

The SCOPE 100

Wow Them With Words

By the end of the school year, you'll learn 100 vocabulary words from the SAT and ACT tests. Save this page in the front of your notebook, and look for these words in your *Scope* magazines. Check the words off when they're used in *Scope*, and use them in your own writing and in everyday conversation as often as you can.

abominable *adj* worthy of disgust
acumen *n* ability to make quick, accurate judgments of people or situations
ajar *adj* slightly open
apathetic *adj* having or showing no emotion
aristocrat *n* member of the upper class
augment *v* add or supplement
baffle *v* confuse
ballad *n* lyrical song or poem with a story
bolster *v* strengthen through reinforcement
brandish *v* wave an object threateningly
capacity *n* ability to do or understand something
capricious *adj* frequently changing
careen *v* wildly rush forward
colossal *adj* extremely large
conclave *n* private or secret meeting
corroborate *v* confirm with evidence
curtail *v* restrict in quantity
deduce *v* conclude through logic
despondent *adj* feeling extreme depression
dictate *v* impose rules
disheveled *adj* characterized by disorder
dissonant *adj* clashing with the norm
distort *v* present a misleading account
divert *v* change the direction of something
dread *n* great fear
drub *v* hit or beat repeatedly
dubious *adj* giving rise to uncertainty
dynamic *adj* characterized by change or progress
egotist *n* person with an exaggerated sense of importance
emit *v* release, discharge
empirical *adj* based on experience
enunciate *v* speak clearly
envision *v* imagine as a future possibility

erupt *v* burst forth
expose *v* make visible
extant *adj* still in existence, not destroyed
extemporize *v* do or say something without a plan
façade *n* outer appearance of something
faction *n* small group within a larger group
flaunt *v* show off
formidable *adj* causing fear or dread
fortify *v* reinforce, strengthen
garish *adj* tastelessly showy
genial *adj* cheerfully easygoing
glut *n* excessively abundant supply
gusto *n* obvious enjoyment
ignite *v* set on fire
inveigle *v* persuade with deception or flattery
irrevocably *adv* unable to be changed or reversed
lanky *adj* extremely thin
lurid *adj* causing disgust
machination *n* crafty plot for gain
mandate *v* order from a position of authority
manifest *adj* readily visible or perceivable
melee *n* noisy fight or gathering
ornate *adj* excessively decorated
parity *n* uniform equivalence
pathos *n* quality that evokes compassion
penchant *n* strong tendency or taste for something
perennial *adj* lasting a long time
plaudit *n* enthusiastic approval
ploy *n* cunning strategy
polarize *v* split into opposing sides
pomp *n* splendid public display
pragmatic *adj* based on common sense
precept *n* commandment designed to govern actions
prodigy *n* talented person

progeny *n* descendants, children
prudent *adj* thoughtful, mindful of the future
prune *v* trim or cut back
rancor *n* long-standing resentment
rapport *n* relation marked by harmony
redoubtable *adj* inspiring respect through fear
regiment *v* subject to strict order
rejuvenate *v* restore to youth
residual *adj* leftover, lingering
rhapsody *n* musical or verbal expression of happiness
rue *v* feel remorse about something
sapient *adj* capable of wise, sound judgment
scamper *v* run quickly
scrupulous *adj* attentive to detail
scrutiny *n* close or thorough examination
seminal *adj* strongly influencing future events
solace *n* relief from sorrow
squander *v* spend recklessly
strategic *adj* cunning, planned
subsequent *adj* following in order
succumb *v* submit to superior force
surpass *v* become greater or better than
synthesize *v* create by combining parts
tolerate *v* permit with hesitance
trauma *n* deeply distressing experience
trove *n* set of valuable objects
turbid *adj* unclear, clouded
turpitude *n* quality of being wicked, without morals
untenable *adj* indefensible
vicinity *n* nearby region or area
vigorous *adj* energetic, forceful
vitality *n* characterized by strength or abundant energy, liveliness
wrangle *v* round up or take charge of something