

# Essential SAT Vocabulary

**Br-Ce**

# BRIGAND

Brigands held up the bank and made off with the contents of the safe.

# BRIGAND

- bandit
- outlaw

# BRUSQUE

The bank teller's brusque treatment of his customers soon evoked several complaints.

# BRUSQUE

- rough and abrupt in manner
- blunt and harsh in speech

# BURGEON

We will need major subway expansion to accommodate the burgeoning population of the city.

# BURGEON

- to sprout and flourish
- to send forth new growth

# BUTTRESS

The construction workers attempted to buttress the ceiling with pillars.



# BUTTRESS

- to reinforce or support
- to strengthen

# CADENCE

Pierre spoke with a lovely cadence, charming all those who heard him.

# CADENCE

- rhythmic flow of poetry
- marching beat

# CAJOLE

The spoiled girl could cajole her father into buying her anything.

# CAJOLE

- to flatter
- to coax and persuade

# CALLOW

The young and callow fans flocked to the front of the stage and sung along to the vapid boy band's every word.

# CALLOW

- immature
- lacking sophistication

# CAPACIOUS

We wondered how many  
hundreds of stores occupied the  
capacious mall.



# CAPACIOUS

- large and roomy
- extensive

# CAPITULATE

After atom bombs devastated Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the Japanese had little choice but to capitulate.

# CAPITULATE

- to submit completely
- to surrender

# CAPRICIOUS

Queen Elizabeth I was quite capricious; her courtiers could never be sure who would catch her fancy or inspire her displeasure.

# CAPRICIOUS

- impulsive and unpredictable
- whimsical and without much thought

# CASTIGATE

Authorities in Singapore harshly castigate perpetrators of what would be considered minor crimes in the United States.

# CASTIGATE

- to punish
- to chastise and criticize severely

# CATHARSIS

Plays can be more satisfying if they end if some sort of emotional catharsis for the characters involved.



# CATHARSIS

- purification and purging of feelings
- cleansing of emotion

# CATHOLIC

Hot tea with honey is a catholic remedy for a sore throat.

# CATHOLIC

- universal
- broad and comprehensive

# CAVALIER

The nobleman's cavalier attitude towards the suffering of the peasants made them hate him even more than his cruel treatment of them.

# CAVALIER

- possessing lordly disdain and feeling of superiority

# CENTRIPETAL

It is centripetal force that keeps trains from derailing as they round curves.

# CENTRIPETAL

- directed or moving towards the center