10th Grade SAT Vocabulary Words

Unit 1 Unit 2

1. profuse- excessive; more than enough 1. incoherent- impossible to understand

2. expedient- effective and speedy 2. mitigate- to make milder

3. fastidious- overly critical 3. reprehensible- deserving blame

4. prosaic- uninspired; dull; banal 4. augment- increase

5. philanthropy- a love of mankind 5. engender- to create; produce

6. languid- slow; tired; drooping 6. deride (derision)- to ridicule

7. astute- perceptive; clever 7. acclaim- praise

8. authentic- real; genuine 8. lethargic- tired; slow moving; languid

9. brevity- briefness 9. fanatic- overly enthusiastic fan

10. relevant- pertinent; important to know 10. novel- new; unusual

Unit 3 Unit 4

1. solemn- serious; grave 1. meander- to wander randomly

2. ambivalent- having mixed feelings 2. instigate- to start trouble

3. indolence- laziness 3. heed- to obey; pay attention

4. benign- harmless 4. virtuoso- an accomplished musician

5. tedious- boring; repetitive 5. predecessor- one who precedes another

6. amiable- friendly 6. deplete- to use up or reduce

7. charisma- likeable quality 7. compliant- obedient; ready to comply

8. laud- to praise 8. inadvertent- accidentally

9. caustic- burning; uncomplimentary 9. acquiesce- to gradually agree to

10. atrophy- to waste away due to non-use 10. levity- humor

Unit 5 Unit 6

1. belittle- to mock or disparage 1. remorse- sadness; regret

2. extraneous- irrelevant; extra; unnecessary 2. repress- to hold down

3. digress- to stray from the subject 3. gullible- overly trusting; naive

4. appease- to make peace with; to satisfy 4. respite- a rest; pause; break

5. sage (sagacious, -acity)- wise; wisdom 5. scrutinize- to examine closely

6. emulate- to imitate something admirable 6. coalesce- to join together; to gel; merge

7. auspicious- favorable; positive 7. orthodox- standard; conventional; usual

8. universal- existing everywhere 8. innate- inborn; inherited

9. fickle- capricious; changeable 9. preclude- to prevent; make impossible

10. furtive- sneaky; sly; stealthy 10. efface- to erase; wipe out

Unit 7 Unit 8

1. marred- damaged; bruised 1. cryptic- mysterious; puzzling; enigmatic

2. ameliorate- to improve; make better 2. hinder- to obstruct

3. prodigious- of enormous size or quantity 3. esoteric- appealing to intellectuals

4. concise- briefly and clearly stated 4. pretentious- pompous; self-important

5. immutable- unchanging; permanent 5. incongruous- not fitting in

6. stoic- showing no emotion 6. unprecedented- occurring for the 1st time

7. innocuous- harmless 7. merger- a joining or uniting

8. blasphemy- sacrilege; heresy 8. pedestrian- common; ordinary

9. lax- careless; relaxed 9. prudent- careful; cautious; wise

10. credulous- gullible; overly trusting 10. exemplary- setting a good example

Unit 9 Unit 10

1. sycophant- a bootlicker; brown nose 1. hypothetical- theoretical

2. neutral- unbiased; not taking sides 2. nostalgic- longing for the good old days

3. rescind- to repeal; call back 3. assuage- to soothe or make easier

4. retract- to take back (a statement) 4. saccharine- overly sweet

5. fundamental- essential; basic 5. stanza- a section of a poem

6. rejuvenate- to make young again 6. jeopardy- danger; peril

7. contrite (-ition)- apologetic; remorseful 7. supercilious- looking down your nose

8. exemplify- to serve as an example of 8. avarice- greed

9. nullify- to negate; make unimportant 9. pivotal- important; critical

10. vilify- to speak of someone as a villain 10. blithe- free-spirited; carefree

Unit 11 Unit 12

1. scrupulous- careful; diligent; moral 1. stringent- strict; harsh; severe

2. volatile- explosive; very changeable 2. hackneyed- trite; banal; overused

3. voluminous- very spacious 3. amass- to accumulate; pile up

4. peripheral- on the edge; unimportant 4. verbose- wordy; overly talkative

5. hedonistic- pleasure-seeking 5. trepidation- fear

6. amity- friendship 6. desecrate- to profane a holy place

7. benefactor- a generous donor 7. fortuitous- accidental; happening by luck

8. apocryphal- of doubtful origin; mythic 8. vehement- urgent; passionate; forceful

9. slander- to spread bad rumors 9. derogatory- disapproving; disregarding

10. animosity- hatred; strong dislike 10. Vociferous- loud ; noisy

Unit 13 Unit 14

1. pejorative- negative; disparaging 1. connoisseur- an expert

2. malinger- to fake illness to avoid work 2. precipitous- steep

3. impetuous- impulsive; very impatient 3. Utopia- an ideal society

4. hapless- unlucky 4. Quixoti*c-* foolishly romantic; too idealistic

5. frenetic- frantic (as in activity) 5. prodigal- wasteful; extravagant

6. conjure- to summon by magic 6. nefarious- evil; wicked

7. blatant- unpleasantly noisy; obvious 7. lethargy- sluggishness; laziness

8. admonish- scold gently; warn 8. egregious- extremely bad

9. prolific- abundantly productive 9. laconic- using few words

10. sublime- having elevated; lofty impact 10. cynic- one who distrusts human nature

Unit 15

1. imminent- just about to happen

2. mendicant- a beggar

3. veracity- truthfulness

4. recalcitrant- stubbornly defying authority

5. zealous- enthusiastically devoted

6. surreptitious- sneaky; secretive

7. facetious- humorous; not serious

8. ineluctable- inevitable; unavoidable

9. erudite- scholarly

10. penchant- strong taste or liking