

1. CONTEND (kun-TEND) *verb* –to argue to a point of position; or, to struggle for

- Sounds like: can't end
- Picture: A football team, losing 118 to 0. In the locker room at halftime, the captain speaks up: "We've fought back all year and it can't end here. If we're to be contenders, we can't give up!"
- Synonyms: compete; vie; challenge
- Antonyms: collaborate
- Other forms: contention (*noun*); contentious (*adj.*)
- Sentence: The driver tried to *contend* that the stop sign was hidden by the tree.

2. PROFOUND (pro-FOWND) *adj.*- penetrating beyond the superficial; filled with wisdom and insight; deep

- Looks like: Prof. Found
- Picture: A philosophy professor from the local college had been missing for a week, but he's been discovered alive and well, trapped at the bottom of an abandoned mine shaft. The headline in today's newspaper: "PROF FOUND!" Upon first seeing his rescuers, the professor looks up and says, "I am a symbol of mankind, fallen from the heights of power and wisdom to the depths of despair and destitution, until you, the gods of Goodness and Health, arrived to bring me the gifts of freedom and rebirth." Looking down from the top of the mine shaft, one rescuer says to the other: "Wow, that's deep!"
- Synonyms: reflective; philosophical; insightful
- Antonyms: superficial
- Other forms: profundity (*noun*); profoundly (*adv.*)
- Sentence: Tina came through the ordeal with a new and *profound* understanding of life.

3. SANGUINE (SANG-gwinn) *adj.*— optimistic; cheerful

- Sounds like: sang win or sounds like “penguin”
Picture: A young penguin, who can’t sing, is in a singing contest and lost. Think about the movie HAPPY FEET!
- Synonyms: confident; upbeat; hopeful
- Antonyms: doubtful; uncertain; pessimistic
- Other forms: sanguineness (*noun*); sanguinely (*adv.*)
- Sentence: Her *sanguine* outlook was contagious, and soon everyone was feeling hopeful.

1. EMULATE (EM-yoo-late) *verb* – imitate

- Sounds like: Em, you're late
- Picture: Emily is being scolded by her mother for getting home late: "Em, you're late." Standing right behind Emily is her younger brother, who says, "I'm late too, Mom, because I wanted to be just like Em."
- Synonyms: copy; mimic; match
- Antonyms: individual
- Other form: emulation (*noun*)
- Sentence: As young boys, we tried to *emulate* our favorite baseball players.

2. IMPETUOUS (im-PETCH-oo-us) *adj.* – making quick decisions and taking sudden action; hasty; impulsive

- Sounds like: in pet shoes
- Picture: Wife comes home with family sheepdog. Husband is watching TV and looks over to see that the dog is wearing very stylish shoes on all four paws. “I just bought them without thinking,” wife explains. “They were there in the window, we were walking by, we both liked them, so I bought them. I know it was impetuous, but hey, he does have that kennel dance next Friday.
- Synonyms: rash; sudden; spontaneous
- Antonyms: considered; cautious
- Other forms: impetuosity (*nouns*); impetuously (*adv.*)
- Sentence: People who think before they act may look upon the *impetuous* with curiosity.

3. **STEALTH** (STELTH) *noun* – secretive behavior

- Sounds like: steal wealth
- Picture: A very quiet, highly-skilled burglar breaking into the home of a wealthy person. Everything the burglar does (or doesn't do) in getting into the house without being detected is an example of *stealth*.
- Synonyms: sneakiness; covertness; furtiveness
- Antonyms: openness; honesty
- Other forms: stealthy (*adj.*); stealthily (*adv.*)
- Sentence: A good pickpocket's two major traits are *stealth* and dexterity.

Set A SAT WORDS: LESSON 26

1. BEGUILE (be-GYLE) *verb* – to cheat or deceive, usually through charm; also, to amuse

- Sounds a little like: beg a while
- Picture: Two children plotting to talk their parents into something. The older child says to the younger, “Let’s try this. You go out there and beg a while. They love when you do that. They think it’s cute. They’ll laugh, they’ll say. ‘Come here and give us a hug, you cute thing,’” and then they’ll say yes.”
- Synonyms: entice; lure; woo
- Antonyms: repel
- Other forms: beguiling (*adj.*); beguilingly (*adv.*)
- Sentence: At first, she was *beguiled* by his charm and attention.

2. INTERMITTENT (in-ter-MIT-tint) *adj* - Occuring at intervals; periodic; not constant or continual

- Sounds like: in her mitten
- Picture: A little girl stands outside in the falling snow. Every once in awhile a snowflake lands in her mitten. She never knows when it will happen, but she knows it will happen again soon.
- Synonyms: sporadic, fragmentary, discontinuous
- Antonyms: continuous, steady
- Other forms: intermittently (*adverb*)
- Sentence: The **intermittent** showers were followed by long periods of sunshine.

3. **VERACITY** (ver-RASS-sih-tee) *noun* – truth
- Sounds like: Vera City
 - Picture: Vera City, where everyone tells the truth.
 - Synonyms: accuracy; genuineness; validity
 - Antonyms: falsity
 - Other form: veracious (*adj.*)
 - Sentence: The skeptical detective doubted the *veracity* of the suspect's alibi.

Set A SAT WORDS: LESSON 27

1. IMMINENT (IMM-uh-nint) *adj.* – about to take place; happening soon

- Sounds a little like: in a minute
- Picture: A farmer and his son discussing the tornado that's supposed to be on its way. "When do you think it will get here?" The son, looking out the window, sees the dark funnel on the horizon. "In a minute," he says.
- Synonyms: looming; approaching
- Antonyms: far off; distant
- Other forms: imminently (*adv.*); imminence (*noun*)
- Sentence: Another stabbing contraction and the pregnant woman knew the birth was *imminent*.

2. **PRECLUDE** (pre-KLOODt) *verb* – prevent; make impossible

- Looks like: pre-glued
- Picture: A young boy proudly showing his father a large stack of envelopes; there is a bottle of glue on the desk. “Hey, Dad, these envelopes of yours were supposed to be pre-glued, but I didn’t think they were. So, I decided to save you a lot of work by gluing them closed. Pretty smart, huh?” (Father thinks: “Well, guess this precludes me from mailing anything in those envelopes.”)
- Synonyms: prohibit, block, impede
- Antonyms: assist, advance, facilitate
- Sentence: The still-flooded streets precluded the parade from going on as scheduled.

3. **TENTATIVE** (TEN-ta-tiv) *adj.* – not fully developed or definitely planned; provisional

- Sounds like: tend to give
- Picture: Woman interviewing a man for a job. She is responding to his question about vacation time by saying, “We *tend to give* two weeks’ vacation for the first year, but that isn’t definite yet for this particular job. I’d have to let you know later.”
- Synonyms: indefinite; unsettled; not final
- Antonyms: definite; specific
- Other forms: tentatively (*adv.*); tentativeness (*noun*)
- Sentence: We made *tentative* plans to go camping, as long as it didn’t rain.

Set A SAT WORDS: LESSON 28

1. **INCORRIGIBLE** (in-KORR-ij-uh-bull) *adj.* – impossible to correct, control, or discipline

- Sounds like: in car itch a bull
- Picture: A bull family out for a drive in their Ford Taurus. One of the children in the back seat has put fleas and ticks under his father's seat. The father, trying to drive, is squirming from the itch. Mother Bull scolds her son: "You are absolutely incorrigible."
- Synonyms: persistent; hopeless
- Antonyms: controllable; pliant
- Other forms: incorrigibility (*noun*); incorrigibly (*adv.*)
- Sentence: Those prisoners deemed *incorrigible* are often separated from the others.

2. **MEANDER** (me-ANN-der) *verb* – wander in a carefree manner; follow a winding course; ramble

- Looks like: me and her
- Picture: A young man, newly in love, walks down a path along a winding river, his arms around his girlfriend. They walk slowly, mindlessly, he singing a song he makes up as they go along:
"Me and her,
My girl Wanda,
We love to wander,
Me and her ..."
- Synonyms: amble; stroll; rove
- Antonyms: rush
- Other forms: meandering (*adj.*); meander (*noun*)
- Sentence: *Meandering* through the woods without a destination was Nancy's favorite activity.

3. **PRODIGIOUS** (pro-DIJ-uss) *adj.* – very large; extraordinary

- Sounds like: pro dishes
- Picture: Large dishes. Prodigious is often used to describe a person's enormous appetite, so you might imagine someone eating a large amount of food from very large dishes.
- Synonyms: vast; copious; exceptional
- Antonyms: average; small
- Other forms: prodigiousness (*noun*); prodigiously (*adv.*)
- Sentence: After a twenty-year career, her accomplishments were *prodigious*.

Set A SAT WORDS: LESSON 29

1. **ADAMANT** (ADD-um-ent) *adj.* – refusing to change; stubborn; unyielding
 - Sounds like: a dam ant
 - Picture: A giant ant acting as a dam, blocking a stream. The other ants are upset because they need the water for their colony. “Come on,” they say, “get out of the way!” But the large ant refuses to move.
 - Synonyms: obstinate; unwavering; resolute
 - Antonyms: compliant; amenable
 - Other form: adamantly (*adv.*)
 - Sentence: She was *adamant* that her son be home by midnight.

2. **COPIUS** (KO-pee-us) *adj.* – in large quantity; abundant
 - Sounds like: copy us
 - Picture: A classroom with three teachers at the blackboard. Each is filling his or her board with notes. One says to the students, “Copy us. You’ll have copious notes by the end of this course!”
 - Synonyms: plentiful; bountiful; liberal
 - Antonyms: scant; limited
 - Other form: copiousness (*noun*)
 - Connect with: cornucopia
 - Sentence: It was a lavish party with *copious* food and drink.

3. **ENIGMA** (en-IGG-muh) *noun* – mystery; puzzle
 - Sounds like: an egg, Ma
 - Picture: Remember the story of the chicken and the egg? Well, which one came first ... the chicken or the egg? It is still an enigma to many people.
 - Synonyms: paradox; conundrum; question
 - Antonyms: answer
 - Other form: enigmatic (*adj.*)
 - Sentence: The origin of Saturn’s rings remain a puzzling *enigma*.

Set A SAT WORDS: LESSON 30

1. **IRREVERENT** (err-REV-ent) *adj.* – disrespectful

- Sounds like: ear Reverend
- Picture: In the lobby of the church hangs a photograph of the Reverend. One of the members of the congregation, obviously lacking in respect for this particular member of the clergy, has painted enormous ears on the Reverend's picture.
- Synonyms: mocking; impudent
- Antonyms: respectful; reverent
- Other forms: irreverence (*noun*); irreverently (*adv.*)
- Connect with: revere (opposite)
- Sentence: Pamela's *irreverent* remarks got her into trouble with her supervisor.

2. **QUELL** (KWELL) *verb* – to calm; pacify

- Looks like: a combination of 'queen' and 'quill'
- Picture: A violent riot is taking place just outside the castle. The queen comes to a window, waves a quill (feather) over the crowd, and everyone immediately calms down and goes peacefully home.
- Synonyms: suppress; subdue; quash
- Antonyms: incite; aggravate
- Sentence: Her fears were *quelled* as soon as she saw her friends approach the campsite.

3. **REPRIMAND** (REP-rih-mand) *verb* – scold; criticize

- Sounds like: Rep. Raymond
- Picture: Representative Raymond has an unusual approach to campaigning. He walks around the city scolding and criticizing the voters for their beliefs.
- Synonyms: lecture; reproof; warning
- Antonyms: praise
- Sentence: In addition to the fine, Jim was harshly *reprimanded* for running the red light.