

## **Bathroom Vocabulary**

### **Learning Big Words in the Little Boys' or Little Girls' Room**

A strong vocabulary is one of those things that just does not come naturally. Reading a dictionary or thesaurus rarely makes the top of any “to do” list, nor does memorizing flashcards or studying Latin word roots. Unfortunately, vocabulary is a crucial element on the SAT – and avoiding flashcards is no longer an option.

Below are several lists of top-ranked SAT words. Each word has been found on a minimum of three recent tests. The definitions provided are short and sweet to ease the pain of memorization.

Once again – the key to SAT success is daily practice. And, what better place to study vocabulary than in the bathroom, where you’re sure to make several daily trips? Vulgarity aside, keeping a shoebox full of vocab flashcards on the back of the toilet ensures that for a few minutes each day, vocab is revisited. It’s a proven fact that the more times you see something, the more likely you are to remember it. So get those words in your bathroom and flip through several cards every time you use the toilet!

The lists are long, and the words are certainly “big”. If for some reason you simply cannot memorize all of these words, we’ve also included a list of “chunked words,” grouped by meaning or relationship. Lastly, there is a list of WilsonDailyPrep words included. This way you can test yourself on the vocabulary questions you’ve been answering – and see what you remember.

All of the words found on the vocabulary lists are also found on WilsonDailyPrep’s VocabPrep – an interactive vocabulary game that tests your knowledge on 1000 top-ranked SAT words. In addition to bathroom study time, students should spend 3 minutes a day playing VocabPrep.

# WilsonDailyPrep Vocabulary

*Below are the definitions of all WDP vocabulary words*

## List 1

1. Cerebral - pertaining to the brain
2. Adulate – to praise excessively
3. Deleterious – harmful
4. Florid – healthy; ornate
5. Fission – division into parts
6. Laud – to praise
7. Ebullient – lively
8. Accolade – to praise
9. Hedonism – love of pleasure
10. Schism – a split

## List 2

11. Harbinger – warning
12. Dupe – to trick
13. Assiduous – hardworking
14. Dearth – lack of
15. Sagacious – wise
16. Lionize – to praise
17. Pugnacious – combative
18. Esoteric – private; difficult to understand
19. Supercilious – haughty
20. Acclimate – get accustomed to

## List 3

21. Cataclysm – a violent upheaval
22. Emancipate – liberate
23. Astute – shrewd; wise
24. Sybaritic – love of luxury
25. Latent – present, but not visible
26. Disconcert – fluster someone
27. Impetuous – impulsive
28. Perspicacious – wise
29. Celerity – quick and willing
30. Dogged – stubbornly determined

## List 4

31. Breadth – a width or scope of something
32. Fatuous – foolish
33. Truculent – difficult to deal with
34. Fractious - difficult to deal with
35. Speculative – guesswork
36. Exhaustive – comprehensive
37. Tangential – intersecting
38. Paradox – contradiction
39. Germane – relevant
40. Abhor – to hate

## List 5

41. Ambiguous – vague
42. Lucid – clear
43. Capricious – whimsical
44. Cajole – fool with flattery
45. Irrascible – easily irritated
46. Wry – ironically funny
47. Vapid – dull; boring
50. Atrophy – to waste away

## List 6

51. Querulous - to complain
52. Assuage – to calm
53. Venerate – to honor
55. Quell – to calm
56. Consternation – a state of dismay
57. Audacious – bold
58. Noxious – unpleasant; harmful
59. Ubiquitous – everywhere
60. Didactic – excessively instructive

**List 7**

61. Renege – to go back on one's word
62. Impasse – a stand-still
63. Hone – to sharpen; to focus
64. Extol – to praise
65. Candid – honest
66. Tortuous – circuitous
67. Usurp – seize by force
68. Hermetic – tightly sealed
69. Raucous – loud
70. Carp – find fault with and complain constantly

**List 8**

71. Exculpate – free from blame
72. Laconic – quiet
73. Urbane – cosmopolitan
74. Trite – cliché; overused
75. Sanguine – warm; red; happy
76. Serpentine – winding; circular
77. Paradigm – a model
78. Dogma – strict doctrine
79. Ephemeral – fleeting
80. Cordial – friendly

**List 9**

81. Demagogue – a false leader
82. Iconoclastic – criticizes tradition; original thinker
83. Aesthetic – beautiful
84. Heinous – awful
85. Sublime – inspiring awe
86. Spurious – false
87. Avid – enthusiastic
88. Picayune – irrelevant
89. Soporific – sleepy
90. Euphoria – a feeling of extreme happiness

**List 10**

91. Morose – depressed
92. Prudent – wise
93. Astute – wise
94. Torpid – lazy
95. Provincial – narrow-minded
96. Garner – to gather
97. Charlatan – a trickster; a phony
98. Pious – religious
99. Chaste – pure
100. Impugn – to attack as false

**List 11**

101. Obdurate – stubborn
102. Taciturn – quiet
103. Fulsome – someone who ingratiates himself
104. Imprudent – rash
105. Belligerent – picking a fight
106. Punctilious – on time
107. Complacent – smug
108. Reclusive – a hermit
109. Heresy – beliefs against the established doctrines
110. Pragmatic – practical

**List 12**

111. Insidious – evil
112. Tenet – belief
113. Chicanery – trickery
114. Bombastic – pompous
115. Evanescent – fading away quickly
116. Ennui – boredom
117. Wary – cautious
118. Peripheral – not central
119. Obstinate – stubborn
120. Petty – minor; paltry; trivial

**List 13**

- 121. Opulent – lavish
- 122. Loquacious – talkative
- 123. Disparaging – offends someone
- 124. Sedulous – scandalous
- 125. Manifest – create, make
- 126. Amiable – friendly
- 127. Cursory – superficial
- 128. Exasperate – to annoy
- 129. Meticulous – very careful; neat; organized
- 130. Conspicuous – clear; showy

**List 14**

- 131. Pertinent – explicit
- 132. Ephemeral – evanescent
- 133. Languid – lazy
- 134. Officious – kiss-up; not sincere flattery
- 135. Prosaic – dull; boring
- 136. Banal – dull; boring
- 137. Serene – tranquil
- 138. Cacophonous – loud; noisy
- 139. Denounce – put down
- 140. Lucid – clear

**List 15**

- 141. Emaciated – gaunt
- 142. Dauntless – fearless
- 143. Intrepid – fearless
- 144. Recalcitrant – rebellious
- 145. Impede – inhibit; to stop
- 146. Parsimonious – stingy; cheap
- 147. Verbose – wordy
- 148. Wary – cautious
- 149. Pedestrian – mediocre
- 150. Chastise – disapproval and criticism

**List 16**

- 151. Banal – unoriginal
- 152. Congenial – friendly
- 153. Euphonious – pleasant sounding
- 154. Mendacious – deceitful
- 155. Precarious – ominous
- 156. Zeal – extreme enthusiasm
- 157. Gregarious - playful; enjoys a good party
- 158. Furtive – secretive
- 159. Voracious – ravenous
- 160. Profuse – ample

**List 17**

- 161. Rancid – spoiled
- 162. Mundane – prosaic; boring
- 163. Aplomb – poise
- 164. Mercurial – erratic
- 165. Enervated – fatigued
- 166. Precocious – a child that knows all
- 167. Tractable – manageable
- 168. Enigmatic – mysterious
- 169. Arcane – mysterious
- 170. Paucity – scarce; lack of

**List 18**

- 171. Guile – disguise; falseness
- 172. Nefarious – evil
- 173. Fecund – fertile
- 174. Excise – to remove
- 175. Iconoclast – an original
- 176. Insipid – dull; boring
- 177. Assuage – to calm
- 178. Augment – to increase
- 179. Myopic – provincial; narrow-minded
- 180. Myriad – plenty

**List 19**

- 181. Copious – plenty
- 182. Plethora – plenty
- 183. Proliferate – multiply rapidly
- 184. Caustic – insulting
- 185. Entreat – to beg
- 186. Ascetic – abstaining from pleasure
- 187. Superfluous – wasteful; not needed
- 188. Prodigal – wasteful
- 189. Ubiquitous – omnipresent
- 190. Euphoria – extreme happiness

**List 20**

- 191. Penury – poverty
- 192. Quixotic – romantic
- 193. Placate – to calm
- 194. Diffident – shy
- 195. Coagulate – to clot
- 196. Marred – spoiled
- 197. Pious – religious
- 198. Penchant – a inclination
- 199. Wily – cunning
- 200. Petulant – pouty; childish

**List 21**

- 201. Tenet – a belief
- 202. Quibble – a petty disagreement
- 203. Lament – to mourn
- 204. Permeate – to spread throughout
- 205. Perfidy – treachery
- 206. Torpid – slow; lazy
- 207. Docile – easily manageable
- 208. Incongruous – out of place
- 209. Nebulous – vague
- 210. Soporific – lazy

**List 22**

- 211. Loquacious – talkative
- 212. Suave – cool with the ladies
- 213. Embellish – to adorn
- 214. Copious – plenty
- 217. Exemplar – a model to be imitated
- 218. Accolade – to praise
- 219. Schism – a split
- 220. Propensity – a tendency

**List 23**

- 221. Exhort – to urge passionately
- 222. Impasse – a standstill
- 223. Ardor – passion
- 224. Fervent – passion
- 225. Peruse – read carefully
- 226. Acrimonious – bitter
- 227. Pulchritude – beauty
- 228. Aversion – dislike
- 229. Erroneous – wrong
- 230. Magnanimous – generous

**List 24**

- 231. Eccentric – quirky
- 232. Panacea – cure-all to societies vices
- 233. Vernacular – everyday language
- 234. Insouciant – carefree
- 235. Polemical – likes to fight
- 236. Truncate – to cut off
- 237. Maverick – rebel; an independent
- 238. Chaste – pure
- 239. Peripheral – not central
- 240. Egotist – self-centered

**List 25**

- 241. Destitution – poverty
- 242. Gluttonous – like to eat a lot
- 243. Voracious – a gluttonous eater
- 244. Respite – rest
- 245. Reticent – reserved
- 246. Countenance – a look
- 247. Intrepid – brave
- 248. Redoubtable – inspiring fear/ awe
- 249. Ethereal – heavenly
- 250. Ameliorate – to make better

# Additional Vocabulary Lists

## List 1

Entreaty:	to beg; to plead with
Caustic:	insulting; bitter
Peripheral:	not central
Chasten:	to scold; to discipline or to punish
Excise:	to cut out or remove a portion of something
Rescind:	to cancel
Augment:	to increase
Expunge:	to remove completely
Wary:	Cautious
Elated:	Happy; full of joy
Fecund:	fertile
Penury:	lacking in resources; poverty
Wily:	Sneaky; crafty; cunning
Depose:	to overthrow
Aloof:	Reserved
Indolence:	laziness
Paltry:	insignificant
Execrable:	revolting
Sycophant:	an insincere flatterer (an ass-kisser)
Impugn:	oppose or attack as false; deny
Assiduous:	pay careful attention to details; diligent
Chaste:	pure
Superfluous:	Unnecessary
Meticulous:	very careful, exacting
Credulous:	Naïve: believes everything
Incredulous:	Doubting: asks questions
Surreptitious:	Hidden, secretive, sneaky
Nefarious:	wicked, evil
Indigent:	poor, without funds
Respite:	a rest; a break
Spurious:	false
Verdant:	Green, grassy
Hyperbole:	exaggeration
Quixotic:	Romantically impractical
Paradigm:	A model
Ameliorate:	to improve, to make better
Penchant:	an inclination
Exonerate:	to clear from blame
Acquiesce:	to agree; to give in

## List 2

Circumspect:	cautiously considers details
Heinous:	terrible
Adroit:	skillful; proficient; adept
Innocuous:	harmless
Credulous:	gullible
Tractable:	manageable
Vagrant:	without a home
Tome:	a big book
Tenacious:	persistent
Tepid:	lukewarm
Proclivity:	an inclination
Ephemeral:	brief
Enigma:	a mystery
Dormant:	inactive
Garble:	to mix up
Latitude:	freedom; license
Champion:	to promote
Exhort:	to urge passionately
Stoical:	not to show emotion
Placate:	to calm
Exacerbate:	to aggravate, make worse
Virtuoso:	one with exceptional talent
Inspid:	dull; boring
Efface:	to erase
Candid:	open and honest
Extol:	to praise highly
Enigma:	a puzzle, a mystery
Esoteric:	difficult to understand
Impasse:	deadlock; standstill
Reneg:	to go back on one's word
Abstract:	difficult to understand
Lament:	to mourn over
Augment:	to increase
Ephemeral:	temporary, not lasting
Guile:	deceitful
Laud:	to praise
Heresy:	beliefs opposed to an established doctrine
Capitulate:	to surrender
Prosaic:	dull, ordinary, pedestrian
Provincial:	narrow-minded

### List 3

Cosmopolitan:	broad-minded
Sloth:	laziness
Ineffable:	inexpressible
Mercenary:	greedy; a soldier who fights for money
Innocuous:	harmless
Banal:	boring
Complacent:	pleased with oneself; smug
Vacillate:	to be undecided
Torpid:	lazy; sluggish
Ascetic:	practicing self-denial
Emulate:	to imitate
Compunction:	regret
Augury:	an omen
Obscure:	hard to understand
Paucity:	lack of, scarcity
Copious:	large amount
Contentious:	argumentative
Acumen:	mental keenness; insight
Propensity:	a tendency
Ambiguous:	unclear
Aloof:	detached, unfriendly
Disparage:	to speak badly of; malign
Pious:	religious
Charlatan:	phony, faker
Dupe:	one who is easily fooled
Marred:	ruined; spoiled
Diatribes:	a bitter denunciation
Didactic:	instructive, inclined to teach
Obdurate:	stubborn
Daunt:	discourage one's hopes
Dearth:	Scarcity lack of
Fastidious:	meticulous, pay attention to details
Pulchritude:	beauty
Augury:	an omen
Aversion:	dislike
Penury:	poverty
Exculpate:	to free from blame
Capricious:	whimsical, unpredictable
Pragmatic:	practical
Mendacious:	lying
Pedantic:	Knowledgeable but a know it all

#### List 4

Precocious:	characterized by an unusual emotional or mental maturity
Capacious:	spacious
Facile:	easily performed
Permeate:	to spread throughout
Perfidy:	treachery
Tenet:	a belief held as true
Façade:	a false or artificial appearance
Quibble:	a petty objection or distinction
Tout:	to recommend highly
Contention:	a point put forward in a debate; a conflict
Engender:	to give rise to
Rancor:	extreme emotional bitterness
Predilection:	a preference
Effusive:	Gushing or unrestrained
Timorous:	easily frightened
Credence:	acceptance of something as true
Tractable:	Docile, malleable
Ascetic:	Self-denial of life's pleasures
Pernicious:	Extremely harmful
Enfranchise:	to bestow the rights of citizenship; to release from bondage
Churl:	a rude person; a stingy person
Arcane:	secret and mysterious
Pretension:	showy or pompous behavior
Fabricate:	to make up a story
Approbate:	to authorize; to sanction
Conundrum:	a problem without a suitable solution
Efficacious:	Capable of producing the desired effect
Recluse:	One who withdraws from society
Redoubtable:	to be feared or awed
Oscillate:	to move back and forth
Mirth:	joy
Abstruse:	Hard to understand
Zenith:	the point directly overhead
Debase:	to degrade or lower in value
Conjecture:	Guesswork
Penury:	Extreme poverty
Aggregate:	Gathered together in one mass
Chimera:	a foolish idea
Intrepid:	Brave
Consummate:	to complete; perfect; supreme

## List 5

Furtive:	Sneaky, stealthy
Calibrate:	To adjust the scale of a measuring device
Atrophy:	wasting away
Cogent:	Believable, relevant
Colloquial:	conversational; pertaining to informal speech
Orthodox:	Generally accepted; following established ways
Decadent:	Decaying; self-indulgent
Autocracy:	Governmental rule by one person with unlimited authority
Coalesce:	To come together into a single group
Enervate:	to weaken
Circuitous:	Roundabout
Crest:	the top of something
Pristine:	uncorrupted; unspoiled
Prodigious:	of extraordinary power and scope
Grate:	to annoy
Acrimonious:	bitterness
Opaque:	not allowing light to pass through; difficult to understand
Munificent:	Generous
Narcissism:	extreme self-love
Utilitarian:	practical, rather than decorative
Vapid:	uninterested
Adroit:	skillful
Obdurate:	emotionally hardened
Minute:	extremely small; very precise and detailed
Vociferous:	characterized by loud and persistent shouting
Officious:	aggressively offering advice that is unwanted
Nascent:	in the process of coming into existence
Repudiate:	to disown; to refuse to recognize
Punitive:	financial damage
Vaunt:	to brag or boast; a boasting assertion
Enumerated:	to list
Dilatory:	to delay doing things
Conundrum:	a puzzle
Remunerate:	to compensate
Vogue:	the current fashion
Incorrigible:	unmanageable; not reformable
Diffident:	lacking self-confidence
Vestige:	a very slight trace of something
Coagulate:	to clot
Disposed:	having a certain inclination
Entreat:	to make an emotional request

## List 6

Discord:	strife; a harsh mix of musical tones
Virtuoso:	someone highly skilled in an art
Assuage:	to calm; to soothe
Doleful:	very sad
Affront:	to insult openly
Viscous:	thick and not easily poured
Archetype:	a prototype; a typical example
Hone:	to sharpen
Verbose:	wordy
Nebulous:	cloudy or hazy; ambiguous
Carp:	to find fault with and complain constantly
Noxious:	unpleasant and harmful
Ubiquitous:	omnipresent
Reticent:	reserved
Watershed:	the point at which a significant change occurs
Abhor:	to regard with horror, disgust, or hatred
Countenance:	a look of approval or support
Digress:	to depart from the main subject
Dogma:	beliefs put forward as the absolute truth
Venerate:	to revere
Copious:	abundant
Remonstrate:	to protest
Usurp:	to seize and hold
Annex:	an addition
Periphery:	edge
Ardor:	enthusiastically excited
Peruse:	Read or study carefully
Repose:	peaceful tranquility
Querulous:	complaining
Cloying:	nauseatingly sweet
Vernacular:	spoken in the style of everyday speech
Truculent:	difficult to deal with
Fractious:	difficult to deal with
Hermetic:	tightly sealed
Raucous:	loud, harsh sound
Largess:	kind, generous and giving
Expiate:	to atone, be sorry for
Sullen:	sad, depressed
Punctilious:	pays attention to details
Exculpate:	free from blame

## List 7

Sybaritic:	love of luxury
Latent:	present but not visible
Emancipate:	to liberate
Astute:	shrewd
Decorum:	proper behavior
Meander:	to take an indirect course
Elucidate:	to clarify
Cacophony:	harsh sounds
Aesthetic:	artistic; pertaining to beauty
Empirical:	based on observation
Belie:	to misrepresent; to prove false
Derision:	scorn; ridicule
Consternation:	a state of paralyzing dismay
Audacious:	bold
Didactic:	excessively instructive
Brusque:	rudely short or abrupt
Malaise:	a vague feeling of discomfort or weakness
Fallow:	left inactive
Altruism:	selflessness
Fatuous:	foolish
Extemporaneous:	impromptu
Breadth:	the width of something; a comprehensive outlook or scope
Lampoon:	an artistic work that ridicules
Dogged:	stubbornly determined
Celerity:	willingly and quickly
Perspicuous:	understandable, clear
Impetuous:	impulsive, jumps in without thinking
Disconcert:	to fluster someone
Extricate:	to disentangle from a difficulty
Antipathy:	a strong feeling of dislike
Fastidious:	meticulous; hard to please; highly attentive to details
Chauvinism:	biased devotion
Fetter:	something that restricts
Inspid:	dull, boring
Circumscribe:	to encircle or confine
Dissonant:	in disagreement or discord; harsh sounding
Facet:	a cut surface on a gemstone: an aspect of a situation
Extrinsic:	external; not inherent
Enmity:	mutual hatred
Ascendant:	Rising; superior; a state of dominance

## List 8

Cerebral:	Pertaining to the brain
Adulate:	to praise excessively
Deleterious:	harmful
Florid:	appearing healthy; elaborate and ornate
Fission:	division into parts
Laud:	to praise
Ebullient:	lively
Accolade:	praise
Hedonism:	love of pleasure
Jingoistic:	extreme nationalism
Usurped:	to seize or hold by force
Schism:	break
Insinuations:	ugly hints
Acclimated:	accustomed to
Cataclysm:	any violent upheaval
Promulgated	to put into operation
Harbinger:	bearer of
Vacuities:	empty sentiments
Sacrosanct:	extremely sacred
Potent:	a warning of what is to happen
Potentate:	powerful
Apostate:	lack of faith
Apostle:	bearer of faith
Verve:	vivacious spirit
Impede:	stop
Mercurial:	quick
Acerbic:	harsh or severe; sour tasting
Impervious:	can't be hurt
Martinet:	strict; military
Chagrin:	a feeling of vexation; marked by disappointment
Enigmatic:	problematic
Obtuse:	confusing
Euphonious:	pleasant sounding
Foolhardy:	bold in a foolish way
Affinities:	a natural liking
Prescient:	knowledge of things before they happen
Infallibility:	absolutely trustworthy
Erudition:	profound learning aquired by study
Coterie:	a group
Extrapolated:	to infer from something that is known
Divisive:	creating dissension
Torpor:	dullness or apathy

## LIST 9

Truncate	to shorten; to abbreviate; to crop
Exculpate	to free from guilt or blame
Euphemism	a nice way of saying something not so nice
Prattle	to talk idly; to babble; to chitcat
Gaunt	pale; weak; sickly
Surreptitious	secretive; sneaky; covert
Raze	to tear down; to topple
Fiasco	a disaster; a failure
Parochial	narrow in scope; limited; provincial
Peccadillo	a minor crime
Parry	to deflect a blow
Ethereal	airy; spiritual; unworldly
Impertinence	boldness, audacity, or insolence
Laconic	brief; concise, pithy; succinct; terse
Impecunious	poor; penniless; indigent
Extol	to praise highly
Upbraid	to scold; to criticize
Surfeit	excess; overabundance; plethora
Corrugated	creased; fluted; not smooth
Gambol	to frolic; to spring about gracefully
Parsimonious	stingy; avaricious; miserly
Paragon	ideal model or example; paradigm, standard
Maverick	one who stands out of the crowd; individualist
Emollient	a soothing ointment; salve, balm
Propitious	fortunate; favorable; beneficial
Myopic	lacking insight
Perspicacious	perceptive; astute; discerning
Perdition	damnation; total loss; denial of salvation
Savant	a very wise or intelligent person; a sage