***Advanced vocabulary development*** **Ages**



**16+**

**Word list 1**

**Group 1**

**PSAT**          **SAT**           **GRE**

Notes

Abhor  hate  ...................................................

Bigot  narrow-minded, prejudiced person  ...................................................

Counterfeit  fake; false  ...................................................

Enfranchise  give voting rights  ...................................................

Hamper  hinder; obstruct  ...................................................

Kindle  to start a fire  ...................................................

Noxious  harmful; poisonous; lethal  ...................................................

Placid  calm; peaceful  ...................................................

Remuneration  payment for work done  ...................................................

Talisman  lucky charm  ...................................................

**Group 2**

Notes

Abrasive  rough; coarse; harsh  ...................................................

Bilk  cheat; defraud  ...................................................

Covert  hidden; undercover  ...................................................

Engender  cause  ...................................................

Hangar  storage area (like garage) for a plane  ...................................................

Knotty  complex; difficult to solve  ...................................................

Nuance  something subtle; a fine shade of meaning  ...................................................

Plagiarism  taking credit for someone else's writing or ideas  ...................................................

Renown  fame  ...................................................

Tangent  going off the main subject  ...................................................

More word lists and tips at http://www.majortests.com/word-lists

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**Group 3**



Notes

Abasement  humiliation; degradation  ...................................................

Billowing  swelling; fluttering; waving  ...................................................

Cower  recoil in fear or servility; shrink away from ...................................................

Enhance  improve; make better or clearer  ...................................................

Harangue  noisy, attacking speech  ...................................................

Labyrinth  a maze  ...................................................

Nullify  to counter; make unimportant  ...................................................

Plaintiff  petitioner (in court of law)  ...................................................

Replete  full  ...................................................

Tangible  can be touched ...................................................

**Group 4**

Notes

Abrogate  cancel; deny; repeal  ...................................................

Blasphemy  speech which offends religious sentiments  ...................................................

Credible  believable  ...................................................

Enigma  puzzle; mystery ...................................................

Harbingers  indicators; bringers of warnings  ...................................................

Labyrinthine  complicated; highly convoluted  ...................................................

Nuzzle  cuddle; snuggle  ...................................................

Plaudit  statement giving strong praise  ...................................................

Reprehensible  shameful; very bad  ...................................................

Tardy  slow; late; overdue; delayed  ...................................................

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**Group 5**



Notes

Absolution  forgiveness; pardon; release  ...................................................

Blatant  obvious  ...................................................

Creditable  praiseworthy  ...................................................

Ensconce  establish firmly in a position  ...................................................

Hasten  hurry; accelerate; rush  ...................................................

Laceration  a cut  ...................................................

Obdurate  stubborn  ...................................................

Plausible  can be believed; reasonable  ...................................................

Reprieve  a respite; postponement of a sentence  ...................................................

Tawdry  of little value; gaudy  ...................................................

**Group 6**

Notes

Abstain  desist; go without; withdraw ...................................................

Blighted  damaged; destroyed; ruined  ...................................................

Credulous  gullible; ready to believe anything  ...................................................

Enshroud  cover ...................................................

Haughtiness  arrogance; pride  ...................................................

Lachrymose  tearful; sad  ...................................................

Obfuscate  deliberately make something difficult to understand ...................................................

Plethora  an excess  ...................................................

Repudiate  shun; eschew  ...................................................

Tedium  boredom ...................................................

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**Group 7**



Notes

Abstemious  self denying; refraining from indulging ...................................................

Blithe  free-spirited; carefree  ...................................................

Crepuscular  active at dawn and dusk  ...................................................

Enunciation  clear pronunciation; accent; articulation ...................................................

Headstrong  stubborn; willful  ...................................................

Lackluster  dull; monotonous; bland  ...................................................

Objective  unbiased; not subjective  ...................................................

Pliable  flexible; not stubborn  ...................................................

Rescind  retract; repeal  ...................................................

Temper  to moderate; soften  ...................................................

**Group 8**

Notes

Abstruse  difficult to understand; obscure  ...................................................

Blunderbuss             1. ancient weapon (type of gun); 2. a clumsy

person  ...................................................

Cringe  recoil; flinch; shy away  ...................................................

Envenom  to cause bitterness and bad feeling  ...................................................

Hedonism  self indulgence; pleasure-seeking  ...................................................

Laconic  using few words; brief; to the point  ...................................................

Oblique  indirect; slanting  ...................................................

Plumage  feathers of a bird  ...................................................

Resignation  acceptance of fate  ...................................................

Tenacious  stubborn; resolute; holding firm to a purpose  ...................................................

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**Group 9**



Notes

Accolade  tribute; honor; praise  ...................................................

Bolster  support; prop up  ...................................................

Cryptic  puzzling; enigmatic  ...................................................

Ephemeral  short-lived  ...................................................

Hedonist  a pleasure seeker  ...................................................

Lamentation  expression of regret or sorrow  ...................................................

Obliterate  destroy; demolish; eradicate  ...................................................

Plummet  fall suddenly and steeply  ...................................................

Resolution  determination ...................................................

Tentative  not certain  ...................................................

**Group 10**

Notes

Acquiesce  to agree to; give in to  ...................................................

Bombast  arrogant, pompous language  ...................................................

Curtail  cut short ...................................................

Epicure  someone who appreciates good food and drink ...................................................

Heed  listen to  ...................................................

Lampoon  ridicule; spoof  ...................................................

Oblivious  totally unaware  ...................................................

Podium  raised platform ...................................................

Resonant  echoing ...................................................

Tenuous  flimsy; not solid  ...................................................

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