

Essential SAT Vocabulary

Ab-Am

ABASE

Because of his immature behavior, John abased himself in my eyes.

ABASE

- to humble
- to disgrace

ABDICATE

With the angry mob clamoring outside the palace, the king abdicated his throne and fled.

ABDICATE

- to give up position, right, or power

ABERRATION

Due to the bizarre aberrations in the author's behavior, her publicist decided that the less the public saw of her, the better.

ABERRATION

- something different from the usual

ABEYANCE

Michelle held her excitement in abeyance while the college review board considered her application.

ABEYANCE

- temporary suppression or suspension

ABJECT

When we found the abject creature lying on the ground, we took it inside and tended to its broken leg.

ABJECT

- miserable
- pitiful

ABSTRUSE

The philosopher's elucidation was so clear that he turned an abstruse subject into one his audience could grasp.

ABSTRUSE

- difficult to comprehend

ACERBIC

Gina's acerbic wit and sarcasm were feared around the office.

ACERBIC

- bitter and sharp in taste or temper

ACQUIESCE

The princess acquiesced to demands that she marry a nobleman, but she was not pleased about her future.

ACQUIESCE

- to submit passively
- to comply without protest

ACRIMONY

The acrimony the newly divorced couple showed towards each other made everyone feel uncomfortable.

ACRIMONY

- bitterness
- animosity

ADULTERATE

The unscrupulous restaurateur made his ketchup last longer by adulterating it with water.

ADULTERATE

- to corrupt or make impure
- to disgrace

AESTHETIC

The museum curator, with her fine aesthetic sense, created an exhibit that was a joy to behold.

AESTHETIC

- pertaining to art
- appreciative of beauty

AGGRANDIZE

All the millionaire really wanted was to aggrandize his personal wealth; he possessed no other interests besides enlarging his financial portfolio.

AGGRANDIZE

- to make larger or greater
- to enhance power, position, or wealth

ALACRITY

The eager dog fetched with alacrity the stick that his master tossed repeatedly for him.

ALACRITY

- cheerful willingness or eagerness
- speed

ALLEGORY

The novelist used the stormy ocean as an allegory for her life's struggles.

ALLEGORY

- symbolic representation

AMALGAMATE

Giant Industries amalgamated
with Mega Productions to form
Giant-Mega Products
Incorporated.

AMALGAMATE

- to mix
- to combine