

The Top 66

These are the 66 words that appear most frequently on the SAT and ACT.

- 1** **ADEPT** (*adjective*) Very skilled, able, or proficient.
- 2** **ADVOCATE** (*noun*) One who acts in support or defense of a person or cause.
- 3** **AESTHETIC** (*adjective*) Pertaining to what is considered beautiful or tasteful.
- 4** **ANACHRONISM** (*noun*) Something out of its correct chronological or historical order.
- 5** **ANECDOTE** (*noun*) A short account of an interesting or humorous, often biographical, incident.
- 6** **APPREHENSIVE** (*adjective*) Uneasy, anxious, or fearful about the future; quick to understand or learn.
- 7** **ARROGANCE** (*noun*) An offensive display of self-importance or superiority; overbearing pride.
- 8** **BOORISH** (*adjective*) Crude, coarse, and clumsy in behavior; churlish, oafish, insensitive.
- 9** **BREVITY** (*noun*) The quality of being brief in time or duration; concise expression.
- 10** **CATHARTIC** (*adjective*) Delivering catharsis; emotionally purging.
- 11** **CENSURE** (*verb*) To express disapproval in a strong or vehement fashion; to criticize or blame.
- 12** **CITE** (*verb*) To quote as an authority or example; to mention in support or confirmation.
- 13** **COMMENDABLE** (*adjective*) Worthy of great praise or approval.
- 14** **CONCILIATORY** (*adjective*) Attempting to regain goodwill through pleasantness; accommodating.
- 15** **CONSENSUS** (*noun*) Majority of opinion among a group; general agreement or accord.
- 16** **CONSUMMATE** (*adjective*) Complete or perfect in every respect; supremely skilled.
- 17** **CURSORY** (*adjective*) Performed hastily and without attention to detail; superficial.
- 18** **DEFIANT** (*adjective*) Boldly resisting authority or an opposing force; challenging.
- 19** **DEPICT** (*verb*) To represent or characterize in words, pictures, or sculpture.
- 20** **DERIDE** (*verb*) To laugh at in scorn or treat with contempt; to ridicule.
- 21** **DISPARAGE** (*verb*) To speak of with disrespect; to belittle or depreciate.
- 22** **DISPARITY** (*noun*) Lack of equality or similarity; difference.

- 23 ECLECTIC** (*adjective*) Selecting, employing, or comprising individual elements from a wide variety of sources.
- 24 ELABORATE** (*adjective*) Planned or executed with great care and attention; painstaking.
- 25 ELOQUENT** (*adjective*) Characterized by clear, powerful, and persuasive speech.
- 26 ELUCIDATE** (*verb*) To make lucid or clear; to explain.
- 27 EMBODY** (*verb*) To represent in bodily, material, or tangible form
- 28 EQUITABLE** (*adjective*) Characterized by fairness and impartiality; just or reasonable.
- 29 ERRATIC** (*adjective*) Having no fixed or regular course; wandering; lacking consistency.
- 30 ETHICAL** (*adjective*) Being in accordance with the rules or standards for right conduct or practice.
- 31 EXEMPLARY** (*adjective*) Worthy of imitation; estimable; praiseworthy.
- 32 FELICITOUS** (*adjective*) Well-suited for the occasion, appropriate; marked by good fortune.
- 33 FLORID** (*adjective*) Reddish or rosy; excessively ornate or flowery.
- 34 FOSTER** (*verb*) To promote the growth or development of; cultivate; nurture.
- 35 HOLISTIC** (*adjective*) Emphasizing the importance of the whole and the interdependence of parts.
- 36 IDIOSYNCRASY** (*noun*) A habit, mannerism, or characteristic that is peculiar to an individual.
- 37 INEFFABLE** (*adjective*) Defying expression or description; inexpressible.
- 38 INTEMPERATE** (*adjective*) Given to or characterized by excessive indulgence; not moderate.
- 39 IRREVERENT** (*adjective*) Showing lack of due respect; impertinent; satirical.
- 40 LAMENT** (*verb*) To feel or express grief or regret; to mourn for.
- 41 LAUDATORY** (*adjective*) Containing or expressing praise.
- 42 LUCID** (*adjective*) Clear; rational; sane; easily understood.
- 43 MAGNANIMOUS** (*adjective*) Generous in forgiving; unselfish; free of resentment.
- 44 MOCK** (*verb*) To ridicule; to imitate or mimic; to defy.
- 45 MUNDANE** (*adjective*) Common or ordinary; pertaining to the world, secular.
- 46 NAÏVE** (*adjective*) Unaffected; unsophisticated; inexperienced; having an unaffected style.
- 47 NEFARIOUS** (*adjective*) Wicked; infamous; villainous.
- 48 NOSTALGIA** (*noun*) A longing for a former place or time; something that displays nostalgia.

- 49** **NOVEL** (*adjective*) New; different.
- 50** **OBSTINATE** (*adjective*) Stubborn; inflexible; not easily overcome.
- 51** **PARTISAN** (*adjective*) Devoted to or biased in support of a party, group, or cause.
- 52** **PESSIMISTIC** (*adjective*) Gloomy; having a negative outlook; expecting the worst.
- 53** **PRAGMATIC** (*adjective*) Practical; dealing with actual facts or occurrences.
- 54** **PROSAIC** (*adjective*) Commonplace; dull; lacking in imagination.
- 55** **QUELL** (*verb*) To suppress; to put an end to; to pacify.
- 56** **REFUTE** (*verb*) To prove to be false; to prove a person to be in error; to deny.
- 57** **RHETORICAL** (*adjective*) Used for style or effect only; having to do with rhetoric; bombastic.
- 58** **SANGUINE** (*adjective*) Optimistic, hopeful or confident; reddish.
- 59** **SOLICITOUS** (*adjective*) Anxious or concerned; careful; eager.
- 60** **SOMBER** (*adjective*) Dark; dimly lit; gloomy or depressing.
- 61** **SPECULATE** (*verb*) To think or reflect; to conjecture.
- 62** **SUPERFLUOUS** (*adjective*) More than sufficient; extra; unnecessary or needless.
- 63** **TENACIOUS** (*adjective*) Persistent or stubborn; holding fast; holding together; sticky or adhesive.
- 64** **VENERATE** (*verb*) To regard or treat with reverence.
- 65** **VINDICATE** (*verb*) To clear of accusation or suspicion; to defend, maintain, or avenge.
- 66** **ZEALOUS** (*adjective*) Filled with or motivated by zeal; enthusiastic.