

SAT Vocabulary Lesson 5

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. abominate | A. | adj. skillful, expert in the use of the hands or mind |
| ___ 2. acculturation | B. | v. to praise extravagantly |
| ___ 3. adroit | C. | v. to have an intense dislike or hatred for |
| ___ 4. adventitious | D. | v. to assign or refer to (as a cause or source), attribute |
| ___ 5. ascribe | E. | adj. roundabout, not direct |
| ___ 6. circuitous | F. | v. to direct or order; to prescribe a course of action authoritatively; to prohibit |
| ___ 7. commiserate | G. | v. to make amends or make up for; to avert |
| ___ 8. enjoy | H. | adj. resulting from chance rather than from an inherent cause or character; accidental, not essential or purposeful; in medicine—acquired, not congenital |
| ___ 9. expiate | J. | v. to sympathize with, have pity or sorrow for; to share a feeling of distress |
| ___ 10. extol | K. | n. the modification of social patterns, traits, or structures of one group or society by contact with those of another; the resultant blend of social patterns or societies |

II. Fill in the blank. Choose from the following list of vocabulary words to complete the sentences.

abominate	acculturation	adroit	adventitious	ascribe
circuitous	commiserate	enjoy	expiate	extol

11. Many inspiring stories have been written to _____ the heroic deeds of Joan of Arc.
12. Most rodeo performers are _____ at twirling a rope while on horseback.
13. I _____ all forms of cruelty, yet I do not always notice when I make cruel remark myself.
14. They seemed willing to _____ their guilt by whatever means necessary.
15. I _____ them to stop spending so much money or to face the consequences.
16. Every immigrant group newly arrived in another country goes through a slow process of _____ by which the older members of the group begin to worry that their old traditions will be lost.
17. You may _____ these holes to gophers or elves, but I blame the dog from next door.
18. It was no _____ meeting that led to their writing songs together, for in fact, they were cousins.
19. The family _____ with her after the loss of her old and faithful dog.
20. I followed a _____ path through the woods, not because I feared pursuit, but because I was lost.

III. Synonyms. Choose the word **most nearly the same** in meaning as the **boldface** phrase below.

abominate	acculturation	adroit	adventitious	ascribe
circuitous	commiserate	enjoy	expiate	extol

21. **charge** both sides to negotiate _____
22. a motive **attributed** to me _____
23. to **atone** for her unkindness _____
24. **adaptation** to fit into your new environment _____
25. a **fortuitous** sequence of events _____

26. to **praise** her for her integrity _____

27. to **despise** loathsome behavior _____

28. a **resourceful** debater _____

29. a **winding** road _____

30. to **sympathize** with him over his loss _____

IV. Antonyms. Choose the word **most nearly opposite** in meaning to the **boldface** expression below

abominate

acculturation

adroit

adventitious

ascribe

circuitous

commiserate

enjoin

expiate

extol

31. a **direct** way home _____

32. **disparage** the current administration of the
school _____

33. **all thumbs** in his juggling lessons _____

34. **cherish** the remnants of his old life _____

35. **feel no sympathy for** the people who made the wrong choices _____

36. the **barbarism** of the rock group _____

37. to **submit** to the controversy _____

38. to **discredit** earlier theories _____

39. to **cling on to** one's sins _____

40. **essential** to one's career goals _____

V. Choose the Right Word. From the pair, circle or highlight the word that best fits the meaning of the sentence.

41. I was simply unable to follow the (**circuitous, adventitious**) reasoning by which she “proved” that a straight line is not necessarily the shortest distance between two points.

42. (**Commiseration, Acculturation**) is a noble human emotion, but it is no substitute for vigorous efforts to help others.

43. After he had seen the error of his ways the villain attempted to (**expiate, enjoin**) the dark deeds of his past by acts of kindness and mercy, and his name was Earl.

44. They are conscientious objectors to military service because they are (**enjoined, ascribed**) by a deep religious conviction not to take human life.

45. You are following an all too familiar pattern in (**ascribing, extolling**) your failures to everyone—except yourself.

46. His investments proved to be profitable, but they were (**adventitious, circuitous**) rather than the result of knowledge.

47. The Biblical prophets (**abominated, acculturated**) any idol worship and railed vigorously against such practices.

48. Modern American society can justly be said to be the end point of the (**commiseration, acculturation**) of diverse groups of migrants.

49. The lawyer's (**adroit, adventitious**) questioning slowly but surely revealed the weaknesses in his opponent's case.

50. (**Ascribing, Extolling**) other people's achievements is fine, but it is no substitute for doing something remarkable yourself.