

GRE Vocabulary

MADE EASY

Table of Contents

WORDS, WORDS, WORDS	2
TO PRAISE.....	3
TO CONDEMN.....	3
DON'T BE HASTY	4
WHATEVER... ..	4
SMARTY PANTS.....	5
MONEY, MONEY, MONEY	5
YOU'RE SO VAIN.....	5
FOR BETTER OR WORSE	6
To Strengthen	6
To Weaken.....	6
SOUNDS.....	6
SHE'S GOT THE LOOK	7
THE PATH OF LEAST RESISTANCE.....	7
DODGING THE BULLET	8
ATTITUDE TOWARDS OTHERS	8
CHARACTER TRAITS	9
Positive	9
Negative	9
LAW & ORDER.....	10
THE MORE THINGS CHANGE THE MORE THEY STAY THE SAME.....	11
I WANNA SEE YOU BE BRAVE.....	11
GOOD VERSUS EVIL	12
Positive	12
Negative	12
MORE OR LESS... ..	12
Excess.....	12
Shortage.....	13
ASK ME NO QUESTIONS I'LL TELL YOU NO LIES	14
Lie	14
Truth.....	14

BELIEFS	15
DIRTY DANCING.....	15
BEHAVIOR/ KNOWLEDGE.....	15
SLOTH IS A SIN	16
THE TIME OF YOUR LIFE	16
SWEET EMOTIONS.....	17
IT'S THE SAME DIFFERENCE.....	17
LET'S BE CLEAR	18
AGREE TO DISAGREE.....	19
WHAT I LIKE ABOUT YOU.....	19
Additional Resources	21

Below is a list of GRE® vocabulary words organized by category for easier memorization. .

Disclaimer: *GRE is a registered trademark of Educational Testing Service (ETS) in the United States and other countries. This e-book not endorsed or approved by ETS.*

WORDS, WORDS, WORDS

Good/Clear with words: articulate, eloquent, expressive, lucid, oratory, pompous, raconteur (good at storytelling), rhetoric, silver-tongued, stentorian (loud), turgid, verbose

Showy wordiness: bloated, bombastic, declamatory, effusive, florid, fustian, garrulous, grandiloquent, grandiose, loquacious, magniloquent, orotund, pretentious, rhetorical, talkative, verbose

Excessively wordy: circumlocution, florid, long-winded, loquacious, prolix, superfluous

Using few words/Not talkative: concise, curt, laconic, pithy, reticent, silent, succinct, taciturn, terse

Something done without the use of words: implicit, implied, tacit, undeclared, unsaid, unuttered

Biting wit: acerbic, caustic, incisive, keen, mordant (*morder*- to bite, Latin origin), trenchant

Abusive, condescending speech: diatribe, fulmination, harangue, invective, jeremiad, malediction, obloquy, tirade

Substituting a mild word for a harsh word: alternative, circumlocution, euphemism, substitute, understatement

TO PRAISE

Admirable: commendable, creditable, estimable, laudable, meritorious, venerable

To praise/praise (n.): acclaim, adulatory, applaud, approbate, claim, commend, compliment, encomium, eulogize, exalt, extol, hail, kudos, laud, paeon, panegyric, plaudit, tribute, venerate

Respect (n.): courtesy, deference, homage, idolize, obeisance, reverence, veneration

TO CONDEMN

To mock/ridicule: deride (can also imply a feeling of contempt), gibe, jeer, scoff, sneer, taunt

To criticize: censure, defame, demean, denigrate, denounce, denunciate, deprecate, impugn, perjure

A long, harsh critique or verbal attack: diatribe, fulmination, harangue, invective, jeremiad, malediction, obloquy, tirade, vilification

To dishonor/shame: discredit, disgrace, disrepute, ignominy, infamy, opprobrium (public disgrace)

To punish: admonish, castigate, chastise, chide, punish, rebuke, reprimand, reproach, reprove, scold, tax, upbraid

To annoy: aggravate, chafe, exacerbate, irk, irritate, nettle, peeve, provoke, vex

To provoke to the point of anger: antagonize, clash, incite, pester

Easily angered: cantankerous, instable, irascible, irritable, ornery, precarious, testy, unstable, volatile

DON'T BE HASTY

Reckless/Impulsive: headlong, ill-considered (implies rushed) impetuous (quick in acting without thinking), precipitous (brought about abruptly), spontaneous

Cautious: circumspect, heedful, restrained, vigilant

WHATEVER...

Unpredictable/changing one's mind often: arbitrary, capricious, chance, erratic, fickle, flippant, frivolous, inconsistent, inconstant, irresolute, mercurial (like the Messenger God in Greek mythology, Mercury, who was swift and fickle, active yet always changing his mind), temperamental, whimsical, willful

To waver back and forth: dally, dither, falter, fluctuate, oscillate, vacillate

Unimportant: debased, frivolous, ignoble, inconsequential, inglorious, insignificant, measly, negligible, niggling, nonentity, paltry, petty, picayune, piddling, trifling

With nary a care/self-confident: aplomb, composure, delicatessen, equability, equanimity, imperturbability, level-headedness, nonchalance, placidity, poise, sangfroid

Lack of emotion: apathy, impassivity, lassitude, phlegm, unresponsiveness, disinterest, lethargy, indifference, stolidity, disregard, insensibility, listlessness, unconcern

SMARTY PANTS

Bookish/intellectual: erudite, literary, scholarly

Knowledge only known or understood by a few: abstruse, arcane, esoteric, highbrow, obscure, rarefied, recondite

Wisdom: acuity, acumen, astuteness, discernment, discretion, flair, ken, ingenious, perceptiveness, sharpness, shrewdness

Wise: astute, astute, circumspection, discretion, finesse, incisive, ingenious, judiciousness, omniscient, percipient, perspicacious, precocious, providence, prudent, pundit, sagacity, sapient

To spread (knowledge): broadcast, disseminate, propagate

Stupid/clumsy: asinine, deranged (more crazy), dim, fatuous, gauche, gullible, idiotic, ignoramus, impolitic, inane, maladroit, simple, unwitting, vacuous, vapid

MONEY, MONEY, MONEY

Generous with money: altruistic, benevolent, generous, munificent, philanthropic

Wasteful with money: extravagant, lavish, prodigal, profligate, spendthrift

Careful with money: economical, frugal, prudent

Cheap with money: frugal, thrifty, miserly, parsimonious

YOU'RE SO VAIN

Showy/flashy: conspicuous, pretentious, ostentatious

Bragging: braggadocio, braggart, bravado, gasconade, magniloquent, prate, rodomontade, vaunt

Modest: chaste, coy, demure, diffident, discreet, humble, meek, resigned, reticent, self-effacing, temperate, unassertive, unobtrusive, unpretentious, verecund

FOR BETTER OR WORSE

To Strengthen

To make better, improve: ameliorate, amend, better, enrich, pacify, upgrade

To support: brace, bolster, buttress, prop, sustain, underpin, uphold

To provide supporting evidence: authenticate, buttress, corroborate, substantiate, verify

To Weaken

To weaken/thin: attenuate (n. tenuous), debilitate, devitalize, dilute, enervate, enfeeble, rarefy, sap, unnerve, undermine, water

To soften/lessen/lighten: abet, allay, alleviate, assuage, conciliate, ease, mitigate, moderate, mollify, palliate, placate, sweeten, temper

SOUNDS

Harsh noises: cacophony, clamor, contention, discord, disharmony, din, dissonance (harsh and disagreeable combination, usually applying to sounds), dissension, dissent, dissidence, friction,

strife, variance, vociferous (loud)

Pleasant sounds: attunement, consonance, diapason, euphony, mellifluousness, melodiousness, organum

SHE'S GOT THE LOOK

Flashy/excessively decorated: baroque, florid, baroque, ornate, ostentatious, flamboyant, rococo

Dapper: bandbox, classy, dashing, debonair, faddish, modish, posh, rakish

Harsh appearance: austere, dour, flinty, ghastly, grim, inimical, intimidating, louring, rugged, severe, stark, steely

Pleasant appearance: airy, agreeable, alluring, attractive, bonny, comely, fair, fetching, handsome, mesmeric, pulchritudinous, winsome

Delicate: darling, dainty, diaphanous, elegant, ethereal, exquisite, fair, frail, petite, precious, rare, toothsome

Rough/awkward: bearish, boorish, churlish, cloddish, coarse, gruff, inurbane, loutish, lowbred, oafish, swinish, uncouth

THE PATH OF LEAST RESISTANCE

Resistant/ Difficult to Penetrate: impregnable, impervious, impermeable, impenetrable, invulnerable, unassailable

To prevent something from happening/to render unnecessary: avert, forestall, obviate, preclude, prohibit

To prevent the passage of: block, barricade, close, obstruct, occlude

Abstain: forebear, refrain, withhold

Difficult: oppressive, burdensome, onerous, arduous, backbreaking, cumbersome, exacting, formidable, laborious, rigorous, taxing, trying

Opaque/ Obscure: impossible to see through, unclear, indecipherable

To penetrate throughout: permeate, imbue, infuse, suffuse

To ditch your responsibilities by feigning illness: dodge, shirk, slack, malingering

DODGING THE BULLET

To defeat: beat, conquer, conquest, overcome, trounce, vanquish, victory, whitewash

To clear from blame/prove innocent: absolve, acquit, exculpate, exonerate, vindicate,

To free from error/ set right/ correct: disabuse, undeceive

Urgent: critical, imperative, exigent

To correct/ set right: undeceive, disabuse

ATTITUDE TOWARDS OTHERS

To suck-up to: bootlick, fawn, grovel, pander, toady

Overly fawning: compliant, deferential, obsequious, servile, subservient

Emotionally intense: ardent, feverish, fervent, fervid, fervor, impassioned, passionate, vehement, zeal, zealous, zealot

To incite: ferment, foment, agitate, instigate, impassion, kindle, inflame

Acting with extreme enthusiasm: extremist, zealous, fiery, frenzied

Intensely passionate: arduous, fervent, fervid, zealot, fervor, zeal

Cutting/sharp: acerbic, biting wit, caustic, keen, mordant, trenchant

CHARACTER TRAITS

Positive

Polite: civil, deferential, demure, gallant, genteel, obeisance, obliging, punctilious, solicitous, tactful

Friendly/sociable: affable, amenable, communicative, congenial, cordial, gregarious, outgoing,

Harmless: benign, innocuous, inoffensive, unoffending, unobjectionable

Innocent/clean: ablution, immaculate, pristine, uncorrupt, undamaged, unsoiled, unsullied, virginal

Well-reasoned, convincing: cogent, telling, persuasive, sound, valid

Paying attention to detail: assiduous, conscientious, meticulous, precise, scrupulous

Someone who can't be disturbed: composed, dispassionate, impassive, imperturbable, serene, stoical

Possessing childlike innocence and naiveté: artless, guileless, ingenuous, naïve, unaffected

Practical: pragmatic, rational, realistic (opposite: idealistic)

Negative

Rude: asocial, boorish, cheeky, churlish, crass, earthy, effrontery, obstreperous, philistine, raw, scabrous, ungracious, unpolished, vulgar

Gullible: credulous, exploitable, naïve, susceptible, trusting

Hostile/unfriendly: adverse, antagonistic, dissident, inimical, recalcitrant

Reserved: aloof, introverted, standoffish, undemonstrative

Nonconformist/rebel: iconoclastic, maverick, subversive

Amateur: dabbler, dilettante, superficial, tyro

Intricate and Complicated: byzantine, convoluted, elaborate, knotty, labyrinthine, perplexing, tangled

Unemotional, lacking sensitivity: apathetic, impassive, indifferent, unconcerned, disinterest, phlegmatic, stolid

Stubborn: contumacious, dogmatic, hidebound, inflexible, intransigent, implacable, inexorable, irreconcilable, mulish, obdurate, obstinate, ossified, pertinacious, persistent, pertinacious, refractory, rigid, recalcitrant, remorseless, tenacious, unbending, uncompromising, unrelenting, unswayable, unyielding

Agitated: bluster, discomposed, disquieted, flurried, fluster, frenetic, fulminate, furor, insurgent, kinetic, perturb, raging, rail, roil, ruffled, tumultuous, turbid, turbulent (think of airplane turbulence), vehemence, verve

LAW & ORDER

Disorganized/not fully formed: amorphous, inchoate, incoherent, unorganized

Large disorder/confusion: chaos, clutter, disarray, disorganization, muddle, topsy-turvy, turmoil,

Routine: mechanical, perfunctory, automatic

THE MORE THINGS CHANGE THE MORE THEY STAY THE SAME

Lacking change: consistent, constant, determinate, entrenched, fixity, immutable, impervious, inert, ingrained, invariable, inviolate, lodged, rooted, steadfast, unfailing

Changing: catalyst, commutation, innovative, metamorphosis, mutable, transfiguration, transformation, translation, transmogrify, transmutation

Lacking variation: (n.) drone, monotony, tedium, banausic, monotonous, pabulum, pedestrian, prosaic, routine, soporific, tedious

Easily shaped: adaptable, ductile, malleable, pliable, pliant, plastic

Clichéd: banal, boring, bland, bromidic, commonplace, fatuous, hackneyed, innocuous, insipid, jejune, musty, platitudinous, prosaic, quotidian, shopworn, stale, threadbare, timeworn, trite, vapid

Cliché (n.): adage, banality, bromide, hokum, inanity, insipidity, platitude, prosaic, shibboleth, truism, vapidity

Boring: banal, bland, commonplace, dull, trite, hackneyed, musty, quotidian, bromidic, insipid, fatuous, platitude, threadbare, jejune, prosaic, stale, vapid

I WANNA SEE YOU BE BRAVE

Bold: adventuresome, aggressive, arrogant, audacious, assured, conceited, courageous, dauntless, doughty, egotistical, gallant, game, heroic, immodest, intrepid (think of the WWII ship, The Intrepid), mettlesome, ostentatious, plucky, presumptuous, stouthearted, stout, temerity, unabashed, undaunted, unafraid, valiant, valorous, venturesome, venturous

GOOD VERSUS EVIL

Positive

Beautiful: embellish, florid, opulent, ornate, ostentatious

Goodness/morality: altruism, beatific, beneficent, benign, benison, clement, continence, elevated, ethical, exemplary, integrity, noble, probity, rectitude, righteous, temperance, virtue

Possessing a desire to spread and promote goodness: altruistic, generous, humanitarian, philanthropist

Ideal model of perfection or excellence: apotheosis, ideal, paragon, quintessence, standard

Negative

Evil/immorality: bacchanalian (think of the Greek god of Wine, Bacchus), debauch, decadence, fiendish, illicit, infernal, iniquitous, invidious, lascivious, licentious, lurid, miscreant, nefarious, perfidious, profligate, rapacity, reprobate, turpitude

Disloyal: faithless, traitorous, treacherous, perfidious (noun: perfidy)

A mark of shame: blemish, blot, opprobrium, stain, stigma, taint

MORE OR LESS...

Excess

Excess of something: capacious, cavalcade, cloying, cornucopia, dilate, distend, effusive, fraught, glut, manifold, multifarious, myriad, opulence, overabundance, plethora, preponderance, prodigious, profusion, replete, superabundance, superfluity, surfeit

To overindulge: cloy, glut, gorge, sate, satiate, surfeit

To grow: accrete, aggrandize, amplify, append, augment, burgeon, develop, dilate, elaborate, enlarge, escalate, expand, expatiate, upsurge, wax

To enlarge/expand: amplify, develop, dilate, elaborate, expatiate

To increase in power/influence/ reputation: aggrandize, amplify, apotheosize, augment, develop, dignify, elevate, enlarge, ennoble, exalt, glorify, magnify, swell, uplift, wax

To spread quickly/ increase in number quickly: breed, multiply, procreate, proliferate, propagate, reproduce, spawn

To cause/bring about: beget, engender, generate, proliferate, procreate, reproduce, spawn

To give generously; extremely extravagant: bestow, confer, extravagant, exuberant, luxuriant, prodigal, profuse, opulent, superabundant

Grand: august, exalted, lofty, majestic, noble, regal, resplendent, sublime, superb

To overwhelm: to cover with water: inundate, deluge, drown, engulf, flood, submerge

Shortage

Shortage of something: dearth, defect, deficient, famine, insufficiency, meager, paucity, poverty, privation, scantiness, scarcity, stinting

To shrink: abate, constrict, corrode, dwindle, ebb, wane

To reduce in amount, degree, or severity: abate, ebb, lapse, let up, moderate, relent, slacken, subside, wane

ASK ME NO QUESTIONS I'LL TELL YOU NO LIES

Lie

To lie: equivocate, perjure, prevaricate

To leave in secret: abscond, decamp, escape, flee

Something that seems true but is not: deceptive, erroneous, illusory, ostensible, plausible, specious, spurious, sophistical

To pretend, hide one's real intentions, present a false appearance: affect, assume, camouflage, cloak, counterfeit, disguise, dissemble, dissimulate, feign, masquerade, pose, pretend, sham, simulate

To deceive: beguile, betray, bluff, cozen, deceive, delude, dupe, fool, hoodwink, humbug, mislead, take in, trick

Deceit/trickery: artifice, chicanery, connivery, craftiness, deception, deviousness, duplicity, guile, misrepresentation, pettifoggery, sophistry, shadiness, subterfuge, sneakiness, underhandedness

Truth

True/accurate: exactitude, fidelity, probity, veracity

Honesty: candor, fealty, frankness, indisputable, indubitable, legitimate, probity, sincerity, veracious, veracity

Honest in speech: blunt, candid, frank, forthright, undisguised

BELIEFS

A firmly held belief, usually religious: creed, doctrine, dogma, tenet, teaching

Dogmatic: authoritarian, bossy, dictatorial, doctrinaire, domineering, imperious, magisterial, masterful, overbearing (dictatorial in one's beliefs), peremptory

To dishonor/shame: disgrace, discredit, disrepute, ignominy, infamy, obloquy, opprobrium (public disgrace)

To be in favor of whatever group you belong to: biased, partisan

DIRTY DANCING

To make impure: adulterate, besmear, bespatter, defile, grimy, grubby, slovenly, smutty, sully

Sharp/unfavorable/irritating to one's senses: acrid, caustic, piquant, poignant, pungent, stinging

Innocent/clean: ablution, immaculate, pristine, uncorrupt, undamaged, unsoiled, unsullied, virginal

BEHAVIOR/ KNOWLEDGE

Correct behavior: correctness, decency, decorum, etiquette, manners, modesty, mores, propriety, seemliness

Lacking self-confidence: bashful, coy, demure, diffident, modest, retiring, self-effacing, timid

Effectiveness: dynamism, efficacy, efficiency, force, productive, proficiency, vigor

SLOTH IS A SIN

Rest: dormant, inactivity, latent, motionless, quiescence

Something inducing sleep: hypnotic, narcotic, slumberous, somnolent, soporific

To delay/slow: dally, dilatory, laggard, perpetuity, procrastination, protracted, retard, sluggish, torpid

Lack of feeling: analgesia, anesthesia, apathy, carus (deep lethargy), dullness, insensibility, insusceptibility, lethargy, narcosis, narcoma, numbness, stupefaction

Slow/sluggish due to indifference: apathetic, languid, lackadaisical, languorous, lethargic, listless, torpid (n. torpor)

Apathy: disregard, impassivity, insensibility lassitude, phlegmatic, stolidity, listlessness, unconcern, unresponsiveness

THE TIME OF YOUR LIFE

Temporary: alacrity, celerity, cursory, elusive, ephemeral, evanescent, extemporaneous, fleeting, fugitive, impermanent, mercurial, momentary, perfunctory, precipitous, transitory, transient, unenduring

Something intended to delay: dilatory (almost like a filibuster), dragging, flagging, lagging, laggard, slow-footed, tardy

Old age/maturity: abiding, antediluvian, dotage, geriatric (geri: old), hoary, inveterate, senescent (Latin senex: old man), superannuated

Young/immature: callow, green, juvenile, neophyte, puerile, sophomoric, tyro

Something out of place in time: anachronism, archaism, incongruity, archaic

Old-fashioned: ancient, antediluvian, antique, archaic, bygone, dated, dowdy, fusty, obsolete,

outdated, outmoded, passé, prehistoric, stale, superannuated, superseded, vintage

SWEET EMOTIONS

Happy: amiable, blithe, ebullient, euphoric, felicity, provident

Sad: disconsolate, dispirited, doldrums, dolorous, rue, woe

Unable to be calmed down or pacified: inexorable, implacable (opposite: to placate), intransigent, irreconcilable, relentless, remorseless, unforgiving, unrelenting

To calm: appease, assuage, becalm, conciliate, lull, mollify, propitiate

Calm (adj. and n.): detached, dispassionate, imperturbable, indolent, nonchalant, placid, quiescent, repose, sedentary, serene, staid, steady, tranquil, unruffled

A funeral hymn or a sorrowful speech: dirge, elegy, lament, requiem

To Grieve/mourn/ express one's sorrow: bewail, lament

Extreme dislike: animosity, aversion, antipathy, repulsion, animus, enmity, antagonism, indifference

Lack of emotion: apathy, impassivity, lassitude, phlegm, unresponsiveness, disinterest, lethargy, indifference, stolidity, disregard, insensibility, listlessness, unconcern

Fear/caution: apprehension, chary, circumspection/circumspect, craven, misgiving, pusillanimous, trepidation

IT'S THE SAME DIFFERENCE

To imitate: ape, copy, emulate, simulate

Togetherness/continuous: abut, aggregation, cabal, collate, colloquy, collusion, concatenate, concomitant, confluence, conjoin, consensus, consonance, coterie, synchronous, synthesis,

tandem (parachute)

The same throughout/of a similar kind: analogous, consistent, corresponding, homogeneous, standardized, uniform, unvarying

Separate/discontinuous: asunder, bifurcate, descry, detect, diffuse, discern, discrete, discriminate, disjointed, disperse, dissipate, distinguish, diverge, espy, estrange, hiatus, incongruous, interregnum, schism, sequestered

To tell apart: differentiate, discern, descry, detect, discriminate, distinguish, espy, perceive, recognize, rift

To mix together: amalgamate, admix, blend, combine, commingle, commix, compound, fuse, intermingle, intermix, mingle, merge

Completely unlike: dissimilar, divergent, diverse, variant, various

Deviating from the norm: aberrance, abnormality, anomaly deviance, deviation, irregularity, preternaturalness

Eclectic: broad, catholic, selective

LET'S BE CLEAR

Doubtful/Uncertain: ambiguous, cloudy, doubtful, dubious, equivocal, indeterminate, nebulous, obscure, unclear, vague

Obscure: arcane, cryptic, deep, Delphic, double-edged, elliptical (or elliptic), enigmatic (also enigmatical), equivocal, fuliginous, inscrutable, murky, mysterious, mystic, nebulous, occult, opaque, turgid (something difficult to understand due to its complex nature)

Contradiction/ Dilemma: ambiguity, incongruity, paradox

Aimless/ directionless: desultory, disconnected, erratic, haphazard, indiscriminate, objectless, purposeless, random, stray, unconsidered

Disorganized/ not fully formed: amorphous, inchoate, incoherent, unorganized

A puzzle/mystery: conundrum, enigma, perplexity

To use expressions of double meaning to intentionally mislead: equivocate, evasive, waffling

Clearly and easily understood: coherent, explicit, intelligible, limpid, lucid (lucidity- clarity; lucent- glowing with light)

Obvious: arrant, blatant, egregious, flagrant, manifest, ostentatious, overt, patent

AGREE TO DISAGREE

To judge a dispute between two parties: adjudge, adjudicate, arbitrate, moderate, referee, rule

Agreement: accord, assent, concord, concur, consensus, contention, harmony, rapport, unanimity

Agreeable: accede, accommodating, acquiesce, amenable, capitulate, comply, concede, obliging

Disagreement: altercation (v.), altercation (n.), antithetic, averse, bicker, cavil, contention, contradict, detractor, disparage, dispute, dissent, excoriate, feud, inimical, squabble, wrangle

To deny/render invalid: disavow, disclaim, disown, renounce, repudiate

To pardon/excuse: condone, exculpate, remit

WHAT I LIKE ABOUT YOU

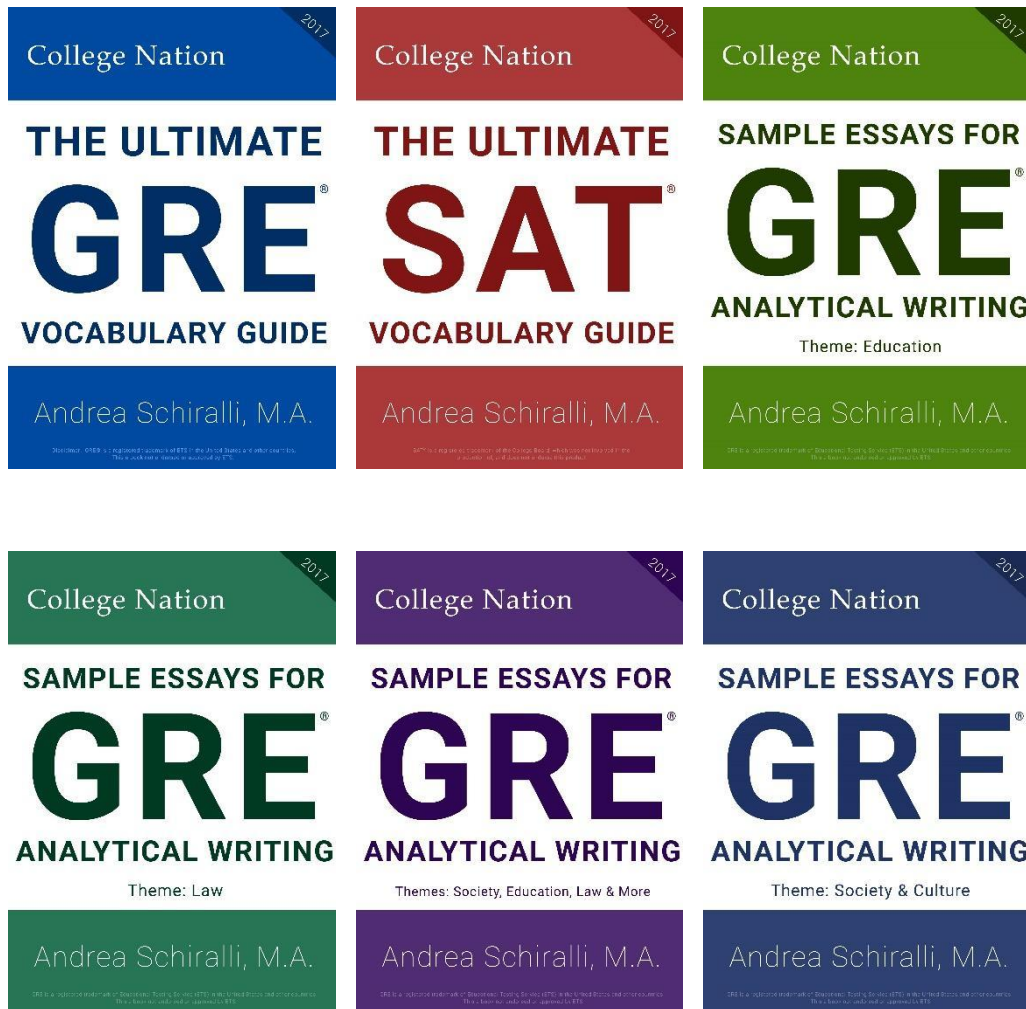
Like/ Attraction: affinity, allure, beguile, bent, charm, draw, enchant, entice, inveigle, penchant, predilection, proclivity, propensity

Repulsion/ Dislike: abhor, abominate, anathema, antipathy, bane, dissuade, eschew, loathe, parry, rancor, revile, spurn

Extreme dislike: animosity, animus, antagonism, antipathy, aversion, enmity, hostility, repellence

Additional Resources

Hello there! We hope you enjoyed reading our book, and more importantly, that you learnt from it!
[Click here](#) to check out more of our books!



[Website](#)