

SAT Vocabulary Lesson 14

I. Matching. Match the word on the left with its definition on the right. You will use each letter once.

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|-------------------|---|
| ___ 1. amenable | A. ___ large-scale slaughter or loss of life |
| ___ 2. carnage | B. ___ willing to follow advice or authority; tractable, submissive; responsive |
| ___ 3. credulous | C. ___ a rule, test; a standard for judgment or evaluation |
| ___ 4. criterion | D. ___ native or confined to a particular region or people; characteristic of or prevalent in a field |
| ___ 5. endemic | E. ___ the beginning, start, earliest stage of some process, institution, etc. |
| ___ 6. expatiate | F. ___ to erase, obliterate, destroy |
| ___ 7. expunge | G. ___ coming from the outside, foreign; present but not essential, irrelevant |
| ___ 8. extraneous | H. ___ a weakness or ailment (physical, mental, moral, etc.) |
| ___ 9. inception | J. ___ to expand on, write or talk at length or in detail; to move about freely |
| ___ 10. infirmity | K. ___ too ready to believe, easily deceived |

II. Fill in the blank. Choose from the following list of vocabulary words to complete the sentences. Remember to change the form of the word if necessary. You must spell the words correctly. Each word is used once.

| | | | | |
|------------------|----------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| amenable | carnage | credulous | criterion | endemic |
| expatiate | expunge | extraneous | inception | infirmity |

21. They will be _____ to your instructions as long as what you say makes sense.
22. Until television broadcast film footage of it, the _____ of war was rarely made real to far-off civilian populations.
23. Though he was no dolt, his _____ nature and desire to believe the best of people made him easy to deceive.
24. Scientists have yet to identify many plant and animal species _____ to the rain forest.
25. She was disturbed to discover that the main _____ for the award was style, not substance.
26. We would like you to _____ on the interesting matters you only touched upon earlier today.
27. Was his “deafness” a/an _____ of old age, or a lack of interest in the conversation?
28. The judge ordered his extraneous remarks _____ from the court record, so they do not appear on the transcript.
29. One handy way to dodge a difficult question is to earnestly begin talking about something _____ to it.
30. He has worked here quietly and steadily since the firm’s _____ and knows how to do everybody’s job.

III. Synonyms -- Choose the word that is **most nearly the same** in meaning as the **boldface** word/expression in the phrase.

| | | | | |
|------------------|----------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| amenable | carnage | credulous | criterion | endemic |
| expatiate | expunge | extraneous | inception | infirmity |

31. _____ because of his peculiar **malady**
32. _____ the species **indigenous** to this area
33. _____ used as a **touchstone** in determining her score
34. _____ much more **agreeable** in class after her stint in IP
35. _____ determined to **delete** any record of his wrongdoing

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36. _____ wanted him to **elaborate** on the meaning of his film
37. _____ so **gullible** he believed that Sea Monkeys are actually animals!
38. _____ compared the final football game to a **bloodbath**
39. _____ **incidental** rules that didn't really impact her areas of responsibility
40. _____ had been confused about his job duties from the **outset**

IV. Antonyms. Choose the word that is **most nearly opposite** in meaning to the **boldface** word or expression in the given phrase. You will use each word once.

| | | | | |
|------------------|----------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| amenable | carnage | credulous | criterion | endemic |
| expatiate | expunge | extraneous | inception | infirmity |

41. _____ **extraneous** species which had been brought in from elsewhere
42. _____ could find **no way to judge** the entries in the contest
43. _____ was **resistant** to the suggestions we offered to improve his driving
44. _____ a very strange battle in which **no one died**
45. _____ were able to **condense** the book and provide a synopsis of all of its events
46. _____ the rules which will be upheld until the **conclusion** of the contest
47. _____ tried to get the judge to **insert** her extra comments back into the record
48. _____ felt **skeptical** about the story, so I checked it out on Snopes.com
49. _____ species that were **endemic** to the area
50. _____ at a time when her good **health** was very important to her

V. Choose the Right Word – Write the correct word (or phrase) in the space provided.

51. _____ Many students feel that our dean is a strict disciplinarian, but I have always found her (**amenable, endemic**) to our requests.
52. _____ The sales manager said she would apply only one (**criterion, carnage**) to my plan for an advertising campaign: “Will it sell more mouthwash?”
53. _____ My rules for effective writing are: “Emphasize what is essential; play down what is secondary; eliminate what is (**amenable, extraneous**).
54. _____ Vic is so (**extraneous, credulous**), he actually believed me when I said that I had invented an automatic composition-writing machine.
55. _____ Although he (**expatiates, expunges**) fluently on the need for a new community action program, I have yet to see him do anything to bring it about.
56. _____ The (**infirmity, carnage**) caused on our streets and highways each year by careless driving has become a major national scandal.
57. _____ Few things are more tragic than to see a great mind fall victim to a serious (**infirmity, inception**).
58. _____ At the very (**criterion, inception**) of my career, I set the goals and adopted the basic strategies that were to guide me through many years of outstanding success.
59. _____ Some people believe that intelligent life is (**endemic, credulous**) to Earth, but I can't relinquish the idea that it must exist elsewhere in the universe as well as here.
60. _____ Scientists have concluded that a sudden catastrophe (**expunged, expatiated**) dinosaurs from the face of the Earth.