

250 of the Best SAT Vocab Words to Know in 2023

- 1) abandon – *v. give up completely*
 - 2) abate – *v. lessen*
 - 3) abject – *adj. completely without pride or dignity*
 - 4) aberration – *n. deviation from the norm*
 - 5) abjure – *v. renounce a belief, cause, or claim*
 - 6) abnegation – *n. renounce or reject something*
 - 7) abrogate – *v. do away with (a law, right, or responsibility)*
 - 8) abscond – *v. flee*
 - 9) abstruse – *adj. dense or obscure*
 - 10) abysmal – *adj. terrible*
 - 11) accede – *v. agree to a demand*
 - 12) acumen – *n. ability to make good judgments*
 - 13) adamant – *adj. stubborn*
 - 14) adapt – *v. modify*
 - 15) admonish – *v. reprimand someone*
 - 16) affluent – *adj. wealthy*
 - 17) alacrity – *n. brisk eagerness*
 - 18) ambivalence – *n. state of uncertainty*
 - 19) antipathy – *n. strong dislike*
 - 20) antiseptic – *adj. clean or pure*
- SAT Vocabulary Words (Continued)*
- 21) assertion – *n. statement*

- 22) assiduous – *adj. showing great care*
- 23) beguile – *v. charm or enchant*
- 24) berate – *v. scold or criticize*
- 25) bereft – *adj. deprived or lacking*
- 26) blandishment – *n. a flattering statement used to persuade someone*
- 27) bias – *n. prejudice*
- 28) bombastic – *adj. inflated*
- 29) bovine – *adj. cow-like*
- 30) braggart – *n. someone who boasts*
- 31) brevity – *n. concise*
- 32) cacophony – *n. a discordant mixture of sounds*
- 33) cajole – *v. persuade someone via flattery*
- 34) callous – *adj. cruel disregard for others*
- 35) calumny – *n. slander*
- 36) camaraderie – *n. friendship*
- 37) candid – *adj. truthful*
- 38) candor – *n. quality of being honest*
- 39) carouse – *v. drink and party in a lively way*
- 40) carp – *v. complain about trivial matters*

SAT Vocabulary Words (Continued)

- 41) cavort – *v. dance around excitedly*
- 42) censorious – *adj. critical of others*
- 43) circumlocution – *n. using many words, particularly in an evasive way*

- 44) circumscribe – *v. restrict within limits*
- 45) clamor – *n. a loud and confused noise*
- 46) clout – *n. influence or power*
- 47) cognizant – *adj. having knowledge of*
- 48) commensurate – *adj. equal to*
- 49) comparable – *adj. similar to another thing*
- 50) complement – *v. add to or make complete*
- 51) compunction – *n. a feeling of guilt*
- 52) concomitant – *adj. naturally accompanying*
- 53) conduit – *n. a vessel or channel for transporting something*
- 54) conflagration – *n. a large fire*
- 55) connive – *v. trick; conspire*
- 56) consign – *v. assign or deliver something into someone else's custody*
- 57) constituent – *adj. being part of a whole*
- 58) construe – *v. interpret*
- 59) contend – *v. reckon with; struggle against*
- 60) contusion – *n. a bruise*

SAT Vocab Words (Continued)

- 61) contrite – *adj. feeling of remorse or guilt*
- 62) contentious – *adj. likely to cause an argument*
- 63) contravene – *adj. violate the order of; conflict*
- 64) convivial – *adj. friendly and cheerful environment*
- 65) corpulence – *n. obesity; fatness*

- 66) covet – *v. want greatly*
- 67) cupidity – *n. greed for money*
- 68) dearth – *n. a lack of something*
- 69) debacle – *n. a fiasco or failure*
- 70) debauch – *v. ruin or debase, particularly in a moral sense*
- 71) defunct – *adj. no longer working*
- 72) demagogue – *n. a political leader who appeals to the prejudices of the common people*
- 73) demur – *v. show reluctance; raise objections*
- 74) denigrate – *v. disparage*
- 75) despot – *n. a tyrant*
- 76) diaphanous – *adj. light and translucent*
- 77) dirge – *n. song of lament for the dead*
- 78) discomfit – *v. make someone uncomfortable*
- 79) disparate – *adj. different from one another*
- 80) disrepute – *n. state of disgrace*

SAT Vocabulary Words (Continued)

- 81) duplicity – *n. deceitfulness*
- 82) duress – *n. intimidation or coercion to force someone to perform an act*
- 83) eclectic – *adj. wide-ranging*
- 84) edict – *n. an official order*
- 85) ebullient – *adj. cheerful and lively*
- 86) effluvia – *n. unpleasant odor*
- 87) egregious – *adj. outstandingly bad*

88) elegy – *n. a poem of reflection, typically a lament for the dead*

89) elicit – *v. evoke or draw out*

90) eloquent – *adj. well-spoken*

91) elude – *v. escape one's grasp*

92) emollient – *adj. soothing*

93) empirical – *adj. based on (as evidence)*

94) emulate – *v. imitate*

95) enervate – *v. weaken; drain of energy*

96) engender – *v. bring about*

97) ephemeral – *adj. short-lived*

98) equanimity – *n. mental calmness*

99) equivocal – *adj. ambiguous*

100) evanescent – *adj. fading quickly from sight*

SAT Vocab Words (Continued)

101) evince – *v. reveal the presence of*

102) exacerbate – *v. make worse*

103) exhort – *v. strongly encourage someone to do something*

104) execrable – *adj. extremely bad or unpleasant*

105) exigent – *adj. pressing, demanding*

106) expedient – *adj. (of an action) convenient though possibly improper*

107) expiate – *v. atone for guilt or sin*

108) expunge – *v. get rid of*

109) extraneous – *adj. irrelevant*

110) extol – *v. praise*

111) fallacious – *adj. false; based on mistaken belief*

112) fatuous – *adj. silly and pointless*

113) flagrant – *adj. obviously offensive*

114) forbearance – *n. restraint; self-control*

115) fortuitous – *adj. happening by chance*

116) fractious – *adj. irritable and difficult to control*

117) garrulous – *adj. talkative*

118) grandiloquent – *adj. pompous or extravagant in language, style, or manner*

119) gratuitous – *adj. uncalled for; unnecessary*

120) hapless – *adj. unfortunate*

SAT Vocabulary Words (Continued)

121) hegemony – *n. leadership or dominance, particularly of one country over another*

122) heterogenous – *adj. not uniform; varied*

123) iconoclast – *n. a person who veers from the norm; a person who attacks cherished beliefs*

124) impecunious – *adj. having little money; penniless*

125) impetuous – *adj. acting without care*

126) impinge – *v. encroach on*

127) impute – *v. attribute to*

128) inane – *adj. ridiculous*

129) inchoate – *adj. just beginning; not fully formed*

130) incontrovertible – *adj. unable to be denied*

131) inexorable – *adj. impossible to prevent*

- 132) inimical – *adj. tending to obstruct or harm; unfriendly*
- 133) injunction – *n. an authoritative order*
- 134) inoculate – *v. immunize someone against*
- 135) insidious – *adj. harmful*
- 136) instigate – *v. bring about; incite*
- 137) insurgent – *n. rebel or revolutionary*
- 138) interlocutor – *n. someone engaged in conversation*
- 139) inure – *v. to be accustomed to something, particularly something unpleasant*
- 140) intransigent – *adj. stubborn; unwilling to change one's views*

SAT Vocab Words (Continued)

- 141) inveterate – *adj. long-established and unlikely to change (of a habit)*
- 142) irreverence – *n. lack of respect for*
- 143) largesse – *n. generosity in bestowing money or gifts*
- 144) licentious – *adj. promiscuous*
- 145) litigant – *n. a person involved in a lawsuit*
- 146) maelstrom – *n. a powerful storm; turmoil*
- 147) maudlin – *adj. overly sentimental; self-pitying*
- 148) maverick – *n. independent-minded person; a nonconformist*
- 149) mawkish – *adj. sentimental in a sweet or sickly way*
- 150) maxim – *n. a short, pithy statement of truth*
- 151) mendacious – *adj. lying*
- 152) meretricious – *adj. appearing attractive but having little value*
- 153) modicum – *n. a small quantity of something*

- 154) morass – *n. a mess; a complicated situation*
- 155) munificent – *adj. generous*
- 156) nadir – *n. lowest point*
- 157) negligent – *adj. failing to do something; neglectful*
- 158) neophyte – *n. a person who is new to a subject, skill, or belief*
- 159) noisome – *adj. disagreeable; having an offensive smell*
- 160) noxious – *adj. poisonous; harmful*
- SAT Vocabulary Words (Continued)*
- 161) obdurate – *adj. stubborn*
- 162) obfuscate – *v. render unclear; bewilder someone*
- 163) obstreperous – *adj. noisy and difficult to control; disorderly*
- 164) officious – *adj. self-assertive, overbearing*
- 165) onerous – *adj. involving many obligations or effort*
- 166) ostensible – *adj. seemingly so*
- 167) ostracism – *n. exclusion from a group*
- 168) palliate – *v. make less severe*
- 169) panacea – *n. a remedy for all diseases*
- 170) paradigm – *n. typical example or pattern of something; a model*
- 171) pariah – *n. an outcast*
- 172) paucity – *n. a lack of; scarcity*
- 173) pejorative – *adj. expressing contempt or disapproval*
- 174) penchant – *n. habitual liking for something; a tendency toward*
- 175) penurious – *adj. poverty-stricken*

- 176) pert – *adj. attractive; impudent or saucy*
- 177) pernicious – *adj. having a harmful effect on*
- 178) pertinacious – *adj. holding firmly to a course; determined*
- 179) phlegmatic – *adj. self-controlled; calm and stoic*
- 180) philanthropic – *adj. generous, particularly in a monetary sense*

SAT Vocab Words (Continued)

- 181) pithy – *adj. concise and expressive*
- 182) plaudit – *n. expression of praise*
- 183) plenitude – *n. an abundance; full or complete*
- 184) plethora – *n. an abundance of*
- 185) potentate – *n. monarch or ruler*
- 186) preclude – *v. prevent from taking place*
- 187) predilection – *n. preference or liking for something*
- 188) probity – *n. honesty; integrity*
- 189) proclivity – *n. the tendency toward*
- 190) profligate – *adj. recklessly extravagant*
- 191) promulgate – *v. promote widely*
- 192) proscribe – *v. forbid by law*
- 193) protean – *adj. able to change easily*
- 194) prurient – *adj. overly sexual*
- 195) puerile – *adj. childishly silly*
- 196) pugnacious – *adj. quick to fight*
- 197) punctilious – *adj. paying attention to detail*

198) quaint – *adj. old-fashioned*

199) quixotic – *adj. idealistic*

200) quandary – *n. state of perplexity; a dilemma*

SAT Vocabulary Words (Continued)

201) recalcitrant – *adj. uncooperative attitude*

202) relegate – *v. cast to a lower rank or role*

203) remiss – *adj. negligent*

204) reprieve – *n. a cancellation or postponement of a punishment*

205) reprobate – *n. unprincipled person*

206) rescind – *v. take back*

207) ribald – *adj. improper; lewd*

208) rife – *adj. filled with; widespread*

209) sanctimonious – *adj. being morally superior to others*

210) sanguine – *adj. optimistic*

211) scurrilous – *adj. spreading disparaging claims about someone; slanderous*

212) serendipity – *n. chance or good luck*

213) solicitous – *adj. attentive to*

214) spurious – *adj. statement that appears truthful but is false*

215) staid – *adj. sedate, respectable*

216) stolid – *adj. calm and dependable*

217) supercilious – *adj. behaving in a haughty manner*

218) surfeit – *n. excessive amount*

219) surreptitious – *adj. keep secret*

220) tangential – *adj. peripheral to the central matter*

SAT Vocabulary Words (Continued)

221) terse – *adj. brief*

222) toady – *n. a person who behaves in an obsequious way (a suck-up)*

223) torpid – *adj. lethargic; inactive*

224) travesty – *n. a false representation of something*

225) trenchant – *adj. vigorous in expression; sharp*

226) trounce – *v. defeat heavily*

227) truculent – *adj. eager to argue or fight*

228) turpitude – *n. depravity, wickedness*

229) ubiquitous – *adj. present everywhere*

230) umbrage – *n. offense (i.e., to take umbrage at)*

231) undulate – *v. move in a wave-like pattern*

232) unmitigated – *adj. not lessened; absolute*

233) unveil – *v. reveal*

234) upbraid – *v. scold or find fault with someone*

235) upshot – *n. the outcome or result of an action*

236) usury – *n. unethical money lending*

237) veracity – *n. truth or accuracy*

238) vestige – *n. trace or remnant of something gone*

239) viability – *n. ability to work successfully*

240) vicissitude – *n. a change of circumstances*

SAT Vocab Words (Continued)

- 241) vilify – *v. speak about in a disparaging manner*
- 242) virtuoso – *n. highly-skilled person, particularly in the arts*
- 243) vital – *adj. necessary*
- 244) vitriolic – *adj. filled with hatred*
- 245) vituperate – *v. blame or insult someone strongly*
- 246) vociferous – *adj. vehement (of speech); outspoken*
- 247) wanton – *adj. deliberate and unprovoked; sexually unrestrained*
- 248) winsome – *adj. attractive or charming*
- 249) yield – *v. surrender, give way to pressure*
- 250) yoke – *v. tie two things together*
- 251) zenith – *n. the peak*