SCHOLASTIC ASSESSMENT TEST (SAT) VOCABULARY 2026 PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

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Introduction

Preparing for a certification exam can feel overwhelming, but with the right tools, it becomes an opportunity to build confidence, sharpen your skills, and move one step closer to your goals. At Examzify, we believe that effective exam preparation isn't just about memorization, it's about understanding the material, identifying knowledge gaps, and building the test-taking strategies that lead to success.

This guide was designed to help you do exactly that.

Whether you're preparing for a licensing exam, professional certification, or entry-level qualification, this book offers structured practice to reinforce key concepts. You'll find a wide range of multiple-choice questions, each followed by clear explanations to help you understand not just the right answer, but why it's correct.

The content in this guide is based on real-world exam objectives and aligned with the types of questions and topics commonly found on official tests. It's ideal for learners who want to:

- Practice answering questions under realistic conditions,
- Improve accuracy and speed,
- Review explanations to strengthen weak areas, and
- Approach the exam with greater confidence.

We recommend using this book not as a stand-alone study tool, but alongside other resources like flashcards, textbooks, or hands-on training. For best results, we recommend working through each question, reflecting on the explanation provided, and revisiting the topics that challenge you most.

Remember: successful test preparation isn't about getting every question right the first time, it's about learning from your mistakes and improving over time. Stay focused, trust the process, and know that every page you turn brings you closer to success.

Let's begin.

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How to Use This Guide

This guide is designed to help you study more effectively and approach your exam with confidence. Whether you're reviewing for the first time or doing a final refresh, here's how to get the most out of your Examzify study guide:

1. Start with a Diagnostic Review

Skim through the questions to get a sense of what you know and what you need to focus on. Your goal is to identify knowledge gaps early.

2. Study in Short, Focused Sessions

Break your study time into manageable blocks (e.g. 30 – 45 minutes). Review a handful of questions, reflect on the explanations.

3. Learn from the Explanations

After answering a question, always read the explanation, even if you got it right. It reinforces key points, corrects misunderstandings, and teaches subtle distinctions between similar answers.

4. Track Your Progress

Use bookmarks or notes (if reading digitally) to mark difficult questions. Revisit these regularly and track improvements over time.

5. Simulate the Real Exam

Once you're comfortable, try taking a full set of questions without pausing. Set a timer and simulate test-day conditions to build confidence and time management skills.

6. Repeat and Review

Don't just study once, repetition builds retention. Re-attempt questions after a few days and revisit explanations to reinforce learning. Pair this guide with other Examzify tools like flashcards, and digital practice tests to strengthen your preparation across formats.

There's no single right way to study, but consistent, thoughtful effort always wins. Use this guide flexibly, adapt the tips above to fit your pace and learning style. You've got this!

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Questions

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1. What is the definition of a nomad?

A. A member of a group that has a permanent home

B. A member of a group that is wandering in search of resources

C. Someone who establishes a community

D. A traveler who never leaves home

2. In literature, when an author uses foreshadowing, they are primarily attempting to _____?

A. Create suspense and indicate future events

B. Distract from the main focus of the story

C. Provide irrelevant details

D. Resolve all plot points quickly

3. What is the term for a historical record arranged in yearly order?

A. Chronicle

B. Annals

C. Ledger

D. Archive

4. What does the word 'tremulous' mean?

A. Bold and daring

B. Shaking or quivering slightly

C. Calm and steady

D. Strongly assertive

5. What is the purpose of a "spur" in a motivational context?

A. To slow down action

B. To discourage progress

C. To move to action; an incentive

D. To remain inactive

6. What term describes a state of sadness or a feeling of sorrowful reflection?

A. Jaded

B. Melancholy

C. Morose

D. Peevish

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7. What is the definition of 'mitigate'?

A. To worsen a situation
B. To sever ties
C. To make milder or to moderate
D. To avoid conflict

8. What does gratifying mean?

A. To waste time
B. Giving pleasure or satisfaction
C. To have energy and excitement
D. To merge

9. What does the term "enervating" indicate about a person's state?

A. Invigorating and energizing
B. Weakening and tiring
C. Efficient and productive
D. Activating and stimulating

10. What is the action described by the verb "prattle"?

A. To argue forcefully
B. To talk aimlessly and foolishly
C. To speak clearly and directly
D. To criticize harshly

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Answers

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1. B
2. A
3. B
4. B
5. C
6. B
7. C
8. B
9. B
10. B

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Explanations

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1. What is the definition of a nomad?

A. A member of a group that has a permanent home

B. A member of a group that is wandering in search of resources

C. Someone who establishes a community

D. A traveler who never leaves home

The definition of a nomad refers to individuals or groups who move from one place to another rather than settling permanently in one location. These movements are often driven by the search for resources, such as food, water, and grazing land for livestock. This concept emphasizes the lifestyle of mobility and adaptation to varying environmental conditions, making wandering in search of resources the central characteristic of a nomadic existence. In contrast to the other options, a permanent home or established community is not applicable to a nomad, as their way of life is inherently characterized by movement and often seasonal migration.

2. In literature, when an author uses foreshadowing, they are primarily attempting to _____?

A. Create suspense and indicate future events

B. Distract from the main focus of the story

C. Provide irrelevant details

D. Resolve all plot points quickly

When an author employs foreshadowing, they are primarily attempting to create suspense and indicate future events. This literary device involves giving subtle hints or clues about what might happen later in the narrative, which can enhance the reader's anticipation and engagement with the story. By laying groundwork for future developments, foreshadowing adds depth to the plot and characters, allowing readers to pick up on the threads that lead to significant moments or outcomes. Hence, it serves to build tension and curiosity, driving the narrative forward in a compelling manner. This strategy effectively prepares the audience for the unfolding events while maintaining their interest and investment in the story.

3. What is the term for a historical record arranged in yearly order?

A. Chronicle

B. Annals

C. Ledger

D. Archive

The term "annals" refers specifically to a historical record that is organized chronologically, typically year by year. Annals are a type of historical documentation that provide a concise account of events as they occurred over a specific period, often focusing on significant occurrences within each year. This method of organization makes it easy to track the sequence of events and understand the context of history as it unfolds over time. In this context, while "chronicle" also pertains to a historical account and can be arranged year by year, it often embodies more narrative detail and structure, making it less precise than "annals." A "ledger" typically refers to a book used for recording financial transactions, which does not align with the concept of a chronological historical record. "Archive" describes a collection of documents and records, but it does not imply a specific arrangement by year. Thus, "annals" is the most accurate term for a historical record arranged in yearly order.

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4. What does the word 'tremulous' mean?

A. Bold and daring

B. Shaking or quivering slightly

C. Calm and steady

D. Strongly assertive

The word 'tremulous' specifically refers to something that is shaking or quivering slightly, often due to fear, anxiety, or weakness. This term conveys a sense of trembling that can be both physical, in terms of movement, or emotional, reflecting a state of nervousness or apprehension. In contrast, the other options convey meanings that are significantly different. For example, bold and daring indicates confidence and fearlessness, while calm and steady suggests a state of tranquility and stability. Strongly assertive implies a forceful and confident demeanor, which is opposite to what 'tremulous' conveys. Therefore, the correct interpretation of 'tremulous' lies in its association with a slight shaking or quivering quality.

5. What is the purpose of a "spur" in a motivational context?

A. To slow down action

B. To discourage progress

C. To move to action; an incentive

D. To remain inactive

In a motivational context, a "spur" serves as an incentive that propels individuals toward action. It indicates a catalyst or stimulus that encourages movement or effort, often utilized to motivate someone to overcome inertia or hesitation. This term derives from the image of a spur used by riders to urge their horses forward, symbolizing a force pushing someone to achieve goals or make progress. The other options illustrate concepts opposite to motivation. Slowing down action or discouraging progress indicates an impediment rather than a catalyst. Similarly, remaining inactive also contrasts with the idea of being spurred into action. These concepts do not align with the energizing and proactive nature that a "spur" embodies. Therefore, the choice reflecting the purpose of a spur aligns perfectly with its role in inspiring action and progress.

6. What term describes a state of sadness or a feeling of sorrowful reflection?

A. Jaded

B. Melancholy

C. Morose

D. Peevish

The term that describes a state of sadness or a feeling of sorrowful reflection is "melancholy." This word denotes a deep, often pensive sadness that is typically more contemplative rather than simply an expression of unhappiness. It evokes a sense of wistfulness or reflective sorrow, implying a state that can be both somber and reflective, often tied to nostalgia or loss. In contexts where one might feel melancholy, it is not just a fleeting emotion but a more profound, lingering state of being. This distinguishes it from related terms that may refer to sadness but do not convey the same depth or reflective quality. For example, while "morose" can also imply a gloomy disposition, it does not capture the reflective aspect that "melancholy" encompasses. Similarly, "jaded" refers more to a state of weariness or disillusionment, often due to overindulgence, and "peevish" describes a state of irritability, which is quite different from deep, sorrowful reflection. Therefore, "melancholy" is the most accurate term for the described feeling.

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7. What is the definition of 'mitigate'?

A. To worsen a situation

B. To sever ties

C. To make milder or to moderate

D. To avoid conflict

The definition of 'mitigate' is to make something milder or to moderate its severity. This term is often used in contexts where there is a need to reduce the negative impact of something. For example, when discussing environmental issues, one might seek to mitigate the effects of climate change by implementing policies that reduce greenhouse gas emissions. In contrast, the other choices present definitions that do not align with the meaning of 'mitigate.' Worsening a situation, severing ties, or avoiding conflict all involve actions that either escalate issues or create distance between entities, rather than easing or moderating them. Thus, making something milder or moderating its severity is the most accurate interpretation of 'mitigate.'

8. What does gratifying mean?

A. To waste time

B. Giving pleasure or satisfaction

C. To have energy and excitement

D. To merge

The meaning of gratifying is accurately reflected in the choice that indicates it pertains to giving pleasure or satisfaction. When something is described as gratifying, it evokes feelings of happiness, fulfillment, or contentment, often resulting from achieving a goal or receiving positive feedback. For example, completing a challenging project and feeling a sense of pride and joy is a gratifying experience. The other options do not align with this definition; one implies a negative connotation related to time management, while another describes an energetic state, and the last is about combining things rather than the emotional fulfillment that "gratifying" conveys. Therefore, the choice that highlights pleasure or satisfaction effectively captures the essence of what gratifying means.

9. What does the term "enervating" indicate about a person's state?

A. Invigorating and energizing

B. Weakening and tiring

C. Efficient and productive

D. Activating and stimulating

The term "enervating" refers to something that causes a person to feel drained of energy or vitality. When something is described as enervating, it implies a weakening or tiring effect, leading to a reduced state of strength or vigor. This aligns perfectly with the choice that indicates "weakening and tiring," as it captures the essence of experiencing a decline in energy or motivation due to various factors such as exhaustion, stress, or overwhelming situations. While the other options suggest states of being invigorated, efficient, or stimulated, they contradict the meaning of "enervating," which is inherently about fatigue and depletion rather than an increase in energy or effectiveness. Thus, the chosen answer accurately reflects the term's definition and the emotional or physical state it describes.

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10. What is the action described by the verb "prattle"?

A. To argue forcefully

B. To talk aimlessly and foolishly

C. To speak clearly and directly

D. To criticize harshly

The verb "prattle" specifically refers to talking aimlessly or in a foolish manner, often involving trivial or nonsensical conversation. This aligns perfectly with the definition of the word, which conveys a sense of light, non-serious, and often repetitive chatter. The focus is on a lack of substance or purpose in the communication, which is inherent in the meaning of "prattle." In contrast, the other options describe distinctly different actions: arguing forcefully suggests a confrontational tone, speaking clearly and directly implies a straightforward communication style, and criticizing harshly describes an evaluative or negative expression towards someone or something. None of these meanings capture the essence of what "prattling" entails, which is characterized by a frivolous or carefree manner of speaking.

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Next Steps

Congratulations on reaching the final section of this guide. You've taken a meaningful step toward passing your certification exam and advancing your career.

As you continue preparing, remember that consistent practice, review, and self-reflection are key to success. Make time to revisit difficult topics, simulate exam conditions, and track your progress along the way.

If you need help, have suggestions, or want to share feedback, we'd love to hear from you. Reach out to our team at hello@examzify.com.

Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:

https://sat-vocabulary2025.examzify.com

We wish you the very best on your exam journey. You've got this!

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