

10th Grade SAT Vocabulary List 1-10

1. **aberration**; noun – deviating from the right path or usual course of action; a mental disorder, especially of a minor or temporary nature. *We were convinced that Ed's poor test marks were an aberration, and that he would do better the next time.*
2. **belittle**; verb – to make something seem less important. The purpose of much campaign oratory is to belittle your opponent's record.
3. **cache**; noun – a hiding place; something hidden in a hiding place. Police searched in vain for the cache of jewels which the thieves had skillfully concealed.
4. **dearth**; noun – shortage. The dearth of citrus fruits led to a host of illnesses.
5. **ebb**; verb – to decline. Investors watched their fortunes ebb as the stock market plunged to a new low.
6. **facilitate**; verb – to make easy; to bring about. To facilitate our move, the company sent a crew to crate all of the furniture.
7. **galvanize**; verb – to arouse suddenly; to startle. It took a mishap at Chernobyl to galvanize the peace movement into protesting vigorously.
8. **hackneyed**; adjective – used too often; trite; commonplace. Creative writers cringe when they hear egregiously hackneyed expressions.
9. **iconoclast**; noun – a person who attacks cherished beliefs or established institutions. When she shook up the conservative firm, Gloria earned the reputation of being an iconoclast.
10. **jargon**; noun – the specialized vocabulary of members of a group. The club members adopted a jargon that made them feel exclusive.
11. **kindle**; verb – to ignite; to arouse or inspire; to catch fire; to become aroused. With the wind blowing furiously, Ted found it difficult to kindle a fire.
12. **labyrinth**; noun- a maze; a complicated, perplexing arrangement or course of affairs. Once inside the cave, the searchers were confronted with a labyrinth that defied them to find the route to the wounded explorer.
13. **malicious**; adjective- spiteful; intentional mischievous or harmful. The malicious man lead the widow through a labyrinth of schemes to deprive her of her fortune.
14. **nomenclature**; noun – a systematic naming in an art or science. The nomenclature can be quickly mastered by using memory devices.
15. **obliterate**; verb – to blot out leaving no traces; to destroy. The authorities feared that the heavy rain would obliterate all signs of the escaped prisoner.