

## Advanced vocabulary development

Ages  
16+

PSAT  
✓

SAT  
✓

GRE  
✓

### Word list 3

Group 1		<u>Notes</u>
Alacrity	eagerness; enthusiasm; quickness	.....
Burgeon	grow; flourish; put forth new shoots	.....
Deleterious	harmful	.....
Euphemism	a polite phrase to cover something unpleasant	.....
Hypocritical	insincere	.....
Lethargic	tired; without energy	.....
Ogle	stare at; observe in an obvious manner	.....
Postulate	hypothesize; propose	.....
Robust	strong; healthy; tough	.....
Tractable	obedient; dutiful; polite	.....

Group 2		<u>Notes</u>
Alchemy	medieval chemistry; attempt to change base metal into gold	.....
Burnish	polish	.....
Deliberate	to think over deeply	.....
Euphony	pleasant sounds	.....
Iconoclast	person who opposes orthodoxy	.....
Levity	flippancy; joking about serious matters	.....
Olfactory	concerned with the sense of smell	.....
Potable	suitable for drinking	.....
Rotund	round	.....
Tranquil	peaceful	.....

<b>Group 3</b>		<u>Notes</u>
Alibi	an excuse that shows someone was not at a crime scene	.....
Buttress	strengthen; support	.....
Delineation	demarcation; explanation; definition; outlining	.....
Evacuate	vacate; empty; abandon	.....
Idiosyncrasy	a personal peculiarity; something unique to an individual	.....
Libertarian	someone who opposes tyranny	.....
Ominous	threatening	.....
Potent	powerful; compelling; strong	.....
Ruminate	think over something; ponder	.....
Transcribe	copy	.....

<b>Group 4</b>		<u>Notes</u>
Allay	to lessen	.....
Byline	the line that tells you who wrote an article	.....
Demur	hesitate; refuse	.....
Exacerbate	make worse	.....
Ignominious	shameful	.....
Liniment	soothing lotion	.....
Omnipotent	all-powerful	.....
Pragmatic	practical	.....
Ruse	trick; stratagem	.....
Transgress	go astray; disobey; commit a sin	.....

Group 5		<u>Notes</u>
Alleviate	make less severe	.....
Cacophony	discordant loud noises	.....
Denounce	condemn; speak out against	.....
Exasperated	frustrated; annoyed	.....
Ignominy	shame [ <i>ignominious (a) = shameful</i> ]	.....
Lithe	flexible; supple	.....
Omniscient	all-knowing	.....
Pragmatist	practical person; one who is concerned with usefulness	.....
Saccharin	falsely sweet	.....
Transient	short-lived; ephemeral	.....

Group 6		<u>Notes</u>
Aloof	distant; detached; cold	.....
Cajole	coax	.....
Deplete	use up; lessen	.....
Exceptionable	very bad (something which we should object to)	.....
Illuminate	to light up or make clear	.....
Livid	very angry	.....
Onerous	burdensome; hard to undertake	.....
Preamble	introductory material	.....
Sacrosanct	very holy; inviolable	.....
Traverse	to move across	.....

<b>Group 7</b>		<u>Notes</u>
Altruism	putting others first; being self-sacrificing	.....
Caldron	huge cooking pot	.....
Deplore	regret	.....
Exculpate	free someone from blame; pardon; acquit	.....
Illusory	deceptive; false; misleading	.....
Lobbyist	person who tries to persuade someone to support a particular cause	.....
Onus	burden	.....
Precarious	unstable; risky	.....
Sagacious	wise	.....
Trepidation	fear	.....

<b>Group 8</b>		<u>Notes</u>
Amass	accumulate	.....
Callow	immature	.....
Depravity	moral corruption	.....
Execrable	very, very bad	.....
Immoderate	excessive; extreme	.....
Lofty	snooty; arrogant; haughty	.....
Opaque	does not let light through	.....
Precedent	a previous occurrence used as a guide	.....
Sage	a wise person	.....
Trinket	something of little value; knick-knack	.....

<b>Group 9</b>		<u>Notes</u>
Ambiguity	uncertainty; vagueness	.....
Candid	frank; honest	.....
Deprecate	criticize; denounce	.....
Exegesis	scholarly explanation or interpretation	.....
Immutable	unchanging; permanent	.....
Longevity	long life	.....
Opulent	wealthy; rich; magnificent	.....
Precept	guiding principle	.....
Salacious	lecherous; erotic	.....
Trite	unoriginal; dull	.....

<b>Group 10</b>		<u>Notes</u>
Ambiguous	unclear in meaning; can be interpreted in different ways	.....
Candor	frankness; openness	.....
Deride	ridicule; make fun of; mock	.....
Exemplary	outstandingly good; setting a fine example	.....
Impartial	unbiased; neutral	.....
Loquacious	talkative	.....
Ordain	1. destine; 2. confer holy orders on a priest	.....
Precinct	district of a city	.....
Sallow	yellowish	.....
Trivial	unimportant	.....