</td>
<td>palpal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>alb</td>
<td>bal</td>
<td>lapel</td>
<td>pap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>alba</td>
<td>bale</td>
<td>lea</td>
<td>papa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ale</td>
<td>ball</td>
<td>leal</td>
<td>papal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>all</td>
<td>bap</td>
<td>leap</td>
<td>pea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>alp</td>
<td>bel</td>
<td>paella</td>
<td>peal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ape</td>
<td>bell</td>
<td>pal</td>
<td>pep</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>appall</td>
<td>blae</td>
<td>pale</td>
<td>plea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>appeal</td>
<td>ell</td>
<td>palea</td>
<td>pleb</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In this chapter, you will use your knowledge of a PSAT/SAT vocabulary word’s meaning to create a fun acrostic poem. This activity will also help you remember the spelling of each vocabulary word by breaking it down to create a poem.

**Instructions**

An acrostic poem begins with a word as its subject. The word is written vertically, from top to bottom, and each line of the poem begins with a different letter from the subject word. You can make this poem rhyme if you like, but rhyming is not necessary. In fact, lines could be made up of just one word, if you like.

Here is an example of an acrostic using the word *school*:

- S tudy hard in each of our subjects
- C lasses can be easy or hard, fun or tedious
- H ow will we get all this homework done?
- O ur teachers guide us through lectures and assignments
- O ften we wait until the last minute to cram
- L earning what we need to know for the future
Notice how each line in the acrostic has something to do with the subject word—school. When completing the following acrostics, make sure that each line refers back to the subject word. This will help you to remember its meaning when you’re taking the PSAT or SAT exam.

Remember, there are no right or wrong answers for this game, so be as clever and creative as you like. Write whatever helps you remember each definition—and have fun!

**Acrostic #1: RESPITE**

**Definition:** a rest or break.
(Example: I deserve a *respite* after all this studying.)

R ________________________________
E ________________________________
S ________________________________
P ________________________________
I ________________________________
T ________________________________
E ________________________________

**Acrostic #2: SPARSE**

**Definition:** thin, or few and scattered.
(Example: My math teacher is almost completely bald, except for a few *sparse* hairs combed across the top of his head.)

S ________________________________
P ________________________________
A ________________________________
R ________________________________
S ________________________________
E ________________________________
Acrostics

Acrostic #3: PLACID

Definition: serene or undisturbed.
(Example: In early spring, the lake water is so *placid* I can see my reflection.)

P ________________________________
L ________________________________
A ________________________________
C ________________________________
I ________________________________
D ________________________________

Acrostic #4: NOXIOUS

Definition: harmful or destructive.
(Example: I think it’s time to clean my room—my closet is starting to give off a *noxious* odor again.)

N ________________________________
O ________________________________
X ________________________________
I ________________________________
O ________________________________
U ________________________________
S ________________________________
Acrostic #5: BAUBLE

Definition: a trinket or other cheap ornament.

(Example: People like to collect beads, plastic rings, and other baubles at the Mardi Gras parade.)

B _____________________________
A _____________________________
U _____________________________
B _____________________________
L _____________________________
E _____________________________

Acrostic #6: COMELY

Definition: pleasing or attractive.

(Example: My little sister is so comely and charming, it’s hard for my grandparents to refuse her requests.)

C _____________________________
O _____________________________
M _____________________________
E _____________________________
L _____________________________
Y _____________________________
Acrostic #7: TRITE

Definition: unoriginal or boring because of overuse.
(Example: I thought he was a clever speaker, but my teacher thought his arguments were trite and commonplace.)

T __________________________________________________
R __________________________________________________
I __________________________________________________
T __________________________________________________
E __________________________________________________

Acrostic #8: SUPPRESS

Definition: to keep down or make it a secret.
(Example: She’s such a natural gossip that it’s hard for her to suppress any juicy news she hears.)

S __________________________________________________
U __________________________________________________
P __________________________________________________
P __________________________________________________
R __________________________________________________
E __________________________________________________
S __________________________________________________
S __________________________________________________
Acrostic #9: LEVITY

Definition: humor or frivolity.
(Example: The movie is over three hours long, and there's hardly any levity to lighten the viewing experience.)

L_________________________________________________
E_________________________________________________
V_________________________________________________
I_________________________________________________
T_________________________________________________
Y_________________________________________________

Acrostic #10: FILIAL

Definition: referring to the child-parent relationship.
(Example: I did my chores this week out of a filial obligation, rather than any real desire to make sure the dishes were washed and the carpets were clean.)

F_________________________________________________
I_________________________________________________
L_________________________________________________
I_________________________________________________
A_________________________________________________
L_________________________________________________


Answers

Answers will vary; a sample answer is below.

**Acrostic #1: RESPITE**

- R elaxing after all this hard work
- E njoying a break
- S uspension of studying for a little while
- P ostponement of practicing for the SAT
- I ntermission from the grind
- T aking time off
- E nding the SAT study for a little while
In this chapter, you will learn to spell PSAT/SAT words by rearranging the letters to discover vocabulary words. This will also help you to remember the definitions of these words, because they are linked by common subjects.

**Instructions**

Unscramble the words in each jumble by placing one letter in each box to spell PSAT/SAT vocabulary words.

If you need help, a list containing all the words used in this chapter can be found on page 71. Scan the list to see if you can identify the word(s) you’re looking for. If you’re completely stumped, give yourself a break by turning to another game or doing something else for a while. You can always come back and finish another time.

Answers to all the puzzles can be found at the end of the chapter—but don’t peek until you’ve given each game your very best shot!
JUMBLIES

Jumble #1: Know-It-All

Hint: This jumble is made up of words that can be used to describe someone who is exceptionally wise or important.

AOGCUSSAI

MNENTEI

AYRMINUL

ASENTPI

PPSRIOSCUCIAE

BERELAVNE

Jumble #2: Nighty-Night

Hint: The words in this game are ones that you’d hear in the evening or nighttime hours.

ARCTLEGIH

ULAOCNTNNR

ACOLHYN

EOSPER

ALQRIUTN

ENWA
## Jumble #3: Past Tense

_Hint_: These words describe things that are going...going...gone.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Jumble</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CACHIRA</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>OETSOELB</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ONSCMNARHAI</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EIVRMALP</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IGSEETV</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRAFICTA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Jumble #4: Our Daily Bread

_Hint_: This game comprises words that you might use when talking about eating and drinking.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Jumble</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MIEIBB</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLUTOGUONT</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IULOBUBS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMFISH</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGONFRIG</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANMODGUR</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Jumble #5: Too Cool for School

Hint: The answers below are words you might hear while you’re in the classroom.

DICTIACD
DIEMRELA
RUDEITE
METO
BIRDAGE
REELCARB

Jumble #6: Not My Favorite Guy

Hint: You might use the words below when talking about someone with whom you just don’t get along.

BGTRAGAR
ROBO
RUSHLICH
VANKE
RUNCUTLET
GAOICUSNUP
**Jumble #7: If You’re Happy and You Know It**

*Hint:* These are words you might use to describe your mood when you’re really happy.

- **ADTEEL**
- **OVALJI**
- **BUNTJAIL**
- **TLBHEI**
- **FTCFRVEEEEENS**
- **TACCSEIT**

**Jumble #8: Enough Already!**

*Hint:* You might use these words to describe something that’s over the top.

- **SOBABITCM**
- **IEFFVUES**
- **NOEASIDRG**
- **NOTUTTIESASO**
- **LIDROF**
- **SESRULUOFPU**
Jumble #9: Puttin’ on the Ritz

*Hint:* When you’re showing how sophisticated you are, you might use these words.

**OLOOTMAPNICS**

**EELIT**

**ETELNEG**

**SLABE**

**ROCSEOEDU**

**SPURETENTIO**

Jumble #10: Color My World

*Hint:* You might use the words in this game when decorating or talking about interior design.

**HARSING**

**EPLUNTO**

**LIBHESLEM**

**DUDRAETSNET**

**CELBECMAIP**

**OUPJESTAX**
### Word List for Chapter 7

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>abridge</th>
<th>ecstatic</th>
<th>grandiose</th>
<th>pretentious</th>
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<tr>
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<td>effervescent</td>
<td>halcyon</td>
<td>primeval</td>
</tr>
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<td>archaic</td>
<td>effusive</td>
<td>imbibe</td>
<td>pugnacious</td>
</tr>
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<td>artifact</td>
<td>elated</td>
<td>impeccable</td>
<td>remedial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bibulous</td>
<td>elite</td>
<td>jovial</td>
<td>repose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>blasé</td>
<td>embellish</td>
<td>jubilant</td>
<td>sagacious</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>blithe</td>
<td>eminent</td>
<td>juxtapose</td>
<td>sapient</td>
</tr>
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<td>bombastic</td>
<td>erudite</td>
<td>knave</td>
<td>superfluous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>boor</td>
<td>famish</td>
<td>lethargic</td>
<td>tome</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>braggart</td>
<td>florid</td>
<td>luminary</td>
<td>tranquil</td>
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<td>foraging</td>
<td>nocturnal</td>
<td>truculent</td>
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<td>garnish</td>
<td>obsolete</td>
<td>understated</td>
</tr>
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<td>genteel</td>
<td>opulent</td>
<td>venerable</td>
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<td>glutinous</td>
<td>ostentatious</td>
<td>vestige</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>didactic</td>
<td>gourmand</td>
<td>perspicacious</td>
<td>wane</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Answers

**Jumble #1: Know-It-All**
- AOGCUSSAI  
- MNENTEI  
- AYRMINUL  
- ASENTPI  
- PPSRIOSCUCIAE  
- BERELAVNE  
- SAGACIOUS  
- EMINENT  
- LUMINARY  
- SAPIENT  
- PERSPICACIOUS  
- VENERABLE

**Jumble #2: Nighty-Night**
- ARCTLEGIH  
- ULAOCTNNR  
- ACOLHYN  
- EOSPER  
- ALQRIUTN  
- ENWA  
- LETHARGIC  
- NOCTURNAL  
- HALCYON  
- REPOSE  
- TRANQUIL  
- WANE

**Jumble #3: Past Tense**
- CACHIRA  
- OETSOELB  
- ONSCMNARHAI  
- EIVRMALP  
- IGSEETV  
- TRAFICTA  
- ARCHAICh  
- OBSOLETE  
- ANACHRONISM  
- PRIMEVAL  
- VESTIGE  
- ARTIFACT

**Jumble #4: Our Daily Bread**
- MIEIBB  
- SLUTOGUONT  
- IULOBUBS  
- AMFISH  
- AGONFRIG  
- ANMODGUR  
- IMBIBE  
- GLUTTONOUS  
- BIBULOUS  
- FAMISH  
- FORAGIng  
- GOURMAND
Jumble #5: Too Cool for School

DIC TIA CD  DIDACTIC
D IEM RELA  REMEDIAL
RU DE ITE  ERUDITE
METO  TOME
BIRDAGE  ABRIDGE
REELCARB  CEREBRAL

Jumble #6: Not My Favorite Guy

BG TRAGAR  BRAGGART
ROBO  BOOR
RUSHLICH  CHURLISH
VANKE  KNAVE
RUNCUTLET  TRUCULENT
GAOICUSNUP  PUGNACIOUS

Jumble #7: If You’re Happy and You Know It

ADTEEL  ELATED
OVALJI  JOVIAL
BUNTJAIL  JUBILANT
TLBHEI  BLITHE
FTCFRVEEEENS  EFFERVESCENT
TACCSEIT  ECSTATIC

Jumble #8: Enough Already!

SOBABITCM  BOMBASTIC
IEFFVUES  EFFUSIVE
NOEASIDRG  GRANDIOSE
NOTUTTIESASO  OSTENTATIOUS
LIDROF  FLORID
SESRULUOFPU  SUPERFLUOUS
Jumble #9: Puttin’ on the Ritz

OLOOTMAPNICS  COSMOPOLITAN
EELIT  ELITE
ETELNEG  GENTEEEL
SLABE  BLASE
ROCSOEDU  DECOROUS
SPURETENTIO  PRETENTIOUS

Jumble #10: Color My World

HARSING  GARNISH
EPLUNTO  OPULENT
LIBHESLEM  EMBELLISH
DUDRAETSNET  UNDERSTATED
CELBECMAIP  IMPECCABLE
OUPJESTAX  JUXTAPOSE
In this chapter, you will reinforce your ability to recognize PSAT/SAT vocabulary words by finding them in the following word search puzzles.

**Instructions**

Each word on the right side of the puzzle is hidden somewhere within the letters on the left side. Words will be found exactly as they are spelled, but may be written left to right, right to left, up and down, or diagonally.

Answers are found at the end of the chapter. Be sure to look up any unfamiliar words in the glossary at the back of the book; it’s not enough to know how the words are spelled—you will also need to know their meanings when you take the PSAT or SAT exam!
Word Search Game #1

CKJNJLQBYYCSNPUMGJERSROP
WUTOPIAQQAGXLMQVOGBFRSIZDBYOX
OTYGFDCKBMAGOVRGIGDWSCFITYESJUT
OILTNTCNEMOFGCUCKCOYAVSTQAGLESLXFYRTADYIRMD
WAMRTQLWMKOLFBFXNMPVIELBAELLAMLYFDEEZIATDKJAB
KTINETANIMURHXEHFTAIGNOMINIOUS

SALIENT
PROXIMITY
ODIOUS
IGNOMINIOUS
EGREGIOUS
TRACTABLE
MALLEABLE
SCINTILLA
UTOPIA
RUMINATE

Word Search Game #2

SMNSUKPETDHAKFYBWDSLHAZNYXJWLYNZNYSRIESCKFXBNUCCIUATIYEQYHF
JVHGEODASCLOYOQOODAXLMOKNBBVTFFECLIBIXOAXBEBTSURAXANUQRBISDAO
LANXATTTXTUQCTAATTUUNLTTBJQQKCCQRUFIFGQLUEOUTLP
PLRHEAQEIONAAAYDQAZDROMSOGVEIZLE
SSFXRISVQZOMGUMBWRQICRNWJCMMNX

SALUTARY
JOCULAR
PARADOX
IRREFUTABLE
NONCHALANT
QUALM
MAGNANIMOUS
TRANSIENT
QUIBBLE
BENIGN
Word Search Game #3

G K R G T M P O P E M H J M K
L R F T F D E T R I T U S I K
X N E I B I J L V I X X S O W
O N E L Y X I I N G O N M W J
O G O O V R D E F A U I T S Q
I X H T P W Z N D E E E E F F
S Y R X N H L A D X T K D V O
V V E Y L A Y X P T A O A P B
R I E T T V W T O P L Y L W J
S K O S Y B Z R E D L I O I U
A P X E O M N D L P I Z C L O
S M G V I Z A Q Y Q C T E Y E
B G V A H T Z M B J S Z A Z O
F Y S R T W H W V X O A S W Q
M X I T Y Z E A L O T P R W U

TRAVESTY
ACCOLADE
ZENITH
NEOPHYTE
ZEALOT
WILY
YOKE
OSCILLATE
WANTON
DETritis

Word Search Game #4

R M F T Y O I V Y Z P I O R V
D I Y X H K M B M H Y I Q B M
Z L X T I T P O G K W Q V Z B
F I J U D F E A P A T D I T I
Z E V I S U R T B O G V J V I
D U C N K R V F S G A M B O L
T T P C O P I S L K Y V F U K
X D X T U L O N L H Z F I E T
C Q E C A C U M E N C G I G X
J G K Q S H S U P F E G V D X
M O Q O T W V Q K U M S U Q Y
Y F E F C O N D U C I V E M E
H B L B L A S R E V I N U Y T
D Y J H Z K T N E G N I R T S
S B T I L T J U H Z N X J D Q

VIMPERVIOUS
UNIVERSAL
STRINGENT
GAMBOL
OBTRUSIVE
IOTA
GARROTE
ACUMEN
CONDUCIVE
MILIEU
Word Search Game #5

INAWBJQRXDHBXFN
TJXFFOAWWWDKECT
YGNMRKTTUBBYWXJTW
ZXCIEDEMPIXRATW
TRLQRSRPVJAXLJRU
YRADNAUQPIEEGMY
XYSRUNNIEICLTED
MOCPGOJGECBPUC
MOHTAFPJEDZILLM
CZMUTCIDDRRLKUG
RLIQCUKVPJMLYCP
TAANOSTALGIAMFG
DTPKYRZKYQFNFW
KUPRUDENCENNPER
QAQTNTAERCSIMEX

Word Search Game #6

MIJALQWGBBLGHBQ
XDMFTFTJTXROIODY
RMEMOSNIWAFLEXUH
QAQLVOYZLBLNFFTS
EBDBOPRUSOOCDX
EAREGYRENACIHJC
RSALTWKFADCUXF
XHISIQAJIBEMLBDI
PEDEYTZBMCMDS
GDZAEVOQKUJUHG
QGBKQOVIVUQCYZX
VYHIELQWRQIELUCUO
LRQANIQYUDUUUKUD
JFTSHPMRPMQEEXS
VLLOUMEHNZKSEXAE

ABASHED
USURP
WINSOME
CHICANERY
SUCCUMB
BELIE
EDICT
QUEUE
PURVEY
EQUIVOCATE
Word Search Game #9

L P Z W F J M H W T U W B F W
F H G G H N K X I V T E Y S F
V B J P S S E R G S N A R T Q
D L A N G U I D E W E G H A R
K I R X O J X E J T L E I D Z
E J Q I Y A B T S Y O S R X E
E V X B J M S A A T V T S K I
F H W P B W L I L I E I U G S
K B T R D C V T J C N E T T G
O I Z H O D B A D A E U E A V
Z L L N T A T S O N B L N K K
E F O Y U A S W X E G A U V C
O C Q G B V R P P T X T J E M
I I N M V Y P W M D U E B E A
P A J Q R Q F Z Y G O L A N A

TRANSGRESS
WRATH
SATIATE
HIRSUTE
BENEVOLENT
ANALOGY
GESTICULATE
LANGUID
TENACITY
ICONOCLAST

Word Search Game #10

C G G Q W R K U S S E R G E H
V S U O I N E G N I Q R T N C
N K Z E I T G E I S T N F B Z
U G N L T D K K M S U C H E K
I G A L N J V A A O U C B Q Y
I V W C E M V R M J R J A C Q
B D H O M I F A O K R V Y T N
Q X J D A Y T M E D I O C R E
X O W Q L N U D J E Q A E S L
E V I T A R C U L M V X I T S
F Y P T E I R E T O S E X N D
O C Z D R T P Y K A T R N K
C X A G O T F P U G S D B O L
N B T C B X U G A K O T S N U
B C B Q C H A U N E G A M O H

MEDIocre
ZEITGEIST
EGRESS
TANTAMOUNT
LUCRATIVE
HOMAGE
ESOTERIC
INGENIOUS
DOCILE
LAMENT
Answers

Word Search Game #1

SALIENT
PROXIMITY
ODIOUS
IGNOMINIOUS
EGREGIOUS
TRACTABLE
MALLEABLE
SCINTILLA
UTOPIA
RUMINATE

Word Search Game #2

SALUTARY
JOOCULAR
PARADOX
IRREFUTABLE
NONCHALANT
QUALM
MAGNANIMOUS
TRANSIENT
QUIBBLE
BENIGN
Word Search Game #5

INAWBJQRXDHBXFN
IJXFOAWWWDKECT
YGNMRKTUBBYWXTJ
ZXCDEPMIXRATW
TRLQRSPVJAXJRU
YRADNAUQPIEEEMY
XYSRUNNEICLTED
MOCPGOJGCEBPUC
MOHTAFPJEDZILLM
CZMUCTIONLKRUG
RLIQCUKVPJMLYCPTAANOSTALGIAFMG
DTQKYNRZKYQFNFWKUPRUDENCENPER
QAQTITNAERCSIMEX

Word Search Game #6

MIJALQWGBBLGHBQ
XDMFTFJTXROIODY
RMEMOSNIWAFLUXUH
QAQLVYZLBNNFTS
EBDBOPRUSUODXD
EAREGYRENAVHCJ
RSALTUKUFADCUXF
XHSMQAJIBELMLBDI
PEDETYTCZBCMMDST
GDDZAEVQKUJUGH
QGBKQVIUQCYZXVYHIEOQRIOEUCUO
LRQANIQYUDUKUD
JFTSHIRMPMOEXSV
VLLOUHEMEHNZKSEAE

ABASHED
USURP
WINSOME
CHICANERY
SUCCUMB
BELIE
EDICT
QUEUE
PURVEY
EQUIVOCATE

MISCREANT
WARY
PRUDENCE
QUANDARY
NOSTALGIA
FATHOM
GERMANE
DICTUM
FALLIBLE
IMPEDE
**Word Search Game #7**

ENIGMA
IMBROGLIO
TACIT
CREDENCE
BEDLAM
EVASIVE
CONVIVIAL
GAMUT
LEVIATHAN
TRANSCEND

**Word Search Game #8**

TREMULOUS
RIBALD
CHIDE
UBIQUITOUS
FLOTSAM
TURPITUDE
OBLIQUE
BANAL
NOISOME
EMANATE
Word Search Game #9

LPZWFJMHWTUWBFW 
FUGHGNKXIVTEYSF 
VBPSERSGSNARTQ 
DLANGEWHER 
KITJLEIDZ 
EYBTSXOSRXE 
EVBJMSATVTSKI 
FHWPBLILIEIGS 
KBTRDCVTJCNETTG 
OIZHODBAEUEAV 
ZLNTSONBLNK 
EFYUSWXEGAUV 
OCQGBVPTXTJEM 
PATQUFZYGOLAN

Word Search Game #10

CGQRKUSERGEH 
VSUINEGNIQRTNC 
NKZTESTNFBZ 
UGNLDKKSUCHEK 
IGALNVAAOCBQY 
IVWCMVRMJRACQ 
BDHOMIFAOKVRYTN 
QXJDAYTMEDIOCRE 
XOWNUDJEQAESL 
EVITARCMVXITS 
FYPTCIRETOSXND 
OCZDRTPYKARTN 
CXAGOTPUGSDBOL 
NBTCBXUGAKOTSNU 
CBQCHAUNEGAMO

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In this chapter, you’ll learn to look carefully at similar sounding (or similarly spelled) pairs of words to find the correct meaning for each.

Instructions

Draw a line to match each word in Column A with its definition in Column B. Be careful—these lists are made up of pairs of commonly confused words, and the games can be a little challenging.

Answers can be found at the end of the chapter.
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>adverse</td>
<td>able to be set on fire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>averse</td>
<td>struggle or thrash about</td>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>council</td>
<td>nonstop; continuing uninterrupted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>counsel</td>
<td>an advisory or legislative body or group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>continuous</td>
<td>recurring in rapid succession; occurring regularly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>continual</td>
<td>downward inclination; deriving from ancestors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>decent</td>
<td>advice, policy, or plan of action</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>descent</td>
<td>make less harmful or tense</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>defuse</td>
<td>frequency of occurrence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>diffuse</td>
<td>happenings; events that lead to grave consequences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>incidence</td>
<td>appropriate; free from immodesty or obscenity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>incidents</td>
<td>not concentrated; spread out</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Matching Column Game #7

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Column A</th>
<th>Column B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>insight</td>
<td>provide or obtain insurance; take precaution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>incite</td>
<td>relating to an office or position</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ensure</td>
<td>move to action; stir up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>insure</td>
<td>suited for war; related to military life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>marital</td>
<td>to make certain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>martial</td>
<td>transparent; clear and precise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>officious</td>
<td>of or relating to marriage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>official</td>
<td>penetration; seeing the inner nature of something</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>perspicuous</td>
<td>kind; dutiful</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>perspicacious</td>
<td>acutely insightful and wise</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Matching Column Game #8

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>proscribe</td>
<td>continue; follow a certain course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>prescribe</td>
<td>height; quality or status gained by development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>precede</td>
<td>recommend; specify with authority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>proceed</td>
<td>twisting and turning; devious or indirect tactics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>stature</td>
<td>excessively greedy or eager; having a large appetite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>statute</td>
<td>unpleasant or painful</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tortuous</td>
<td>condemn or forbid as harmful</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>torturous</td>
<td>law or legislative act</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vociferous</td>
<td>be, go, or come ahead or in front of; surpass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>voracious</td>
<td>blatant; conspicuous and offensive outcry</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Matching Column Game #9

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>conscience</td>
<td>suggest; express or state indirectly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>conscious</td>
<td>guess; deduce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>eminent</td>
<td>awake; aware</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>imminent</td>
<td>able to be perceived or detected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>imply</td>
<td>standing out or above in quality or position</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>infer</td>
<td>worthy of notice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>notable</td>
<td>at hand; about to occur</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>noticeable</td>
<td>having no connection with an issue; unrelated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>irreverent</td>
<td>moral sense of right and wrong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>irrelevant</td>
<td>showing disrespect</td>
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<td>convince</td>
<td>show off shamelessly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>persuade</td>
<td>encourage; talk someone into something</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>flaunt</td>
<td>an educator in a position of high authority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>flout</td>
<td>basic truth or belief; rule of personal conduct</td>
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<tr>
<td>principal</td>
<td>plead with; urge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>principle</td>
<td>neither moral nor immoral</td>
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<tr>
<td>amoral</td>
<td>tease; taunt</td>
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<tr>
<td>immoral</td>
<td>to agree or be in accord</td>
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<tr>
<td>gibe</td>
<td>disregard; show scorn or contempt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>jibe</td>
<td>unethical; morally objectionable</td>
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### Answers

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<td>counsel</td>
<td>an advisory or legislative body or group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>continuous</td>
<td>recurring in rapid succession; occurring regularly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>continual</td>
<td>downward inclination; deriving from ancestors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>decent</td>
<td>advice, policy, or plan of action</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>descent</td>
<td>make less harmful or tense</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>defuse</td>
<td>frequency of occurrence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>diffuse</td>
<td>happenings; events that lead to grave consequences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>incidence</td>
<td>appropriate; free from immodesty or obscenity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>incidents</td>
<td>not concentrated; spread out</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Matching Column Game #7**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Column A</th>
<th>Column B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>insight</td>
<td>provide or obtain insurance; take precaution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>incite</td>
<td>relating to an office or position</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ensure</td>
<td>move to action; stir up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>insure</td>
<td>suited for war; related to military life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>marital</td>
<td>to make certain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>martial</td>
<td>transparent; clear and precise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>officious</td>
<td>of or relating to marriage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>official</td>
<td>penetration; seeing the inner nature of something</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>perspicuous</td>
<td>kind; dutiful</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>perspicacious</td>
<td>acutely insightful and wise</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Matching Column Game #8**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Column A</th>
<th>Column B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>proscribe</td>
<td>continue; follow a certain course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>prescribe</td>
<td>height; quality or status gained by development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>precede</td>
<td>recommend; specify with authority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>proceed</td>
<td>twisting and turning; devious or indirect tactics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>stature</td>
<td>excessively greedy or eager; having a large appetite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>statute</td>
<td>unpleasant or painful</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tortuous</td>
<td>condemn or forbid as harmful</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>torturous</td>
<td>law or legislative act</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vociferous</td>
<td>be, go, or come ahead or in front of; surpass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>voracious</td>
<td>blatant; conspicuous and offensive outcry</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Matching Column Game #9

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Column A</th>
<th>Column B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>conscience</td>
<td>suggest; express or state indirectly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>conscious</td>
<td>guess; deduce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>eminent</td>
<td>awake; aware</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>imminent</td>
<td>able to be perceived or detected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>imply</td>
<td>standing out or above in quality or position</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>infer</td>
<td>worthy of notice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>notable</td>
<td>at hand; about to occur</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>noticeable</td>
<td>having no connection with an issue; unrelated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>irreverent</td>
<td>moral sense of right and wrong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>irrelevant</td>
<td>showing disrespect</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Matching Column Game #10

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Column A</th>
<th>Column B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>convince</td>
<td>show off shamelessly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>persuade</td>
<td>encourage; talk someone into something</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>flaunt</td>
<td>an educator in a position of high authority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>flout</td>
<td>basic truth or belief; rule of personal conduct</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>principal</td>
<td>plead with; urge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>principle</td>
<td>neither moral nor immoral</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>amoral</td>
<td>tease; taunt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>immoral</td>
<td>to agree or be in accord</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gibe</td>
<td>disregard; show scorn or contempt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>jibe</td>
<td>unethical; morally objectionable</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In this chapter, you will learn to remember definitions and spellings of PSAT/SAT words by identifying a word by its meaning, then spelling it out.

Instructions

Use the definitions provided to find each clue word. Write the word in the boxes next to each definition. Then unscramble the letters in the circled boxes within the clue words to discover the bonus vocabulary word.

If you get stuck, scan the word list on page 110 to see if you can figure out the word to match each definition. Be careful—some words in this chapter have similar definitions or spellings, and others have been used more than once.
Puzzle #1

1. noisy; unpleasant sounding (11 letters)

2. eliminate; obliterate (6 letters)

3. short-lived (9 letters)

4. impossible to understand (12 letters)

5. great anger; wrath (3 letters)

6. dreamy; without interest or enthusiasm (13 letters)

7. figurative; not literal (12 letters)

8. of or related to ships, navigation, or sailing (8 letters)

9. assuming too much (12 letters)

10. not strict; permissive (7 letters)

Bonus: fickle; changing on a whim
Puzzle #2

1. embankment or pier; (5 letters)
2. very expensive (11 letters)
3. most essential part (12 letters)
4. urge or force to action (5 letters)
5. something made up; lie; untruth (11 letters)
6. very clear and direct (8 letters)
7. dull; boring (7 letters)
8. abhorrence; dislike; disgust (6 letters)
9. wrong (9 letters)
10. thin; transparent (10 letters)

Bonus: lacking moral discipline or restraint; lewd
Puzzle #3

1. moral corruption (9 letters)

2. exact copy or reproduction (9 letters)

3. lie or relax in a warm environment; take pleasure or enjoyment (4 letters)

4. false; calculating (12 letters)

5. driven by lust (10 letters)

6. something that interferes with or delays action or progress (9 letters)

7. evil speech; curse (11 letters)

8. easily accomplished or attained (6 letters)

9. never giving up (11 letters)

10. refuse to accept (9 letters)

Bonus: undecided; unclear
**Puzzle #4**

- **1.** summon or signal with an inviting wave or nod (6 letters)
- **2.** echo (8 letters)
- **3.** mild; moderate (9 letters)
- **4.** impulsive (9 letters)
- **5.** regard someone or something as perfect (8 letters)
- **6.** something that interferes with or delays action or progress (9 letters)
- **7.** adequate; sufficient (12 letters)
- **8.** reserved; restrained; reluctant to talk or draw attention (8 letters)
- **9.** shelf set above a fireplace (6 letters)
- **10.** unselfish concern for others; self-sacrifice (8 letters)

**Bonus:** smug; self-satisfied
Puzzle #5

1. odd; not fitting a particular pattern (9 letters)

2. arrogant or haughty (12 letters)

3. trick (4 letters)

4. a typical example (7 letters)

5. event that occurs at a critical time (8 letters)

6. requiring much physical effort (9 letters)

7. praise, glorify, or honor (4 letters)

8. careful to consider all feelings and consequences; prudent (11 letters)

9. wrong (9 letters)

10. false; calculating (12 letters)

**Bonus:** doing only what is right or proper; having moral integrity
Puzzle #6

1. aggressively conceited and presumptuous (9 letters)

2. suspicious; fearful (12 letters)

3. unsophisticated; inexperienced (5 letters)

4. worship or adore unquestionably and to excess (7 letters)

5. being similar or comparable in nature (11 letters)

6. take the place of; serve as a substitute for (8 letters)

7. someone who travels from one region to another in search of work (7 letters)

8. quirk or unique trait (12 letters)

9. manner of walking or moving (4 letters)

10. obvious (7 letters)

Bonus: someone on foot, walking; unimaginative or boring
Puzzle #7

1. support (7 letters)

2. penetrate; understand; probe (6 letters)

3. wealthy elderly woman (7 letters)

4. clumsy or inexpert (5 letters)

5. based on guesswork; not proven (12 letters)

6. meant to be humorous or not taken seriously (9 letters)

7. weak; no longer strong or vital (6 letters)

8. aggression (12 letters)

9. without restraint (9 letters)

10. unwilling; reluctant (5 letters)

Bonus: odd mixture or combination
Puzzle #8

1. unjustified (11 letters)
2. shelf set above a fireplace (6 letters)
3. cause or bring into existence (8 letters)
4. doubtful (7 letters)
5. loose robe (6 letters)
6. place where two or more things come together; being joined (8 letters)
7. penetration; seeing the inner nature of something (7 letters)
8. driven by lust; lewd (10 letters)
9. using indecent or vulgar language; obscene (10 letters)
10. moving or bending with ease (5 letters)

Bonus: speak out against someone or something
Puzzle #9

1. lacking in strength or firmness (3 letters)
2. take back (6 letters)
3. maze; complex system of paths or tunnels (9 letters)
4. deceptive; pretending to be good or virtuous (12 letters)
5. easily accomplished or attained (6 letters)
6. abundant (4 letters)
7. showing enthusiasm or exhilaration (9 letters)
8. to the side (7 letters)
9. result brought about by something else (6 letters)
10. compensation for a professional service (10 letters)

Bonus: to excite
DOUBLe-WORD PUZZLeS

Puzzle #10

1. cloak or cape as a symbol of authority (6 letters)

2. make a start; go on board (6 letters)

3. ill-tempered; cranky (12 letters)

4. favorable; fortunate (10 letters)

5. equal; believer in equality (11 letters)

6. sign; support (7 letters)

7. truthful or sincere; free from bias (6 letters)

8. showing esteem or respect (11 letters)

9. showing enthusiasm or exhilaration (9 letters)

10. lawful or valid (10 letters)

Bonus: revival
# DOUBLE-WORD PUZZLES

## Word List for Chapter 10

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Word</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>altruism</td>
<td>effect</td>
<td>idiosyncrasy</td>
<td>mantel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ambivalent</td>
<td>effete</td>
<td>idolize</td>
<td>mantle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>anomalous</td>
<td>egalitarian</td>
<td>impel</td>
<td>metaphorical</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>apprehensive</td>
<td>embark</td>
<td>impetuous</td>
<td>migrant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>auspicious</td>
<td>endorse</td>
<td>imponderable</td>
<td>naive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bask</td>
<td>ephemeral</td>
<td>inept</td>
<td>nautical</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>beckon</td>
<td>epitome</td>
<td>insight</td>
<td>pedestrian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>belligerence</td>
<td>erroneous</td>
<td>ire</td>
<td>presumptuous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>blatant</td>
<td>exhilarate</td>
<td>junction</td>
<td>prohibitive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bolster</td>
<td>explicit</td>
<td>juncture</td>
<td>quintessence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bumptious</td>
<td>fabrication</td>
<td>kimono</td>
<td>repudiate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cacophonous</td>
<td>facetious</td>
<td>laborious</td>
<td>resonate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>candid</td>
<td>facile</td>
<td>labyrinth</td>
<td>reticent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cantankerous</td>
<td>facsimile</td>
<td>lackadasical</td>
<td>revoke</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>capricious</td>
<td>facile</td>
<td>lascivious</td>
<td>rife</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>circumspect</td>
<td>fathom</td>
<td>lateral</td>
<td>ruse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>complacent</td>
<td>gait</td>
<td>laborious</td>
<td>satisfactory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>deferential</td>
<td>generate</td>
<td>legitimate</td>
<td>scrupulous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>denunciate</td>
<td>hindrance</td>
<td>lenient</td>
<td>scurrilous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>depravity</td>
<td>Hodgepodge</td>
<td>licentious</td>
<td>supercilious</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>diaphanous</td>
<td>homogeneity</td>
<td>lithe</td>
<td>supplant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>disingenuous</td>
<td>honorarium</td>
<td>loath</td>
<td>tedious</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dowager</td>
<td>hypocracy</td>
<td>loathe</td>
<td>temperate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dubious</td>
<td>hypothetical</td>
<td>malediction</td>
<td>unbridled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ebullient</td>
<td>idealize</td>
<td>malediction</td>
<td>unrelenting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>efface</td>
<td>disadvantage</td>
<td>malediction</td>
<td>unwarranted</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
DOUBLe-WOrD PUZZLeS

Answers

Puzzle #1
1. cacophonous
2. efface
3. ephemeral
4. imponderable
5. ire
6. lackadaisical
7. metaphorical
8. nautical
9. presumptuous
10. lenient
Bonus: ambivalent

Puzzle #2
1. levee
2. prohibitive
3. quintessence
4. impel
5. fabrication
6. explicit
7. tedious
8. loathe
9. erroneous
10. diaphanous
Bonus: licentious

Puzzle #3
1. depravity
2. facsimile
3. bask
4. disingenuous
5. lascivious
6. hindrance
7. malevolent
8. facile
9. unrelenting
10. repudiate
Bonus: capricious

Puzzle #4
1. beckon
2. resonate
3. temperate
4. impetuous
5. idealize
6. hindrance
7. satisfactory
8. reticent
9. mantel
10. altruism
Bonus: complacent

Puzzle #5
1. anomalous
2. supercilious
3. ruse
4. epitome
5. juncture
6. laborious
7. laud
8. circumspect
9. erroneous
10. disingenuous
Bonus: scrupulous
Double-Word Puzzles

Puzzle #6
1. bumptious
2. apprehensive
3. naive
4. idolize
5. homogeneity
6. supplant
7. migrant
8. idiosyncrasy
9. gait
10. blatant
Bonus: denunciate

Puzzle #7
1. bolster
2. fathom
3. dowager
4. inept
5. hypothetical
6. facetious
7. effete
8. belligerence
9. unbridled
10. loath
Bonus: hodgepodge

Puzzle #8
1. unwarranted
2. mantel
3. generate
4. dubious
5. kimono
6. junction
7. insight
8. lascivious
9. scurrilous
10. lithe
Bonus: exhilarate

Puzzle #9
1. lax
2. revoke
3. labyrinth
4. hypocritical
5. facile
6. rife
7. ebullient
8. lateral
9. effect
10. honorarium
Bonus: denunciate

Puzzle #10
1. mantle
2. embark
3. cantankerous
4. auspicious
5. egalitarian
6. endorse
7. candid
8. deferential
9. ebullient
10. legitimate
Bonus: resurgence
In this chapter, you will learn the spellings and definitions of common PSAT/SAT vocabulary words through fun cryptograms.

**Instructions**

Fill in numbers 1 through 26 in order in the following hint boxes. You will then have a number corresponding to each letter for the entire alphabet.

Then, use these letter-number pairs to solve each definition. Once you’ve figured out the definition, unscramble each word.

Answers are found at the back of the chapter. Don’t peek!
Cryptogram #1

Unscramble: B E L L A I

Cryptogram #2

Unscramble: R E D L A I D E

Cryptogram #3

Unscramble: V E Y L
Cryptogram #4

Unscramble: F I D D I F T E N

Cryptogram #5

Unscramble: S A B E A

Cryptogram #6

Unscramble: R E A T A L L
Cryptogram #7


Unscramble: R A B Y A R R I T

Cryptogram #8

B T H Z J Y E I V K X Q W A F R L N S G M O C D U P

Unscramble: R E D E T
Cryptogram #9

G Z C X H Q I W S J A O D F E R B N T M K V L P U Y

Unscramble: V O R A D A B

11 16 16 12 1 11 18 19 13 7 9 24 23 11 26

12 14 17 12 23 13 18 15 9 9

Cryptogram #10

I K B Z G X D E Y A W S O T L V C R H U N F Q P J M

Unscramble: P Y H A T A

15 10 17 2 13 22 8 21 18 5 9 13 18

1 21 14 8 18 8 12 14
Answers

Cryptogram #1
legally responsible or obligated
LIABLE

Cryptogram #2
thrown off course
DERAILED

Cryptogram #3
Impose or collect; seize
LEVY

Cryptogram #4
hesitant; self-doubting
DIFFIDENT

Cryptogram #5
lower or degrade
ABASE

Cryptogram #6
to the side
LATERAL

Cryptogram #7
random; subject to individual
judgment
ARBITRARY

Cryptogram #8
put off or discourage
DETER

Cryptogram #9
arrogant display of boldness
BRAVADO

Cryptogram #10
lack of energy or interest
APATHY
PART III

Set a Foolproof Strategy
Congratulations! You’ve finished the games in this book—which means you’ve taken a big step in improving your vocabulary skills. However, you may still have some time before the big day, right? Let’s look at some more preparation you can do, to make sure your score is the absolute best it can be.

**Six Months Before Test Day**

So, you’ve got some time before the PSAT or SAT exam. That’s great! Read on for some additional things you can do to prepare yourself for the big day—from supersizing your vocabulary to learning the ins and outs of the exam and making sure you’re in good shape—both physically and mentally—on the day of the test.

**Keep Up the Vocab Workout**

By now you’re aware that a good working vocabulary is an important asset on the Verbal sections of the PSAT and SAT. But did you know that the best way to learn vocabulary is also the easiest? Simply keep
PLANNING AND PREPARING

an eye out for unfamiliar words, add them to a running list, and then set aside a few minutes each day to learn some of the words on that list.

DECONSTRUCT, DECONSTRUCT, DECONSTRUCT

When learning new words, remember to break them down into roots, prefixes, and suffixes (as you learned in Chapters 1 through 3). You’ll be surprised to see how quickly knowing these will help you figure out definitions—and increase your vocabulary!

Let’s figure it out. How much time do you have until you take the exam? Is it a month, three months, a year? Whatever the length of time, you still have a chance to substantially improve your vocabulary before sitting down with that test booklet.

So here’s what you do. Count out the number of days before test day. (Don’t count the night before—you’ll be busy resting and rewarding yourself that night. See “The Night Before Test Day” in this chapter for more details.) Then, multiply the number of days by five. The result is the number of new vocabulary words you’ll know before the exam—by learning just five words a day. You can handle that, right? Of course you can!

VOCAB IN A FLASH

One easy way to learn your five new words per day is to use flashcards. Write a word on one side and the definition on the other, then keep the cards with you to practice whenever you have spare time. You can use them to study alone, or quiz a friend—then have that friend quiz you. Flashcards are a great way to get in some study time anywhere. (If you’re a techie or the kind of person who carries a mobile device at all times, check out some of the free flashcard apps available.)

Remember to be on the lookout for new words everywhere. Jot down unfamiliar words you see on signs, hear in conversations, or come across while reading your favorite magazines. Make sure your new
words list is always with you, so you can keep track of the ones you’ve learned and the ones you have on deck for the next time you have some time to kill!

**Familiarize Yourself with the Exam**
One big advantage you can give yourself on the day of the test is to know exactly what to expect, from how the exam is structured to approximately how long it will take you to complete each section and when to spend time figuring out an answer versus when to just make an educated guess. Fortunately, there are lots of practice tools out there that can help you do just that.

**TALK IT OUT**
When you learn a new word, try to use it as soon as you can. Practical knowledge—using something you’ve learned in the real world—is often the best way to really integrate something into your mind. So talk to your friends, your family, and your teachers using SAT words—to help you remember those words when it counts. Work these words into e-mails and essays. See how many people can keep up with your vocab skills!

**Books**
You can find the most up-to-date practice books in your local library or in most bookstores. If you decide to use books to take practice exams, it’s especially important to make sure that you’re giving yourself the same amount of time to complete each section as you’ll get on the day of the test. You can find some suggestions for good books in the Resources section on page 151.

**Online**
Another great way to practice for the PSAT or SAT exam is to take an actual practice exam online. These exams often consist of actual questions used on past SAT exams. There are lots of practice tests available on the Internet—some are free, and others can be accessed for a
fee—but a great place to start is the College Board website, www.collegeboard.com. Some other suggestions for good practice sites are located in the Resources section on page 151.

**Time Management**

While you’re taking practice tests, be sure to keep an eye on the time. The basic rule of PSAT/SAT test taking is to allow yourself one minute per question, but depending on your strengths, some questions will take you less time, and others will take more. Don’t consider the “one-minute rule” to be hard and fast, but do be aware of the amount of time you’re taking—and don’t spend too much time on any one question.

When working on a question you’re not sure of, be sure to eliminate wrong answer choices wherever you can. Cross out the ones you know are wrong on the test sheet so you can concentrate on the remaining possibilities, giving yourself a better chance at finding the right answer.

And don’t forget that you can always go back and revisit questions if you come to the end of a section before time is up. Just circle the number of the question so you can find it easily if you have extra time at the end to go back to it.

**Don’t Rely on Guessing**

The SAT has been set up to penalize test-takers for random guessing. So making an educated guess if you think you know the answer is fine, but don’t just fill in answers as time runs out just to answer questions. You’ll lose more for an incorrect guess than you will if you just leave that question blank.

**Play to Your Strengths**

You know better than anyone else what comes easily for you, and what you have to work hard on. So if one type of question in a particular section is easier for you than another, skip right to it and answer those questions first. Remember, you get the same point value for an easy correct answer as you do for a difficult one—so answer the easy questions first and save the ones you find harder for last!
A Few Weeks Before Test Day

As test day looms closer, you may start to feel a bit of panic set in. Don’t worry, that’s normal. Besides, you have nothing to worry about because you’ve been preparing all along. So take a deep breath and relax!

**Schedule Study Time**

One way to really set your mind at ease is to put together a study schedule for the next few weeks leading up to the exam. Try to map out a half hour to an hour a day, and decide what you’ll be working on in advance. Then, when you’ve completed your study session, stop! Studying regularly in small intervals is often more effective than trying to cram too much information into long, sleepless nights. When your allotted study time is up, close your book, turn off the computer, and go do something fun.

**Step Away from the Chips!**

You’ve probably heard that the best way to prepare yourself for anything stressful is to be sure that you’re in good health. Lots of us tend to reach for the snacks while studying—and even more so when feeling stressed out over a big exam—but it goes without saying that healthy foods are best for keeping your mind and body in tip-top shape.

And speaking of shape, you know what else is a great stress-buster? Exercise. See Chapter 13 for more details, but the fact is that regular exercise helps keep the mind alert, reduces fatigue, and results in a better night’s sleep.

A Few Days Before Test Day

A few days before the exam is the best time for some last-minute brush-ups. Grab your book or log on to your computer and take a practice exam one final time. Focus on your problem areas, and give yourself a little extra study time in those areas. Review everything you know about the SAT exam to make sure that there will be absolutely no surprises on test day.
PLANNING AND PREPARING

Do a Dry Run
It’s not only a good idea to be as familiar as you can be with the test itself, but it’s also smart to know exactly where you’ll be going—and how you’ll be getting there—on the day of the test so you don’t wake up in a panic about it. Find out where your test center is located, and go there at the same time and day of the week as your exam is scheduled. Take the same mode of transportation you will be using on exam day, so you can get a good sense ahead of time about unexplained glitches in Google Maps, construction that may force you to take a detour, or unforeseen public transportation issues.

Review Test-Taking Policies
There are very specific guidelines that determine what you can and can’t bring into the test center, as well as security and fairness regulations in place at the test centers. Be sure to get a copy of these guidelines (either from your guidance office at school or online at The College Board website) and familiarize yourself with them, so you know what you can expect when you arrive.

Get Organized
Gather together everything you will need the day of the test and put it in a safe place (see Chapter 14 for a checklist of essential items). That way, you won’t have to worry about rushing around before you leave in the morning, looking for your admission ticket or a calculator.

The Day Before Test Day
You’ve worked hard, and your efforts are about to pay off. But it’s the day before the exam, and you’re going to work really hard tomorrow to do the best you can on the PSAT or SAT. You’re as ready as you’ll ever be, so take this opportunity to give yourself a well-deserved break.

Tonight, your assignment is to watch a good movie, spend some time with your friends, play a video game or board game with family members, or do another fun and relaxing activity. Be sure to get to bed
early enough to guarantee a full night’s rest. The only thing you should not do is think about the SAT exam.

On the Big Day

It’s finally here! The day you’ve been preparing for all these weeks and months has arrived, but don’t worry. You’ve studied, you’ve learned how the test is administered and what to look for, and you know exactly how long it’s going to take to get to the test center. So you have nothing at all to worry about. Just concentrate on doing your best on the exam.

Prepare with Protein

You’ve got a long day ahead of you, so be sure to start the morning right. Eat a good breakfast, which ideally should be rich in protein. (It’s widely believed that protein helps increase alertness and response time.) Some good choices are eggs, grains, nuts, or dairy products such as yogurt or cottage cheese. Whatever you choose, make sure to eat enough. You don’t want everyone to hear your stomach growling half an hour into the exam.

Load Up on Layers

You won’t have any control over the temperature in the room in which you’ll be sitting for the next several hours, and the last thing you need is to be distracted by chattering teeth or sweat pooling across your forehead. Wear something comfortable, but be sure to include layers, so you’re guaranteed not to be too hot or too warm while you’re taking the test.

Keep an Eye on the Clock

Make sure that you give yourself plenty of time to get to the test center, even if major traffic or a natural disaster suddenly decides to get in your way. You don’t want to be rushing into the room at the last minute.

That’s it! You’re ready to go out there and get a great score on the PSAT or SAT. Just one final thing—make sure you have a post-test celebration in mind, because you definitely deserve it.

Good luck!
Let’s face it. As well prepared as you are for your test, you might be feeling some stress and anxiety about it. This is normal—anxiety is a common response to difficult situations, and it happens to many people.

Luckily, though, there are many things you can do to combat stress and anxiety, and ensure that you arrive at the test center relaxed and ready to take on the exam. The first thing to do is remind yourself that you’ve studied and practiced, so you’re undeniably ready for the challenge. Feel confident in the knowledge that, unlike many others, you’re walking into that exam room prepared for what lies ahead.

But sometimes knowing that you’re ready isn’t enough. In that case, there are some simple exercises you can do to keep yourself calm and collected. These exercises can help you deal with stress, and can be done anywhere, anytime. Whenever you feel yourself starting to panic about the upcoming exam, just take some time to do one of the following.
**Deep Breathing**

Just breathe in and out? Really? Yes, it’s that simple. Take a few minutes to sit back, close your eyes, and concentrate on taking deep, regular breaths. This simple act will help slow your heart rate and make you feel calmer.

**Muscle Relaxation**

Sit in a chair or on the floor, or lie on your bed. Begin by tensing each of your muscles for a count of ten, then slowly relaxing them. Work from your toes up to your shoulders, and then back down again. You’ll feel more rested and relaxed in no time.

**Visualization**

It may sound silly, but many people believe that they do better in stressful situations and accomplish goals more easily if they’ve first pictured themselves succeeding. So, take a few minutes to sit back, relax, and imagine yourself walking into the test center. You’ve prepared, you’ve got all your materials with you, you’ve slept well and eaten a good breakfast, and you’re armed with the knowledge you need to ace the test. Now, picture yourself leaning over the test booklet, flipping confidently through it, knowing some answers right away, making educated guesses about others, and knowing that it’s okay to leave some blank if you really have no idea. Then picture yourself confidently closing the booklet, standing up, and heading out to celebrate when you’re done. It doesn’t seem so bad now, does it?

**Meditation**

The idea behind meditation is to relax your body while concentrating on one thing. Sit or lie in a comfortable position, close your eyes, and
try thinking about a positive outcome on the exam. Breathe deeply in and out for ten minutes. You’ll find that you feel more relaxed and re-freshed afterward.

If you’re familiar with the moves, yoga is also a great way to relax your body and prepare your mind to concentrate. But don’t strain your muscles doing anything you’re not used to—the point here is to relax, not to put undue stress on your body.

**Exercise**

Exercise is another great way to get rid of stress. But exercise doesn’t have to consist of lifting weights or running on the treadmill at the gym; it can be a game of touch football with your friends, playing with your dog in the park, or even some time spent dancing to your favorite songs in your room. Work up a sweat and put those anxious thoughts out of your mind. Your body—and your brain—will thank you for it!

**Walk Away from Naysayers**

Sometimes it helps to vent about a stressful situation to family or friends, but other times it can add to your anxiety. If someone you know is constantly complaining about how hard the SAT exam is, or how she knows she’s going to crash and burn, it’s okay to change the subject. Really. Just shrug and say that all you can do is prepare, and then go do exactly that.

Regardless of what method you choose, the important thing to re-member is to not let anxiety put you on edge before the exam. Keep in mind that the hardest part of taking the PSAT or SAT is often the time leading up to the exam itself. Just do the best you can, and don’t worry about anything else.
What to Bring

☐ photo ID
☐ admission ticket
☐ sharpened pencils (Number 2)
☐ eraser
☐ calculator (graphing, scientific, or four-function ONLY) with extra batteries
☐ water
☐ snack
☐ watch (with no audio alerts)

What NOT to Bring

☐ mobile phone
☐ iPod, MP3 player, or CD player
☐ iPad or laptop computer
☐ Blackberry, mobile organizer, or PDA
☐ highlighters, markers, pens, or colored pencils
☐ notes or other paper
TEST-DAY CHECKLIST

☐ books
☐ camera or photographic equipment

What to Do

☐ eat a good breakfast
☐ dress in layers so you’re comfortable in the exam room
☐ pack some water and a healthy snack for your break
☐ leave early so you are sure to arrive on time, even if there’s traffic
Glossary

A
abase  lower or degrade
abashed  ashamed
abdicate  give up a position of leadership
abridge  shorten or edit down while keeping the essential elements
accolade  praise
achromatic  without hue; free from color
acumen  keen insight and perception
adroit  skillful
adversary  opponent
adverse  contrary or opposed; unfavorable
advocate  argue in favor of something
aesthetic  appreciation of beauty or art
affinity  relationship or close connection
affluent  wealthy, rich
agriculture  science or practice of farming
allege  to insist or assert, usually without proof
allusion  indirect reference
altruism  unselfish concern for others; self-sacrifice
ambivalent  undecided; unclear
amoral  neither moral nor immoral; being beyond a particular code of conduct
amorous  showing love
anachronism  an artifact that belongs to another time
analogy  comparison
anecdote  short story or account of something interesting
annihilate  vanquish completely; make someone or something cease to exist
anomalous  odd; not fitting a particular pattern
anthology collection of writings
antiseptic sterile; thoroughly clean and free of disease
apathy lack of energy or interest
apparition something that “appears”; a ghost
appraise set a value or estimate the cost of something
apprehensive suspicious; fearful
apprise give notice; tell
arable capable of growing crops
arbitrary random; subject to individual judgment
arbitration resolution of a dispute by an impartial party
arboreal of or relating to trees
arcane obscure; requiring secret or mysterious knowledge
archaic old-fashioned; outdated
arduous difficult
arid extremely dry; lacking sufficient rainfall
articulate express well in words
artifact something created by humans and remaining from a particular era
artisan crafts person
ascetic practicing extreme self-denial
aspersion negative or disparaging remark
assuage lessen; make better
atrophy wither away, decay
auger tool used for making holes or removing loose material
augur a person who foretells events or sees the future
auspicious favorable; fortunate
averse having a feeling of intense dislike or repulsion
axiom statement that is widely accepted as true
azure light shade of blue
B
ballad narrative poem, often in lyric form
banal dull, unoriginal
bask lie or relax in a warm environment; take pleasure or enjoyment
bauble trinket
beckon summon or signal with an inviting wave or nod
bedlam madhouse; scene of uproar and confusion
believe misrepresent or give a false impression
bellicose warlike
belligerence aggression
benefactor person who gives charitable gifts
benevolent kind
benign mild or gentle
beseech implore or beg
bestial animal-like
betroth promise to marry
bibliomania passion for books
bibulous fond of drinking alcoholic beverages
bide wait for
bifurcate cut in two
bilateral two-sided
bilingual speaking two languages
GLOSSARY

blanch  whiten; turn pale
blasé  sophisticated; unconcerned with pleasure or excitement
blatant  obvious
bleak  hopeless; barren and lacking in warmth or life
blithe  joyous
boll  round pod or seed capsule
bolster  support
bombastic  too elaborate; exaggerated
boor  one who is rude or crude
botanical  of or related to plants
braggart  someone who boasts or brags
bravado  arrogant display of boldness
brevity  shortness; conciseness
brigand  someone who lives by plundering or theft
brine  strong saline or salt water
browbeat  intimidate with strong language
brusque  blunt or rude in manner or speech
bucolic  of or related to the countryside and farming
bullock  young ox or steer
bumptious  aggressively conceited and presumptuous

c  cacophonous  noisy; unpleasant sounding
callous  cruel; unfeeling
candid  truthful or sincere; free from bias
cantankerous  ill-tempered; cranky
canvas  tightly woven material used for tents and sails; framed cloth for painting
canvass  examine or inspect; seek orders or votes
capricious  fickle; changing on a whim
censor  person who supervises conduct or morals; suppress or delete anything
censure  official reprimand or condemnation
cerebral  brainy; intelligent
cherished  cared for; loved
chicanery  trickery
chide  scold
chronicle  a written history; to write a history
churlish  ill-mannered; rude
circumlocution  ambiguous, indirect, and wordy language
circumspect  careful to consider all feelings and consequences; prudent
cite  refer to or quote authoritatively; call upon officially
clairvoyant  able to perceive things (such as the future) that the normal senses cannot
cliché  overused expression
cohesive  forming a whole; sticking together
collateral  property pledged as security for a debt; accompanying; secondary
comely  pleasing; attractive
compare  find similarities or resemblances
complacent  smug; self-satisfied
complement  make something complete
compliment  expression of respect or affection; good wishes
compose  form; produce; create
comprise  made up of; included within a particular scope
concur  agree
concurrent  occurring at the same time; running parallel
conducive  promoting or leading to something
conjugal  of or relating to marriage; matrimonial
connote  associate as a consequence; express indirectly or imply
connubial  of or related to the relationship between spouses
conscience  moral sense of right and wrong
conscious  awake; aware
consecutive  following one after the other in order
continual  recurring in rapid succession; occurring frequently or regularly
continuous  nonstop; continuing uninterrupted
contrast  find a degree of difference
convince  encourage; talk someone into something
convivial  friendly; sociable
convoluted  complicated; long-winded
cosmopolitan  sophisticated; worldly
council  an advisory or legislative body or group
counsel  advice, policy, or plan of action
counterfeit  fake
credence  belief
cryptic  hidden; mysterious
cultivate  nurture; prepare and improve
curtail  lessen or reduce
D
decent  appropriate; free from immodesty or obscenity
decimate  destroy or reduce drastically
decipher  decode; interpret
decorous  proper; correct
deferential  showing esteem or respect
deft  skillful
defuse  make less harmful or tense
denote  indicate; make known
denunciate  speak out against someone or something
depravity  moral corruption
derailed  thrown off course
derivative  unoriginal
descent  downward inclination; deriving from an ancestor
desolate  dreary; barren
despotic  acting like a tyrant
destitute  completely impoverished
deter  put off or discourage
detritus  trash
diaphanous  thin; transparent
dichotomy  division into two contradictory groups
dictum  often-used saying
didactic  intended to teach or instruct
diffident  hesitant; self-doubting
diffuse  not concentrated; spread out
digress  go off-subject; turn attention away
dilettante  someone who dabbles in the arts
dirge  somber, mournful song for the dead
discreet  modest; having good moral judgment
discrete  separate; individually distinct
disdain  contempt
disingenuous  false; calculating
disinterested  impartial; unbiased
dispassionate  unbiased; fair
dispute  argue or debate; oppose; verbal disagreement or controversy
distend  swell out
docile  easily taught or managed
dowager  wealthy elderly woman
dubious  doubtful

edict  formal or authoritative statement or announcement
efface  eliminate; obliterate
effect  result brought about by something else
effervescent  lively; bubbly
effete  weak; no longer strong or vital
effusive  excessively emotional; “gushing”
egalitarian  equal; believer in equality
egregious  conspicuously bad
egress  place of exit
elated  thrilled; overjoyed
elegy  lyric poem lamenting the dead
elicit  to draw out (especially in reference to emotion or information)
elite  privileged
elocution  correct and proper inflection and intonation in speech
elude  avoid or escape
emaciate  waste away; cause to lose flesh
emanate  come out or flow forth from a source
emancipate  free from the power or control of others; release from bondage
embark  make a start; go on board
embellish  make beautiful or elegant with ornamentation
embezzle  steal money by falsifying documents
emigrant  one who departs a country to settle elsewhere

ebullient  showing enthusiasm or exhilaration
eccentric  peculiar; odd
ecstatic  overwhelmingly happy
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>eminent</td>
<td>standing out or above in quality or position</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>empathy</td>
<td>sharing another’s emotions or feelings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>enamor</td>
<td>fill with love for someone or something</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>endorse</td>
<td>sign; support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>enigma</td>
<td>puzzle; riddle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ensure</td>
<td>to make certain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ephemeral</td>
<td>short-lived</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>epistolary</td>
<td>of or relating to letters and letter-writing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>epitome</td>
<td>a typical example</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>equitable</td>
<td>fair and equal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>equivocate</td>
<td>ambiguous or vague in speech; noncommittal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>erroneous</td>
<td>wrong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>erudite</td>
<td>showing vast knowledge; learned</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>esoteric</td>
<td>limited to a small circle; requiring specialized information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>evasive</td>
<td>avoiding or hiding something</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>exhilarate</td>
<td>excite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>explicit</td>
<td>very clear and direct</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fabrication</td>
<td>something made up; lie; untruth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>facetious</td>
<td>meant to be humorous or not taken seriously</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>facile</td>
<td>easily accomplished or attained</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>facsimile</td>
<td>exact copy or reproduction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fallible</td>
<td>capable of making an error or mistake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>famish</td>
<td>suffer from extreme hunger; starve</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fathom</td>
<td>unit that measures water depth; penetrate; understand; probe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fecund</td>
<td>fertile; fruitful</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>feral</td>
<td>wild; untamed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fervent</td>
<td>hot; passionate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fidelity</td>
<td>loyalty; devotion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>figuratively</td>
<td>symbolically; metaphorically</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>filial</td>
<td>referring to the child-parent relationship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>flaunt</td>
<td>show off shamelessly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>florid</td>
<td>excessively elaborate or showy; flowery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>flotsam</td>
<td>floating wreckage or rubbish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>flounder</td>
<td>struggle or thrash about</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>flout</td>
<td>disregard; show scorn or contempt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>foraging</td>
<td>searching for food</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>foreboding</td>
<td>prediction, omen, or sense of doom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>foreword</td>
<td>introductory note or preface</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>forward</td>
<td>toward the front; send on or pass along</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>founder</td>
<td>one who founds or establishes; give way or sink</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>frugal</td>
<td>economical</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>funereal</td>
<td>of or relating to a burial or grave</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gambol</td>
<td>frolic; skip about</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gamut</td>
<td>entire series or range</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
GLOSSARY

garnish  decorate or accessorize
garrote  strangulation
gendarme  police officer or soldier, especially in France
generate  cause or bring into existence
genteel  having an elegant or superior quality
germane  relevant and appropriate
gesticulate  make movements or gestures while speaking
ghastly  horrible or terrifying
gibe  tease; taunt
 glutinous  glue-like; gummy
 glutonous  having an enormous appetite
gourmand  one who greatly enjoys eating and drinking
-grandioso  exaggerated or overblown

H
habitable  suitable for living
hackneyed  overused; trite
halcyon  calm and peaceful; tranquil
harangue  give a ranting speech
hardy  able to withstand adverse conditions
heinous  extremely wicked; reprehensible
herbivorous  feeding only on plants
hereditary  occurring among members of a family
hindrance  something that interferes with or delays action or progress
hirsute  coarsely hairy; shaggy

hodgepodge  odd mixture or combination
homage  respect; honor
homogeneity  being similar or comparable in nature
honorarium  compensation for a professional service
hypocritical  deceptive; pretending to be good or virtuous
hypothetical  based on guesswork; not proven
I
iconoclast  someone who goes against accepted authority
idealize  regard someone or something as perfect
idiom  phrase that cannot be translated literally into another language
idiosyncrasy  quirk or unique trait
idolize  worship or adore unquestionably and to excess
ignominious  state of dishonor or shame
illicit  unlawful
illusion  something that is misleading or deceptive
imbibe  absorb; drink
imbroglio  complicated situation; entanglement
immigrant  someone who settles in a new country
imminent  at hand; about to occur
immoral  unethical; morally objectionable
impeccable  faultless; without errors or flaws
impecunious  habitually lacking money; poor
impede  get in the way; hinder
impel  urge or force to action
impervious  unaffected; impenetrable
impetuous  impulsive
imply  suggest; express or state indirectly
imponderable  impossible to understand
incidence  frequency of occurrence
incidents  happenings; events that could lead to a grave consequence
incite  move to action; stir up
indigence  extreme poverty
indigenous  occurring naturally or originating in a particular region
inept  clumsy or inexpert
infatuated  foolishly or extravagantly in love
infer  guess; deduce
inflammable  able to be set on fire
ingenious  resourceful, clever
inherent  inbuilt; genetic
inoculate  introduce a microorganism in order to treat or prevent a disease; vaccinate
insight  penetration; seeing the inner nature of something
insure  provide or obtain insurance; take precaution
intricate  complicated
iota  shred; tiny amount
ire  great anger; wrath
iridescent  showing varying rainbow colors
irrefutable  cannot be proved wrong
irrelevant  having no connection with an issue or subject; unrelated
irreverent  showing disrespect
jargon  slang
jeopardize  put into danger; threaten
jibe  agree or be in accord; shift suddenly and forcibly
jocular  humorous
jovial  jolly; full of good humor
jubilant  extremely joyful
judicious  fair and equal; having good judgment or common sense
junction  place where two or more things come together; being joined
juncture  event that occurs at a critical time
jurisprudence  philosophy, science, and study of law
juxtapose  place side by side for contrasting effect
kiln  furnace or oven for drying or hardening pottery or bricks
kimono  loose robe
kinship  relationship or affinity between people
knave  one who is tricky or dishonest
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>laborious</td>
<td>requiring much physical effort</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>labyrinth</td>
<td>maze; complex system of paths or tunnels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lacerate</td>
<td>cut, tear, or rip irregularly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lackadaisical</td>
<td>dreamy; without interest or enthusiasm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>laconic</td>
<td>brief or terse in writing or speech</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lament</td>
<td>express regret</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>languid</td>
<td>lacking in liveliness or spirit; dreamy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lascivious</td>
<td>driven by lust; lewd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>latent</td>
<td>existing or present, but concealed or inactive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lateral</td>
<td>to the side</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>laud</td>
<td>praise, glorify, or honor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lax</td>
<td>lacking in strength or firmness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>legible</td>
<td>capable of being read or deciphered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>legitimate</td>
<td>lawful or valid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lenient</td>
<td>not strict; permissive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lethargic</td>
<td>fatigue; abnormal drowsiness or weariness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>levee</td>
<td>embankment or pier; formal reception of guests</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>leviathan</td>
<td>largest or most massive of its kind</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>levity</td>
<td>humor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>levy</td>
<td>impose or collect; seize</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lexicon</td>
<td>vocabulary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>liable</td>
<td>legally responsible or obligated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>libel</td>
<td>written statement that is false and malicious</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>licentious</td>
<td>lacking moral discipline or restraint; lewd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>linear</td>
<td>of or along or relating to a line</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>literally</td>
<td>actually; word-for-word</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lithe</td>
<td>moving or bending with ease</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>litigious</td>
<td>eager or prone to engaging in lawsuits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>livid</td>
<td>red in color; furious</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>loath</td>
<td>unwilling; reluctant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>loathe</td>
<td>great dislike or disgust</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>loquacious</td>
<td>talkative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lucrative</td>
<td>profitable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>luminous</td>
<td>glowing brightly; radiant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>magnanimous</td>
<td>noble; generous in spirit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>maize</td>
<td>corn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>malediction</td>
<td>evil speech; curse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>maleficient</td>
<td>harmful or evil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>malevolent</td>
<td>wishing harm to others</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mandate</td>
<td>official command or instruction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>maneuver</td>
<td>tactic; deliberate, coordinated movement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>manifesto</td>
<td>statement of values</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mantel</td>
<td>shelf set above a fireplace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mantle</td>
<td>cloak or cape as a symbol of authority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>marital</td>
<td>of or relating to marriage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>martial</td>
<td>suited for war; related to military life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glossary Terms</td>
<td>Definitions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mediocre</td>
<td>average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mendicancy</td>
<td>begging</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mercenary</td>
<td>someone who would do anything for money</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>metaphorical</td>
<td>figurative; not literal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>migrant</td>
<td>someone who travels from one region to another in search of work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>milieu</td>
<td>environment; surroundings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>miscreant</td>
<td>someone who has behaved badly or illegally</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mitigated</td>
<td>made less severe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>munificent</td>
<td>generosity; giving or bestowing liberally</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N</td>
<td>naïve unsophisticated; inexperienced</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>narrate</td>
<td>tell a story</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nascent</td>
<td>just begun; in early stages of development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>natal</td>
<td>of or related to birth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nautical</td>
<td>of or related to ships, navigation, or sailing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>necropolis</td>
<td>city of the dead</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nefarious</td>
<td>extremely wicked</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>neophyte</td>
<td>beginner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nocturnal</td>
<td>of or related to the night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>noisome</td>
<td>offensive, especially to the sense of smell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nonchalant</td>
<td>not caring; indifferent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nonflammable</td>
<td>unable to be set on fire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nostalgia</td>
<td>longing for the past</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>notable</td>
<td>worthy of notice; especially</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>noticeable</td>
<td>able to be perceived or detected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>noxious</td>
<td>harmful or destructive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O</td>
<td>oblique slanting; not straightforward</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>obliterate</td>
<td>wipe out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>obsolete</td>
<td>no longer practiced, used, or accepted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>obtrusive</td>
<td>undesirably prominent; easily seen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ocular</td>
<td>of or related to the eye</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>odious</td>
<td>hateful</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>official</td>
<td>v. relating to an office or position; n. one who holds such a position</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>officious</td>
<td>kind; dutiful</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>olfactory</td>
<td>of or related to the sense of smell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ominous</td>
<td>foreshadowing evil; foreboding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>onus</td>
<td>burden or responsibility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>opulent</td>
<td>superior in quality; rich</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>orthographical</td>
<td>concerned with writing and spelling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>oscillate</td>
<td>swing or move back and forth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>osculate</td>
<td>kiss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ossified</td>
<td>become fixed or rigid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ostentatious</td>
<td>showy; conspicuous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>oust</td>
<td>push out of a position of authority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P</td>
<td>pacifist someone who opposes war</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>palette</td>
<td>range or particular use of color; flat tray to hold paint</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>palliate</td>
<td>make better; lessen the seriousness</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
GLOSSARY

pallid  pale; lacking color
palpable  can be felt
panacea  remedy for all diseases and ills; a “cure-all”
paradox  contradictory statement or group of statements
paragon  model or example of perfection
paramour  unlawful or illicit lover
parsimony  stinginess
pedestrian  someone on foot, walking; unimaginative or boring
penultimate  next-to-last
penurious  miserly
perfidy  treachery; betrayal
perspicacious  acutely insightful and wise
perspicuous  transparent; clear and precise
persuade  plead with; urge
peruse  read carefully
pittance  very small sum
placid  serene; undisturbed
precede  be, go, or come ahead or in front of; surpass
prescribe  recommend; specify with authority
presumptuous  assuming too much
primeval  ancient; original
principal  educator in a position of executive authority; original amount of a debt
principle  basic truth or belief; rule of personal conduct
privation  extreme poverty; lack of essential necessities
proceed  continue; follow a certain course
profligacy  wasteful and extravagant behavior
prohibitive  very expensive
proscribe  condemn or forbid as harmful
proximity  closeness
prudence  wise discretion and sound judgment
pugnacious  aggressive and combative
purvey  to supply or sell
Q
qualm  feeling of unease
quandary  confusing predicament; perplexity
queue  line of people waiting in order of arrival
quibble  trivial or unimportant argument or objection
quintessence  most essential part
quixotic  foolishly and impractically romantic
R
radiant  bright, beaming
rapport  harmony; mutual understanding
reconcile  come to terms; bring back together; make compatible
repose  rest; lie down
remedial  meant to correct issues or gaps in students’ basic knowledge
repudiate  refuse to accept
resonate  echo
GLOSSARY

despite a rest or break
resplendent glowing
resurgence revival
reticent reserved; restrained; reluctant to talk or draw attention
revolve take back
ribald crudely or coarsely humorous
ripe abundant
ruddy having a reddish color
ruminate contemplate; reflect on or remember something
ruse trick

S
sagacious wise; shrewd
salient prominent; standing or projecting outward
salutary beneficial
sanguinary bloody; gory
sapient possessing great wisdom
satiate satisfy an appetite or desire
satisfactory adequate; sufficient
scintilla faint trace or spark
scrupulous doing only what is right or proper; having moral integrity
scrutinize examine closely
scurrilous using indecent or vulgar language; obscene
site location, scene, or point of occurrence
spare thin, not thick
stationary fixed; unmoving
stationery writing materials; notepaper
stature height; quality or status gained by development
statute law or legislative act
stimulate rouse; excite to activity
stingy not generous; unwilling to spend
stringent strict
succeed to give in to or fall under the influence of something
supercilious arrogant or haughty
superfluous more than what is necessary or sufficient
supplant take the place of; serve as a substitute for
suppress put down or keep secret
surreptitiously stealthily or secretly
swarthy dark-colored or -complexioned
sympathy feeling of loyalty or support for another

tacit understood; expressed without words
taciturn quiet; not inclined to speak
tantamount equivalent in value, effect, or significance
tedious dull; boring
temperate mild; moderate
tenacity strength; firmness
terrestrial of or relating to earth or land
tirade long, angry speech
tome large book
torrid passionate; giving off intense heat
tortuous twisting and turning; devious or indirect tactics
GLOSSARY

torturous unpleasant or painful
tractable easily controlled
tranquil peaceful or calm
transcend to go beyond a certain limit; surpass
transgress go over a limit; violate
transient briefly passing through
travesty parody or poor imitation
tremulous fearful
trite unoriginal
truculent harsh; aggressively ferocious
turpitude depravity

U
ubiquitous present everywhere
ultimate most remote; last; best or most extreme
unbridled without restraint
understated unpretentious; restrained and in good taste
uninterested indifferent; not interested
universal occurring everywhere; including or covering everyone
unrelenting never giving up
unwarranted unjustified
usurp seize by force
utopia imaginary place of perfection

W
wane decrease in size; dwindle
wanton lewd or lustful
wary careful; watchful
wily sly or crafty
winsome charming
wistful full of yearning and sadness
wrath vengeful anger

Y
yearling young animal between one and two years of age
yoke join or link

Z
zealot fanatical person
zeitgeist cultural, intellectual or moral tendencies of an era
zenith culminating or highest point
zephyr soft, gentle wind
To further improve your vocabulary for the PSAT and SAT exams, be sure to check out these great resources, both in print and online.

**Books**

*411 SAT Critical Reading Questions* by LearningExpress (192 pages, LearningExpress, March 2007)

*411 SAT Essay Prompts and Writing Questions* by LearningExpress (192 pages, LearningExpress, August 2006).

*500 Key Words for the SAT and How to Remember Them Forever!* by Charles Gulotta and Trish Dardine (120 pages, Mostly Bright Ideas, August 2007).


*SAT Success in 6 Simple Steps!* by LearningExpress (224 pages, LearningExpress, February 2003).

*SAT Vocabulary Prep Level 1* by Kaplan (352 pages, Kaplan, August 2008).
RESOURCES


Online

Test Prep Review’s PSAT Online Course
(www.testprepreview.com/psat_practice.htm)
TestPrepReview.com offers a free online course that will walk you through preparing for the PSAT.

College Board SAT Online Course
(https://satonlinecourse.collegeboard.com/SR/login/splashSchoolLogin.jsp)
The official source of the SAT, the College Board offers free official SAT practice tests on their website.

SparkNotes Vocabulary Builder
(www.sparknotes.com/testprep/books/newsat/powertactics/vocab/chapter2section2.rhtml)
SparkNotes analyzed the frequency with which certain words were used on the SAT over an eight-year span, and put together this free online vocabulary builder using those words. This is a great resource for building flashcards or other study guides for the SAT.

MajorTests.com SAT Word Lists
(www.majortests.com/sat/wordlist.php)
MajorTests.com has compiled an extensive collection of word lists that showcase the ones that are commonly used on the SAT. Use these lists to study by yourself, create flashcards, or test your friends.

FreeVocabulary.com’s SuperVocab SAT Word List
(http://supervocab.com/satlist.cgi)
This list, featuring definitions from Merriam-Webster’s online dictionary, allows you to test yourself by showing only the words—you have to click on each one for the definition.