

Advanced vocabulary development

Ages
16+

PSAT
✓

SAT
✓

GRE
✓

Word list 1

Group 1		<u>Notes</u>
Abhor	hate	.....
Bigot	narrow-minded, prejudiced person	.....
Counterfeit	fake; false	.....
Enfranchise	give voting rights	.....
Hamper	hinder; obstruct	.....
Kindle	to start a fire	.....
Noxious	harmful; poisonous; lethal	.....
Placid	calm; peaceful	.....
Remuneration	payment for work done	.....
Talisman	lucky charm	.....

Group 2		<u>Notes</u>
Abrasive	rough; coarse; harsh	.....
Bilk	cheat; defraud	.....
Covert	hidden; undercover	.....
Engender	cause	.....
Hangar	storage area (like garage) for a plane	.....
Knotty	complex; difficult to solve	.....
Nuance	something subtle; a fine shade of meaning	.....
Plagiarism	taking credit for someone else's writing or ideas	.....
Renown	fame	.....
Tangent	going off the main subject	.....

Group 3		<u>Notes</u>
Abasement	humiliation; degradation	.....
Billowing	swelling; fluttering; waving	.....
Cower	recoil in fear or servility; shrink away from	.....
Enhance	improve; make better or clearer	.....
Harangue	noisy, attacking speech	.....
Labyrinth	a maze	.....
Nullify	to counter; make unimportant	.....
Plaintiff	petitioner (in court of law)	.....
Replete	full	.....
Tangible	can be touched	.....

Group 4		<u>Notes</u>
Abrogate	cancel; deny; repeal	.....
Blasphemy	speech which offends religious sentiments	.....
Credible	believable	.....
Enigma	puzzle; mystery	.....
Harbingers	indicators; bringers of warnings	.....
Labyrinthine	complicated; highly convoluted	.....
Nuzzle	cuddle; snuggle	.....
Plaudit	statement giving strong praise	.....
Reprehensible	shameful; very bad	.....
Tardy	slow; late; overdue; delayed	.....

Group 5		<u>Notes</u>
Absolution	forgiveness; pardon; release	.....
Blatant	obvious	.....
Creditable	praiseworthy	.....
Ensnore	establish firmly in a position	.....
Hasten	hurry; accelerate; rush	.....
Laceration	a cut	.....
Obdurate	stubborn	.....
Plausible	can be believed; reasonable	.....
Reprieve	a respite; postponement of a sentence	.....
Tawdry	of little value; gaudy	.....

Group 6		<u>Notes</u>
Abstain	desist; go without; withdraw	.....
Blighted	damaged; destroyed; ruined	.....
Credulous	gullible; ready to believe anything	.....
Enshroud	cover	.....
Haughtiness	arrogance; pride	.....
Lachrymose	tearful; sad	.....
Obfuscate	deliberately make something difficult to understand	.....
Plethora	an excess	.....
Repudiate	shun; eschew	.....
Tedium	boredom	.....

Group 7		<u>Notes</u>
Abstemious	self denying; refraining from indulging	.....
Blithe	free-spirited; carefree	.....
Crepuscular	active at dawn and dusk	.....
Enunciation	clear pronunciation; accent; articulation	.....
Headstrong	stubborn; willful	.....
Lackluster	dull; monotonous; bland	.....
Objective	unbiased; not subjective	.....
Pliable	flexible; not stubborn	.....
Rescind	retract; repeal	.....
Temper	to moderate; soften	.....

Group 8		<u>Notes</u>
Abstruse	difficult to understand; obscure	.....
Blunderbuss	1. ancient weapon (type of gun); 2. a clumsy person	.....
Cringe	recoil; flinch; shy away	.....
Envenom	to cause bitterness and bad feeling	.....
Hedonism	self indulgence; pleasure-seeking	.....
Laconic	using few words; brief; to the point	.....
Oblique	indirect; slanting	.....
Plumage	feathers of a bird	.....
Resignation	acceptance of fate	.....
Tenacious	stubborn; resolute; holding firm to a purpose	.....

Group 9		<u>Notes</u>
Accolade	tribute; honor; praise	.....
Bolster	support; prop up	.....
Cryptic	puzzling; enigmatic	.....
Ephemeral	short-lived	.....
Hedonist	a pleasure seeker	.....
Lamentation	expression of regret or sorrow	.....
Obliterate	destroy; demolish; eradicate	.....
Plummet	fall suddenly and steeply	.....
Resolution	determination	.....
Tentative	not certain	.....

Group 10		<u>Notes</u>
Acquiesce	to agree to; give in to	.....
Bombast	arrogant, pompous language	.....
Curtail	cut short	.....
Epicure	someone who appreciates good food and drink	.....
Heed	listen to	.....
Lampoon	ridicule; spoof	.....
Oblivious	totally unaware	.....
Podium	raised platform	.....
Resonant	echoing	.....
Tenuous	flimsy; not solid	.....