**Based On Meltzer Critical Reading Lesson #2**

**Vocabulary**

1. **Propriety - correct moral behaviour or actions.**

Sentence example - She was careful always to behave with propriety.

1. **Agitation - worry and anxiety.**

Sentence example - He arrived home in a state of agitation.

1. **Commotion - a sudden, short period of noise, confusion, or excited movement.**

Sentence example - His arrival caused quite a commotion.

1. **Disclose - to make something known publicly, or to show something that was hidden.**

Sentence example - The company has disclosed profits of over £200 million.

1. **Profound - felt or experienced very strongly or in an extreme way.**

Sentence example - His mother's death when he was aged six had a very profound effect on him.

1. **Defer - to delay something until a later time.**

Sentence example - Can we defer making a decision until next week?

1. **Notwithstanding - despite the fact or thing mentioned.**

Sentence example - Injuries notwithstanding, the team won the semifinal.

1. **Cease - to stop something.**

Sentence example - The company has decided to cease all UK operations after this year.

1. **Dissolve - (of a solid) to be absorbed by a liquid, especially when mixed, or (of a liquid) to absorb a solid.**

Sentence example - Nitric acid will dissolve most animal tissue.

1. **Obedience - the fact that people or animals do what they are told to do.**

Sentence example - He demands unquestioning obedience from his soldiers.

1. **Convention - a large formal meeting of people who do a particular job or have a similar interest, or a large meeting for a political party.**

Sentence example - Where are they holding their party convention?

1. **Discretion - the ability to behave without causing embarrassment or attracting too much attention, especially by keeping information secret.**

Sentence example - "Can you trust him with this?" "Yes, he's the soul of discretion (= he will not tell other people)."

1. **Peer-to-peer - Peer-to-peer lending involves the use of specialized websites that bring together suitable individual lenders and borrowers.**

Sentence example - People considering lending their money through peer-to-peer sites should understand the risks.

1. **Incumbent - the person who has or had a particular official position.**

Sentence example - The present incumbent (of the post) is due to retire next month.

1. **Staggering - very shocking and surprising.**

Sentence example - It costs a staggering $50,000 per week to keep the museum open to the public.

1. **Intervention - the action of becoming intentionally involved in a difficult situation, in order to improve it or prevent it from getting worse.**

Sentence example - Half the people questioned said they were opposed to military intervention in the civil war.

**Based On SAT Practice Test #1, Second Passage**

**Vocabulary**

1. **Frantically -** **in a hurried, excited, or disorganized manner.**

Sentence example - He frantically searched for the key.

1. **Aside - to or toward the side.**

Sentence example - He stepped aside and let her pass.

1. **Engender - to be the source or cause of (something).**

Sentence example - The issue has engendered a considerable amount of debate.

1. **Ambivalent - having or showing very different feelings (such as love and hate) about someone or something at the same time.**

Sentence example - He felt ambivalent about his job. [=he both liked and disliked his job].

1. **Relish - to enjoy or take pleasure in (something).**

Sentence example - I relish traveling to new places.

1. **Bond - something (such as an idea, interest, experience, or feeling) that is shared between people or groups and forms a connection between them.**

Sentence example - The experience created a very special bond between us.

1. **Peer - a person who belongs to the same age group or social group as someone else.**

Sentence example - Teenagers spending time with their peer groups.

1. **Dread - to fear something that will or might happen.**

Sentence example - She dreaded making speeches in front of large audiences.

1. **Delight - to make (someone) very happy: to give (someone) great pleasure or satisfaction.**

Sentence example - The stories will delight readers of all ages.

1. **Occasion - a special event or time.**

Sentence example - They marked/celebrated the occasion with their families.

1. **Recipient - a person who receives something.**

Sentence example - She is the recipient of many honors. [=she has received many honors], (often + of)

1. **To wit - used to make clearer or more particular something that you have already said.**

Sentence example - She's starting to see the effects of the disease, to wit: her memory is less reliable and she can't always find her way home after going somewhere.

1. **Take (something) into account OR take account of (something) - to think about (something) before doing something (such as making a decision): consider**

Sentence example - Try to take our feelings into account. [=try to think about how we will feel].

1. **Nevertheless - in spite of what has just been said.**

Sentence example - I had lost a lot of money in the poker game; nevertheless [=however], I decided to continue playing.

1. **Propose - to suggest (something, such as a plan or theory) to a person or group of people to consider.**

Sentence example - The scientists proposed a new theory.

1. **Intuitive - having the ability to know or understand things without any proof or evidence: having or characterized by intuition.**

Sentence example - She has an intuitive mind.

1. **Unfounded - not based on facts or proof: groundless.**

Sentence example - His fears are unfounded.

1. **Ritual - a formal ceremony or series of acts that is always performed in the same way.**

Sentence example - He was buried simply, without ceremony or ritual.

1. **Invest - to spend (money) on building or improving something — usually + in.**

Sentence example - The city will invest millions of dollars in two new schools.

1. **Convey - to make (something) known to someone.**

Sentence example - Words convey [=communicate] meaning.

1. **Construe - to understand (an action, event, remark, etc.) in a particular way — usually + as**

Sentence example - He construed my actions as hostile (not friendly).

1. **Notion - an idea or opinion.**

Sentence example - I only have a (slight) notion of the poem's meaning.

1. **To account - to think of (someone or something) in a specified way.**

Sentence example - Their first project was accounted [=considered] a success.

1. **Puzzling - causing or likely to cause confusion: difficult to solve or understand.** Sentence example - The directions are somewhat puzzling.

**Based On SAT Practice Test #1, Third Passage**

**Vocabulary**

1. **Establish - to cause (someone or something) to be widely known and accepted.**

Sentence example - The film established her as a star.

1. **Alternation - to place or do (different things) so that one follows the other in a repeated series.**

Sentence example - To make the appetizer, you should alternate layers of tomatoes and cheese. [=you should place a layer of tomatoes, then a layer of cheese, then a layer of tomatoes, etc.]

1. **Backbone - the most important or strongest part of something.**

Sentence example - She is the backbone of the family.

1. **Sequence - the order in which things happen or should happen.**

Sentence example - He listened to the telephone messages in sequence.

1. **Coil - to wind (something) into circles.**

Sentence example - A long scarf was coiled around her neck.

**Based On SAT Practice Test #1, Fourth Passage**

**Vocabulary**

1. **Procession - an organized group or line of people or vehicles that move together slowly as part of a ceremony.**

Sentence example - There was a *procession* of children carrying candles.

1. **Solemn - very serious or formal in manner, behavior, or expression.**

Sentence example - He spoke in a solemn and thoughtful manner.

1. **Merely - only, just — used to say that someone or something is small, unimportant, etc.**

Sentence example - Was it merely a coincidence?

1. **Esthetic - of or relating to art or beauty.**

Sentence example - There are practical as well as aesthetic reasons for planting trees.

1. **Agitate - to disturb, excite, or anger (someone).**

Sentence example - If I talk about the problem with him, it just agitates him even more.

1. **Humble - not proud: not thinking of yourself as better than other people.**

Sentence example - Despite all his achievements, he has remained humble.

1. **Dare - to have enough courage or confidence to do something: to not be too afraid to do something.**

Sentence example - Try it if you dare.

1. **Contradict - to say the opposite of (something that someone else has said): to deny the truth of (something).**

Sentence example - He contradicted the charges of his critics.

1. **Mouthpiece - someone who speaks for another person or for a group or organization.**

Sentence example - He's been acting as a mouthpiece for the government on questions of foreign policy.

1. **Queer - odd or unusual.**

Sentence example - I had a queer feeling that something bad was about to happen.

1. **Transition - a change from one state or condition to another.**

Sentence example - We want to have a smooth transition when the new owners take control of the company.

1. **Object - to disagree with something or oppose something.**

Sentence example - No one objected when the paintings were removed.

1. **Venerable - old and respected: valued and respected because of old age, long use, etc.**

Sentence example - The cathedral is a venerable building.