

## 3000 Common SAT Vocabulary List 2

### **amphitheater**

n.

oval building with tiers of seats from central open space or arena

### **amputate**

v. Syn. prune

cut off part of body, especially by surgery; prune

### **analogous**

a. Syn. comparable

comparable; similar or alike

### **analogy**

n. Syn. similarity; parallelism

similarity in some respects; comparison based on similarity

### **analyze**

v. Syn. diagnose; examine; analyze

diagnose; examine

### **anarchy**

n. Syn. lawlessness; disorder

absence of governing body; state of disorder; political disorder and confusion

### **anathema**

n.

solemn curse; someone or something regarded as a curse

### **anatomy**

n. Syn. dissection

detailed analysis; branch of morphology that deals with the structure of animals

### **anecdote**

n. Syn. episode; story

short account of amusing or interesting event; short narrative; secret story of history or biography

### **anemia**

n.

condition in which blood lacks red corpuscles; deficiency of red blood cells; lack of vitality

### **anesthetic**

n.

substance that causes loss of sensation; producing temporary loss or impairment of feeling

## **angular**

a.

sharp-cornered; consisting of an angle or angles; stiff in manner

## **animate**

a.

endowed with life; alive; living; animated

## **animosity**

n. Syn. enmity; hostility

bitter hostility; active hatred; hostile feeling or act

## **annals**

n. Syn. records; history

chronological record of the events of successive years

## **annex**

v. Syn. attach

append or attach; take possession of; incorporate into an existing political unit

## **annihilate**

v. Syn. destroy

destroy completely; reduce to nonexistence

## **annotate**

v. Syn. comment

comment; make explanatory notes

## **annual**

a.

occurring or payable every year

## **annuity**

n.

annual payment of allowance or income; periodical payment, amounting to a fixed sum in each year

## **anonymous**

a. Syn. unknown; nameless

having no name; having unknown or unacknowledged name

## **antagonism**

n. Syn. hostility; enmity

active resistance; condition of being an opposing principle, force, or factor

## **antarctic**

a.

opposite to the northern or arctic pole; relating to the southern pole or to the region near it

## **antecede**

v. Syn. precede  
precede; go before in time, and sometimes in place, rank, or logical order

### **antedate**

v.  
be earlier in time; go back further

### **antediluvian**

a. Syn. antiquated  
antiquated; extremely old and ancient; belonging to very ancient times

### **anterior**

a.  
before in time; antecedent; placed before or in front

### **anthology**

n. Syn. collection  
book of literary selections by various authors

### **anthropology**

n.  
social science that studies origins and social relationships of human beings

### **anticlimax**

n.  
letdown in thought or emotion; decline viewed in disappointing contrast with previous rise

### **antidote**

n. Syn. countermeasure; remedy  
medicine to counteract a poison or disease; agent that relieves or counteracts

### **antiquate**

v.  
make obsolete or old-fashioned

### **antique**

n. Syn. relic; curio  
any furniture old and valuable; out of fashion

### **antiseptic**

n. Syn. bactericide; germicide  
substance that prevents infection; substance that restricts the growth of disease-causing microorganisms

### **antonym**

n.  
word of opposite meaning; counter term

### **anxious**

a. Syn. eager; keen; worried  
eager; keen; worried; uneasy and apprehensive about an uncertain event or matter

### **apathy**

n. Syn. indifference  
lack of caring; indifference

### **aperture**

n. Syn. hole  
opening; diameter of such an opening; hole

### **apex**

n. Syn. summit; climax  
highest point; vertex; summit; climax

### **aphorism**

n. Syn. adage  
definition or concise statement of principle; tersely phrased statement of truth or opinion

### **apiary**

n.  
place where bees and beehives are kept, especially where bees are raised for their honey

### **apogee**

n. Syn. apex  
the highest point; point in orbit most distant from the body being orbited

### **apology**

n. Syn. regret  
acknowledgment expressing regret or asking pardon for a fault or offense; explanation or excuse

### **apostate**

n.  
one who abandons his religious faith or political beliefs

### **apotheosis**

n.  
elevation to godhood; fact or action of becoming a god; an ideal example of something

### **appall**

v. Syn. dismay; shock  
depress or discourage with fear; grow faint or become weak

### **apparent**

a. Syn. visible  
capable of being seen, or easily seen; open to view; visible to eye

### **apparition**

n. Syn. ghost; visibility  
ghostly figure; sudden or unusual sight; appearance; state of being visible

### **appease**

v. Syn. relieve; pacify  
bring peace, quiet, or calm to; satisfy or relieve

### **appellation**

n. Syn. name; title  
name; title; act of naming; act of appealing for aid, sympathy

### **append**

v. Syn. attach  
attach; add as supplement or appendix

### **apposite**

a. Syn. appropriate; relevant  
strikingly appropriate and relevant; well-suited

### **appraise**

v. Syn. evaluate  
estimate value of; evaluate, especially in official capacity

### **appreciable**

a. Syn. considerable; perceptible  
considerable; perceptible

### **apprehend**

v. Syn. arrest; perceive  
take into custody; arrest a criminal; grasp mentally; perceive

### **approbation**

n. Syn. approval  
expression of warm approval; praise

### **appropriate**

v. Syn. acquire; allocate  
acquire; take possession of for one's own use; set apart for specific use

### **arbiter**

n. Syn. judge  
person with power to decide a dispute; judge

### **arbitrary**

a. Syn. capricious; impulse  
randomly chosen; determined by chance or impulse, and not by reason or principle

### **arboreal**

a.  
tree-dwelling; treelike; living in trees

## **arboretum**

n.  
place where different tree varieties are exhibited

## **arcade**

n. Syn. passage  
covered passageway, usually lined with shops; simple arched opening in a wall; vault or vaulted place

## **archaeology**

n.  
study of artifacts and relics of early mankind

## **archaic**

a. Syn. antiquated  
no longer current or applicable; antiquated

## **archetype**

n. Syn. prototype  
prototype; original model or type after which other similar things are patterned

## **archipelago**

n.  
group of closely located islands

## **ardent**

a. Syn. intense; passionate; zealous  
displaying or by strong enthusiasm or devotion; passionate

## **arid**

a. Syn. dry; barren  
dry; lacking moisture, especially having insufficient rainfall to support trees or plants

## **aristocracy**

n.  
hereditary nobility; privileged class

## **aristocrat**

n.  
one of the aristocracy or people of rank in a community; one of a ruling class; a noble

## **armada**

n.  
a fleet of warships; a large group of moving things

## **armory**

n. Syn. arsenal  
arsenal; a place where arms are manufactured

### **aroma**

n. Syn. fragrance; scent  
fragrance; scent; pleasant characteristic odor, as of a plant, spice, or food

### **arraign**

v. Syn. indict; accuse  
officially charge someone in a court of law

### **arrange**

v. Syn. plan; schedule  
put in proper order; dispose in the manner intended, or best suited for the purpose

### **arrangement**

n. Syn. composition; order  
composition; order

### **arrogant**

a. Syn. overbearing; lofty  
arising from feeling or assumption of one's superiority toward others

### **arrogate**

v.  
claim without justification; claim for oneself without right

### **artifice**

n. Syn. deception; trickery  
subtle but base deception; trickery; cleverness or skill; ingenuity

### **artless**

a. Syn. naive  
free of artificiality; natural; open and honest

### **ascent**

n.  
upward slope or grade; movement upward

### **ascetic**

a. Syn. austere; severe  
leading a life of self-discipline and self-denial; austere

### **ascribe**

v. Syn. refer; attribute; assign  
inscribe or dedicate; attribute to a specified cause, source, or origin; assign as a quality

### **ashen**

a.  
ash-colored; very pale; consisting of ashes

### **askance**

a.  
with sideways or indirect look; Turned to side, especially of eyes

### **asperity**

n.  
sharpness of temper; roughness or harshness, as of surface, sound, or climate

### **aspirant**

n.  
one who aspires, as to advancement, honors, or a high position

### **aspire**

v. Syn. dream; seek  
seek to attain; long for; strive toward an end

### **assassination**

n.  
act of assassinating; killing by treacherous violence; murder of public figure by surprise attack

### **assay**

v. Syn. analyze; evaluate  
analyze; evaluate; examine by trial or experiment; put to test

### **assent**

v. Syn. agree; accept  
express agreement to what is alleged or proposed; accept

### **assess**

v. Syn. estimate; judge  
estimate value; judge worth of something

### **assiduous**

a. Syn. diligent; persistent  
constant in application or attention; diligent; unceasing or persistent

### **assimilate**

v. Syn. absorb  
incorporate and absorb into mind; make similar; cause to resemble

### **assuage**

v. Syn. relieve  
ease or lessen pain; satisfy or appease

### **astringent**

a. Syn. austere  
causing contraction; having the effect of drawing tissue together; stern or austere

### **astute**

a. Syn. shrewd  
wise or keen; shrewd; with sharp intelligence

### **atone**

v.  
make amends, as for sin or fault; pay for; turn away from sin

### **atrocious**

n.  
brutal deed; atrocious condition, quality, or behavior; monstrosity

### **attest**

v. Syn. testify  
testify; authenticate, affirm to be true

### **audacious**

a. Syn. brave; bold  
fearlessly, often recklessly daring; bold

### **audible**

a. Syn. perceptible; discernible  
perceptible; heard or perceptible by the ear

### **audition**

v. Syn. test  
take part in a trial performance; evaluate in a trial performance

### **auditory**

a.  
of or relating to hearing, the organs of hearing, or the sense of hearing

### **augment**

v. Syn. increase  
make greater, as in size, extent, or quantity

### **aurora**

n.  
the first light of day; an atmospheric phenomenon consisting of bands of light caused by charged solar particles following the earth's magnetic lines of force

### **austere**

a.  
strict or severe in discipline; severely simple and unornamented

### **authentic**

a. Syn. genuine; real; valid; trustworthy  
not counterfeit or copied; valid; trustworthy

### **autocrat**

n. Syn. dictator  
dictator; ruler having unlimited power

### **automaton**

n.  
mechanism that imitates actions of humans

### **autonomous**

a.  
self-governing; not controlled by others or by outside forces; independent

### **autonomy**

n. Syn. independence; liberty  
independence; self-government or the right of self-government; self-determination

### **autopsy**

n.  
examination of dead body; post-mortem

### **auxiliary**

a. Syn. aiding; supplementary  
helper, additional or subsidiary

### **avalanche**

n.  
great mass of falling snow and ice

### **avarice**

n.  
greediness for wealth; insatiable desire of gain

### **aver**

v. Syn. affirm  
declare to be true; affirm

### **averse**

a. Syn. reluctant; disinclined; unwilling  
reluctant; disinclined; turned away or backward; unwilling

### **aversion**

n. Syn. disgust  
firm dislike; turning away; avoidance of a thing, situation, or behavior because of dislike

### **avert**

v. Syn. prevent  
prevent; turn or cause to turn off or away

## **aviary**

n.  
large cage, building, or enclosure in which birds are reared or kept

## **avocation**

n. Syn. sideline; hobby  
activity taken up in addition to one's regular work or profession, usually for enjoyment

## **avow**

v. Syn. confess  
declare openly; acknowledge openly, boldly, and unashamedly

## **azure**

a.  
sky blue; light purplish-blue

## **bacterium**

n.  
single celled organism with no nucleus

## **badger**

v. Syn. pester; annoy  
pester; annoy persistently; persuade through constant efforts

## **baffle**

v. Syn. frustrate; perplex  
frustrate as by confusing or perplexing; impede force or movement of

## **bale**

n.  
a bundle or package of goods in a cloth cover, and corded for storage or transportation

## **baleful**

a. Syn. deadly; ominous  
portending evil; harmful in intent or effect.

## **ballad**

n.  
popular kind of narrative poem, adapted for recitation or singing

## **banal**

a. Syn. dull; commonplace; trite  
obvious and dull; commonplace; lacking originality

## **barometer**

n.  
instrument for determining the weight or pressure of the atmosphere

### **bask**

v. Syn. luxuriate  
luxuriate; take pleasure in warmth

### **baton**

n.  
staff or truncheon for various purposes, as one of a conductor in musical performances, one transferred by runners in a relay race

### **batter**

v.  
beat with successive blows; beat repeatedly and with violence

### **bauble**

n. Syn. trinket; trifle  
small, showy ornament of little value; child's plaything or toy

### **bawl**

v.  
cry out with a loud, full sound; cry with vehemence, as in calling or exultation; shout

### **beatitude**

n. Syn. blessedness  
blessedness; state of extreme happiness

### **becalm**

v.  
keep from motion, or stop progress of; make calm or still

### **beget**

v.  
produce; give rise to

### **begrudge**

v. Syn. resent  
resent; give or expend with reluctance; be envious of

### **belie**

v. Syn. contradict  
contradict; give a false impression

### **belittle**

v. Syn. depreciate  
disparage or depreciate; put down

### **bellicose**

a. Syn. warlike; belligerent

warlike or hostile in manner or temperament; showing or having impulse to be combative

### **belligerent**

a. Syn. quarrelsome; aggressive

inclined or eager to fight; aggressive

### **bemoan**

v.

regret strongly; express disapproval of