

This is a **curated SAT Vocabulary List** organized by **high-frequency, test-relevant categories**. These words commonly appear in SAT reading passages, answer choices, and writing contexts. This list is appropriate for **middle school through high school SAT prep** and works well for **word walls, notebooks, flashcards, or portfolios**.

SAT Core Vocabulary (High-Frequency)

1. **Abate** — to lessen or reduce
 2. **Ambiguous** — having more than one meaning
 3. **Anomaly** — something unusual or unexpected
 4. **Assert** — to state confidently
 5. **Bolster** — to support or strengthen
 6. **Concur** — to agree
 7. **Contradict** — to deny or oppose
 8. **Criteria** — standards used to judge something
 9. **Deduce** — to infer logically
 10. **Delineate** — to describe precisely
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Analytical & Argumentative Vocabulary

11. **Advocate** — to support or argue for
 12. **Counterargument** — an opposing argument
 13. **Emphasize** — to stress importance
 14. **Implication** — a suggested meaning
 15. **Justify** — to provide reasons or evidence
 16. **Rebut** — to refute an argument
 17. **Substantiate** — to support with evidence
 18. **Thesis** — the main claim or argument
 19. **Validate** — to confirm or support
 20. **Qualify** — to limit or modify a statement
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Tone & Attitude Vocabulary (Very Common on SAT)

21. **Austere** — strict or severe
22. **Cynical** — distrustful of motives
23. **Impartial** — fair and unbiased
24. **Indifferent** — unconcerned
25. **Ironic** — contrary to expectations
26. **Optimistic** — hopeful

27. **Resigned** — accepting without resistance
 28. **Skeptical** — doubtful
 29. **Tentative** — uncertain or hesitant
 30. **Wary** — cautious
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Precision & Style Vocabulary (SAT Writing & Language)

31. **Concise** — brief and clear
 32. **Coherent** — logically connected
 33. **Redundant** — unnecessarily repetitive
 34. **Succinct** — expressed clearly in few words
 35. **Vague** — unclear or imprecise
 36. **Explicit** — clearly stated
 37. **Implicit** — suggested but not stated
 38. **Consistent** — not contradictory
 39. **Conventional** — traditional
 40. **Refine** — to improve
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Academic & Abstract Vocabulary

41. **Conceptual** — related to ideas
 42. **Context** — surrounding circumstances
 43. **Dynamic** — constantly changing
 44. **Phenomenon** — observable event
 45. **Perspective** — point of view
 46. **Structure** — organization
 47. **Synthesize** — to combine ideas
 48. **Transition** — a change or shift
 49. **Variable** — something that can change
 50. **Framework** — basic structure
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Cause, Effect, and Logic Vocabulary

51. **Consequently** — as a result
52. **Correlate** — to be related
53. **Indicate** — to show or suggest
54. **Outcome** — result
55. **Precede** — to come before
56. **Subsequent** — coming after

57. **Trigger** — to cause
 58. **Influence** — to affect
 59. **Factor** — contributing element
 60. **Trend** — general direction
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Advanced but Common SAT Words

61. **Pragmatic** — practical
 62. **Elusive** — difficult to grasp
 63. **Nuance** — subtle difference
 64. **Paradox** — seeming contradiction
 65. **Eloquent** — expressive and persuasive
 66. **Meticulous** — very careful
 67. **Obscure** — unclear or unknown
 68. **Prevail** — to succeed
 69. **Salient** — most noticeable
 70. **Ubiquitous** — found everywhere
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SAT Vocabulary Strategy Tip

On the SAT:

- Focus on **context clues**, not memorization alone
- Many correct answers are **less extreme and more precise**
- If two words seem similar, the **simpler or more neutral** one is often correct