Vocabulary¹ 11th Grade



Directions: Each week you will have a quiz on nine words. You will also be assigned corresponding activities in order to help you learn the words.

List #1

- 1. abstract: thought of apart from concrete realities, specific objects or actual instances
- 2. aesthetic: pertaining to a sense of beauty in nature and art
- 3. benevolent: expressing goodwill or kind feelings to others
- 4. capricious: subject to changing one's mind without much thought; erratic; whimsical
- 5. complacent: self-satisfied; unconcerned; content to a fault
- 6. conciliatory: regaining goodwill or favor; tending to placate
- 7. devious: departing from the most direct way; circuitous; roundabout
- 8. diligent: constant and earnest in effort and application; persistent in doing something
- 9. discernible: ability to perceive something obscure or concealed: discriminating

List #2

- 1. dogmatic: asserting opinions in a dictatorial manner
- 2. eccentric: unconventional: deviating from accepted practice
- 3. fallacious: deceptive; logically unsound; misleading
- 4. indifferent: without interest or concern; not caring; neutral
- 5. inquisitive: questioning; eager to learn; given to examination
- 6. meticulous: taking or showing extreme care about minute details; painstaking; thorough
- 7. pertinent: relating directly and significantly to the matter at hand
- 8. plausible: having the appearance of truth, reliability or reason
- 9. reticent: disposed to be quiet or not speak freely; reserved

List #3

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¹ "Most Important SAT Words" *Vocabulary University* http://www.vocabulary.com/top144satwords.html

- 1. candid: frank or outspoken; free from reservation or disguise
- inevitable: unable to be avoided, evaded or escaped; certain
- 3. lethargy: state of being dull, listless, drowsy or unenergetic
- 4. morose: sullenly ill-humored (person); expressing gloom; glum
- 5. novice: a beginner; person who is new to a work place or situation
- 6. obscure: hard to perceive: nebulous: meaning not clear or plain
- 7. ostentatious: characterized by a pretentious show in order to impress
- 8. precocious: unusually advanced or mature development or talent
- 9. prevaricate: to speak falsely or misleadingly so as to avoid the truth; to lie

- 1. querulous: carping; characterized by or full of complaints
- 2. quiescent: being at rest; quiet or still; inactive or motionless
- 3. repose: state of being at rest; dignified calmness; sleep
- 4. repudiate: to reject with disapproval, condemnation or denial
- soporific: anything causing or tending to cause sleep; drowsy
- 6. spontaneous: a natural impulse or tendency; without premeditation
- 7. squander: to spend or use extravagantly, lavishly or wastefully
- 8. theoretical: hypothetical; existing only in principle; not practical
- 9. virulent: actively poisonous; intensely noxious; deadly

List #5

- apathy: absence or suppression of passion, emotion or excitement; indifference
- disdain: looking upon or treating with contempt; thinking unworthy of notice
- 3. diverse: composed of different elements or qualities; unlike
- 4. enigma: a puzzling or inexplicable occurrence; a baffling problem, situation or person
- 5. futile: completely ineffective; serving no useful purpose
- 6. gratuitous: given without recompense or benefit; voluntary
- 7. hackneyed: made commonplace or trite; banal
- 8. incessant: continuing without interruption; constant
- 9. insidious: intended to entrap or beguile; enticing but harmful; seductive

List #6

- 1. integrity: uncompromising adherence to moral and ethical principles
- 2. jocular: jovial and playful; given to jesting
- 3. kindle: to start a fire; to cause (a flame or blaze) to begin burning
- 4. Iudicrous: causing or deserving laughter because of absurdity
- 5. provocative: serving or tending to stimulate or excite
- 6. reclusive: living in seclusion; shut off or apart from the world
- 7. reverence: a feeling or attitude of deep respect tinged with awe; veneration
- scrutinize: to examine minutely; to conduct a searching inquiry
- 9. superficial: of the surface; concerned only with the obvious; apparent rather than real

- 1. affinity: natural liking for or attraction to a person, thing or idea; close connection
- 2. clairvovant: having the paranormal power to see objects/actions not perceived by the senses
- 3. emulate: to imitate in an effort to equal or surpass; to rival with some degree of success
- 4. expedite: to speed up the progress of; accelerate; perform promptly
- 5. impetuous: of great energy and impatience; characterized by sudden or rash action or emotion
- 6. innocuous: not harmful or injurious; harmless; not likely to irritate or offend
- 7. mundane: of this world or earth; not heavenly; worldly; secular
- 8. penitent: feeling or expressing pain (sorrow) for sin (misdeeds) and disposed to atonement
- 9. propensity: a natural inclination or tendency; a bent; a leaning

- 1. regressive: tending to revert or go back; reverting to an earlier or less advanced state or form
- 2. resilient: having power to return to the original form; able to recover readily from misfortune
- 3. sedentary: characterized by a sitting position posture, inactivity and lack of exercise
- 4. succinct: showing verbal brevity; expressed in a few words
- 5. terse: effectively brief and to the point; pithy; neatly concise
- 6. ubiquitous: being everywhere, esp. at the same time; omnipresent
- 7. vindictive: revengeful; spiteful; showing a retaliatory spirit
- wanton: done maliciously or cruelly and without a motive
- 9. zenith: the upper region of the sky; the highest point or state

List #9

- 1. ramification: a related or derived development; consequence; implication
- 2. rapacious: given to plundering; inordinately greedy
- 3. recalcitrant: resisting authority or control; not obedient or compliant; unruly
- 4. recant: to withdraw or disavow (a statement, opinion etc.), esp. formally; retract
- recrimination: a countercharge against an accuser
- 6. redolent: having a pleasant odor; fragrant; odorous
- redundant: characterized by unnecessary repetition in expressing ideas; wordy
- 8. refutable: proving to be false or erroneous (opinion or charge)
- 9. relegate: to send or consign to an inferior position, place or condition

List #10

- relinquish: to renounce or surrender (position, right, claim); to give up, put aside
- 2. remonstrate: to reason or plead in protest, objection or complaint
- 3. reparation: the making of amends for wrong or injury done
- 4. replenish: to make full or complete again; to supply with fresh fuel
- 5. reprehensible: deserving rebuke or censure; blameworthy
- 6. requisite: required; necessary
- resolute: firmly set in purpose or opinion; determined; earnest
- 8. rigorous: characterized by rigid severity; precise
- 9. rudimentary: pertaining to the beginning or first principles; undeveloped; primitive

- 1. acumen: keen insight; shrewdness
- 2. chicanery: the use of sly language, reasoning etc. to trick or deceive
- 3. deleterious: injurious to health; harmful; injurious
- 4. epiphany: sudden, intuitive perception of or insight
- 5. facetious: not meant to be taken seriously or literally
- homogeneous: composed of the same kind or nature; not heterogeneous
- 7. incognito: with one's identity hidden, disguised or unknown
- 8. kinetic: characterized by movement or caused by motion
- 9. loguacious: characterized by excessive talk; garrulous; wordy

- lugubrious: mournful or gloomy, esp. in an affected, exaggerated manner
- 2. nihilism: belief that all existence is senseless
- 3. obsequious: characterized by deference; fawning; sycophantic
- 4. paradigm: an example serving as a model; pattern
- precipitous: of the nature of a situation of great peril; extremely steep
- 6. sanguine: cheerfully optimistic, hopeful or confident; reddish; ruddy
- 7. unctuous: characteristic of an ointment; excessively suave or smug
- 8. vacuous: empty; showing a lack of ideas or intelligence; purposeless
- 9. xenophile: a person who fears or hates foreigners, strange customs, etc.

List #13

- 1. acrimonious: bitter and ill-natured in language and tone
- alacrity: speed and willingness in acting or responding; cheerful readiness; eagerness
- 3. conjecture: the act of forming an opinion from incomplete evidence: guesswork
- 4. conspicuous: attracting attention by being unusual or remarkable
- 5. deviate: to differ or move away from a specified course or prescribed mode of behavior
- 6. disparage: to speak of or treat slightingly; depreciate; belittle
- erudite: possessing deep and extensive learning, esp. learning gotten from books; learned
- exonerate: to free from a charge; to declare blameless
- 9. extricate: to free or release from entanglement or difficulty; to disengage

List #14

- incorrigible: incapable of being corrected or reformed
- 2. indolent: reluctant to exert oneself; habitually lazy
- 3. judicious: having or exhibiting sound judgment; sensible; wise
- 4. mitigate: to make less severe or intense; to moderate
- 5. ostensible: easily perceived by any of the senses or by the mind; obvious; noticeable
- 6. palpable: easily perceived by any of the senses or by the mind; obvious; noticeable
- 7. pandemonium: wild uproar or noise; tumult
- 8. rectify: to set right; to remedy
- 9. surreptitious: Done or acting in secret; sneaky; stealthy; furtive; concealed

- 1. abject: so low or degrades as to be hopeless wretched; miserable
- 2. affluence: having an abundance of material goods; rich; wealthy
- analogous: similar in biological function but different in structure and origin
- 4. arbitrary: depending on choice or discretion rather than defined by law; based on opinion, preference or whim
- 5. cognizant: having conscious recognition; with a range of understanding or awareness
- 6. compulsory: required by authority; having the power of driving or urging forcefully or irresistibly
- 7. destitute: lacking something needed or desirable; extremely poor
- 8. disseminate: to spread abroad as though sowing seeds
- 9. fortuitous: happening by chance whether good or bad; random; unexpected

- 1. impeccable: not capable of sinning or liable to sin; free from fault or blame; flawless
- impervious: not allowing entrance or passage; impenetrable; not capable of being affected or disturbed
- 3. insatiable: incapable of being satisfied (as a person or an appetite) fully
- 4. oscillate: to swinging or sway backward and forward like a pendulum; to vibrate; to fluctuate
- 5. prerogative: exclusive privilege or right; a special advantage, esp. a right attached to an office, rank or status
- stringent: marked by rigor, strictness or severity esp. with regard to rule or standard
- 7. truncate: to shorten by or as if by cutting off
- 8. unobtrusive: not inclined to intrude, to shove/push forward or call to notice without warrant or request
- 9. unscrupulous: without qualms or ethical considerations that makes someone uneasy or inhibits actions

List #17 (derived from "foreign", not Latin or Greek, words)

- 1. aficionado: A devotee; a fan; an enthusiastic person about a sport/hobby
- 2. alchemy: Power or process of transforming something common into something precious
- 3. ambiance: An environment or its distinct atmosphere; a feeling or mood associated with a place
- 4. avatar: An embodiment (concept, philosophy, tradition) usually in human form
- 5. bourgeois: Characteristic of town dwellers or of the middle-class; marked by concern for material interests
- 6. chaparral: A dense impenetrable thicket of shrubs/thorny bushes
- cognoscente: A connoisseur; a person of special knowledge in some field, esp. fine arts
- connoisseur: Someone qualified to act as a judge involving taste and appreciation; expert
- 9. dilettante: An admirer of the arts or knowledge merely superficially or as a pastime; dabbler

- 1. imbroglio: An intricate or complicated situation; painful or embarrassing misunderstanding
- juggernaut: Relentless, destructive, irresistible force
- 3. junta: A small group, usually of military officers, ruling a country in the absence of a civilian government
- 4. malaise: A vague feeling of physical discomfort or uneasiness
- 5. nirvana: A place/condition of great peace and bliss; the final beatitude
- 6. peccadillo: A slight offense or fault; a minor sin
- raconteur: Person skilled or excelling at telling stories or anecdotes
- vignette: a small decorative design in a book; short literary sketch (scene in a play/film)
- 9. virtuoso: someone who excels in the technique of an art, especially a musical performer

List #19 (derived from Science/Biology BUG-related words)

- embryonic: the beginning or rudimentary stage of anything; undeveloped
- entomologist: individual specializing in the branch of zoology dealing with insects
- indefatigable: incapable of being tired out; tireless
- 4. indigenous: originating in or characteristic of a particular region; native; natural
- 5. industrious: working energetically and devotedly; diligent; full of energy & zeal toward work
- 6. iridescent: displaying an array of lustrous, changing colors like those of the rainbow
- 7. insatiable: hard or incapable of being satisfied; greedy; avaricious
- 8. insecticide: a substance or preparation used in killing insects
- 9. larvae: immature, wingless, feeding stage of an insect that undergoes transformation

List #20 (derived from Science/Biology BUG-related words)

- metamorphosis: change of form in either appearance, condition, or function; a transformation
- 2. nemesis: unconquerable opponent or rival; ancient Greek goddess of divine retribution
- nocturnal: pertaining to the night; done, occurring or coming at night
- 4. pollinate: to fertilize (to convey the fine grains or spores to the stigma) flowering plants
- 5. proboscis: elongated, protrusion on the head of certain insects used for feeding
- quarantine: strict isolation imposed to prevent the spread of a disease (a period of 40 days)
- subterranean: existing, situated, or operating below the earth's surface, out of sight or secretly
- 8. trepidation: tremulous fear, alarm, or agitation; trembling or quivering movement
- 9. ubiquitous: existing or being everywhere, esp. at the same time; omnipresent