Hot Words for the SAT

Lesson 23  Words Relating to Being Short-lived in Time or Place

- ephemeral adj. lasting a short time; fleeting
- evanescent adj. vanishing quickly; fleeting
- fleeting adj. short-lived
- itinerant adj. wandering about; tending to move around, travel
- nomadic adj. wandering
- peripatetic adj. moving or walking about; itinerant
- transient adj. lasting for only a short time; temporary
- transitory adj. fleeting
- volatile adj. explosive or changing very quickly

Lesson 24  Words Relating to the Old or the New

The Old . . .

- antediluvian adj. very, very old; antiquated
- antiquated adj. very old and no longer in use; obsolete
- antiquity n. ancient times
- archaic adj. old; from a much earlier time; antiquated
- obsolete adj. old; outdated, no longer in use
- relic n. a custom or object that has been around for a very, very long time

The New . . .

- contemporary adj. modern, new; relating to the same time period
- inception n. the start, the beginning of something
- innovation n. something new
- novel adj. new
- unprecedented adj. novel; unparalleled

Lesson 25  Words Relating to Being Sneaky or Hardly Noticeable

- clandestine adj. hidden, secret, concealed
- covert adj. secret, hidden
- furtive adj. sneaky
- inconspicuous adj. hardly noticeable
- sly adj. underhanded, furtive
- stealthy adj. secretive, sly
- surreptitious adj. done or made in a secret, stealthy way
- unobtrusive adj. inconspicuous; not easily noticed
Hot Words for the SAT

Lesson 26       Words Relating to People You Will Meet on the SAT I

• adversary n. an opponent
• artisan n. a person who is skillful with his or her hands
• ascetic n. a person who refrains from indulging in earthly pleasures
• charlatan n. a fraud; a quack or imposter
• diva n. a highly skilled singer, usually an opera singer
• hedonist n. a person who lives for pleasure
• pariah n. a social outcast
• raconteur n. a skillful storyteller
• skeptic n. a person who doubts
• virtuoso n. a highly skilled performer, usually a musical performer

Lesson 27       Words Relating to Things of Little Importance or Value

• extraneous adj. not necessary; not an essential part; not relevant
• frivolous adj. not having substance or sense of importance or seriousness
• incidental adj. less important; minor
• inconsequential adj. irrelevant; of no significance; unimportant
• irrelevant adj. not relating to the matter at hand
• negligible adj. able of likely to be neglected or bypassed due to smallness or lack of importance
• peripheral adj. only marginally connected to what is truly important; relating to the field of vision
• petty adj. minor or trivial; small in quantity
• superficial adj. lacking in depth or importance; on the surface
• trifling adj. lacking significance; unimportant
• trivial adj. unimportant; trifling; ordinary

Lesson 28       Words Relating to Being Wise and Sharp-Minded

• acute adj. keen-minded; sharp
• astute adj. sharp-minded; very clear
• discerning adj. able to judge people and situations clearly
• erudite adj. wise due to much reading and studying; scholarly
• incisive adj. sharp; keen
• ingenious adj. very clever or inventive
• judicious adj. showing wisdom in judging people and situations
• perspicacious adj. using wise judgment; sharp-minded
• prudent adj. careful, cautious, and wise
• sagacious adj. wise
• savvy adj. smart; informed
• shrewd adj. insightful; clever