

SAT PREP VOCABULARY: 10-1

1. **abdicate** (verb): to surrender
synonyms: relinquish, give up, renounce, withdraw *ab = away*
2. **circumspect** (adjective): examining carefully all circumstances and possible consequences
synonyms: careful, concerned *circum = around*
3. **diffident** (adjective): lacking in self-confidence
synonyms: modest, shy, bashful *dif = apart*
4. **ebullient** (adjective): overflowing with excitement or liveliness
synonym: enthusiastic
5. **innocuous** (adjective): having no harmful qualities or ill effects; harmless
synonyms: naive, pure, innocent *in = not*
ous = having, possessing
6. **noisome** (adjective): offensive to the point of arousing disgust; foul smell
synonyms: reeking, stinking
7. **ostentatious** (adjective): characterized by pretentious show in attempt to impress others
synonyms: showy, pretentious
8. **propensity** (noun): an often intense natural inclination.
synonym: leaning, penchant, predilection *pro = favoring, supporting*
ity = quality, state
9. **sycophant** (noun): someone who attempts to win favors or advance him or herself by flattery or servile behavior
synonyms: slanderer, defamer
10. **taciturn** (adjective): habitually silent or quiet; inclined to talk very little
synonyms: laconic, terse

SAT PREP VOCABULARY: 10-2

1. **abstemious** (adjective): moderate, especially in eating and drinking
synonyms: temperate, sober, moderate *ab = away*
ous = having, possessing
2. **benign** (adjective): humane; kind; favorable; humanitarian
synonyms: chivalrous, benevolent, harmless
3. **efficacy** (noun): power to produce a desired effect
synonym: efficiency
4. **furtive** (adjective): characterized by stealth; surreptitious
synonyms: secret, stealthy, sly, clandestine
5. **glib** (adjective): smooth talking; fluent; talkative
synonyms: loquacious, plausible
6. **indigent** (adjective): impoverished; needy, poor
synonyms: lacking, destitute
7. **ludicrous** (adjective): laughable or hilarious because of obvious absurdity or incongruity
synonyms: ridiculous, comical, hilarious
8. **maelstrom** (noun): a violent or turbulent situation
synonyms: whirlpool, vortex
9. **temporal** (adjective): of or related to earthly life
synonyms: limited by time, secular
10. **voracious** (adjective): greedy in eating; very eager
synonyms: avid, ravenous

SAT PREP VOCABULARY: 10-3

1. **abstruse** (adjective): hard to understand
synonyms: obscure, complex, profound, esoteric
2. **chicanery** (noun): the use of sly or evasive language; reasoning to trick or deceive
synonyms: sophistry, guile, fake
3. **evanescent** (adjective): vanishing; scarcely perceptible
synonym: fleeting

4. exacerbate (verb): to make worse or bitter
synonyms: irritate, aggravate
5. intrinsic (adjective): belonging to the true or fundamental nature of a thing
synonym: inherent
6. jettison (verb): to cast overboard; get rid of unnecessary items
synonyms: discard, dump
7. licentious (adjective): lacking moral discipline or ignoring legal restraint, especially in sexual conduct
synonyms: wild, uninhibited
8. mollify (verb): to soothe the temper of; pacify
synonyms: appease, conciliate
9. quixotic (adjective): idealistic to an impractical degree
synonyms: chivalrous, romantic, idealistic
10. recalcitrant (adjective): obstinately defiant of authority or restraint
synonyms: resistant, unruly, incorrigible

SAT PREP VOCABULARY: 10-4

1. anomaly (noun): deviation from the common rule
Synonyms: abnormality, irregularity, aberration
2. bombastic (adjective): pompous or overblown in language; full of high sounding words intended to conceal a lack of ideas
synonyms: inflated (language)
3. cynic (noun): a person who believes all people are motivated by selfishness
synonyms: pessimist, scorner
4. debilitate (verb): to sap the strength or energy of
synonyms: enervate, weaken, enfeeble
5. emaciated (adjective): make lean by a gradual wasting away of the body
synonyms: thin, wasted
6. iconoclast (noun): one who seeks to destroy traditional or religious beliefs
synonyms: heretic, destroyer, biblioclast
7. myriad (adjective): constituting a very large, indefinite number; innumerable
synonyms: numerous, multitudinous
8. reticent (adjective): habitually silent or uncommunicative; disinclined to speak
synonyms: laconic, taciturn
9. ribald (adjective): characterized by coarse or vulgar joking or mocking
synonyms: earthy, lewd, lascivious, salacious
10. temerity (noun): unreasonable or foolhardy contempt for danger
synonyms: boldness, rashness

SAT PREP VOCABULARY: 10-5

1. acumen (noun): quickness and accuracy of judgment; keenness of sight
synonyms: discernment, insight, sagacity
2. auspicious (adjective): attended by favorable circumstances; marked by success
synonyms: favorable, fortunate, prosperous
3. charlatan (noun): a person who pretends to have special knowledge or skill that he or she does not possess
synonyms: quack, fraud
4. duress (noun): the use of force, especially unlawfully; compulsion
synonyms: constraint, force, coercion
5. eclectic (adjective): selecting and using what seems best from various sources
synonym: selective, various
6. foible (noun): a minor weakness or failing character; a small but persistent personal fault
synonyms: flaw, fault, defect

7. indigenous (adjective): originating and living in an area or environment
synonyms: native
8. lassitude (noun): a state or feeling of weariness, diminished energy, or listlessness
synonyms: lethargy, dullness
9. unfettered (verb): freed from a chain or shackle; liberated
synonyms: unrestrained, unleash, emancipate, free
10. vacillate (verb): sway, totter; to incline first to one course or opinion and then another; waiver
synonyms: hesitate, flip-flop, falter

SAT PREP VOCABULARY: 10-6

1. articulate (verb): to pronounce distinctly; to express well in words
(adjective) expressed clearly and forcefully
2. chimerical (adjective): unreal; imaginary; given to unrealistic fantasies
synonyms: fantastic, visionary
3. crass (adjective): insensitive and unrefined
synonym: gross
4. decorum (noun): appropriateness of behavior or conduct
synonyms: propriety, etiquette
5. grandiose (adjective): ostentatiously showy
synonyms: imposing, impressive
6. hackneyed (adjective): lacking in freshness and originality
synonyms: commonplace, trite, banal
7. paragon (noun): a model of perfection
synonyms: nonpareil, model, ideal
8. parsimonious (adjective): excessively frugal, stingy
synonyms: thrifty, frugal, skimpy
9. wily (adjective): cunning; sly; using craft or stratagem to accomplish a purpose
synonyms: devious, shrewd, deceptive
10. zealous (adjective): marked by active interest and enthusiasm
synonyms: vigorous, fervent, fervid

SAT PREP VOCABULARY: 10-7

1. circumlocution (noun): the use of more or unnecessarily large words to express an idea
synonym: roundabout speaking
2. extrovert (noun): an individual interested in others; outgoing
synonyms: assertiveness, gregariousness
3. facade (noun): an artificial or deceptive front
synonyms: front, veneer, pretense
4. elusive (adjective): hard to grasp or understand
synonym: baffling, evasive
5. empathy (noun): identifying and understanding the feelings of another
synonym: compassion
6. jocose (adjective): given to jokes and jesting; tending to cause laughter
synonyms: merry, playful
7. lackadaisical (adjective): lacking in spirit or interest
synonyms: listless, indolent
8. precedent (noun): the right to superior honor on a ceremonial or formal occasion
synonyms: priority, antecedence
9. soporific (adjective): inducing sleep
synonym: hypnotic
10. sporadic (adjective): occurring at irregular intervals; having no pattern in time
synonyms: intermittent, irregular