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ROOTLAB · 2026 EDITION · FREE SAMPLE

SAT & GRE Root Handbook

Decode hard vocabulary with Latin & Greek roots
English–Chinese bilingual · 英汉双语词根手册

Free sample · 免费试读
10 word families and their 115 words, taken from the full 653-family, 3,375-word handbook.

About this free sample

This sample contains 10 complete word families from the RootLab SAT & GRE Root Handbook, with every word in them: 115 words in all. The pages look exactly like the full edition. You may share this sample freely. 本试读版可自由分享。

The full handbook covers all 653 roots, prefixes and suffixes and 3,375 words: https://rootwordlab.site/handbook/

How to use this handbook

1. **Part 1 · Quick Reference** — in the full edition, every morpheme on a few pages, with its meaning and three model words. Skim it first to see the whole map. 第一部分：全部词根速查表。
2. **Part 2 · Word Families** — each prefix, root and suffix with all its SAT/GRE words, the Chinese meaning and a one-line word breakdown (构词拆解). Study one family at a time: once you know the root, the words come in groups. 第二部分：按词根分组记单词。
3. **Part 3 · A–Z Dictionary** — every word with pronunciation, English and Chinese definitions, two original example sentences and an SAT & GRE tip. 第三部分：A–Z 单词详解，含原创例句与考试提示。

Every root name and word in this PDF is a link: click a root in Part 3 to jump to its family in Part 2, and click a word in Part 2 to open its full entry in Part 3.

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Tip: use your PDF reader's search (Ctrl/⌘ + F) to find any word or root instantly.

Part 1 · Quick Reference 词根速查表

MORPHEME	TYPE	MEANING	MODEL WORDS
mal– / male– / mali–	Prefix	表示“坏，恶”	malefaction, malevolent, malign
per–	Prefix	①表示“贯穿，自始至终”；②表加强；③表示“假；坏；否定；远离”	perambulate, perennial, perfuse
cap(t) / cep(t) / ceive / cip / cup	Root	to take, to hold, to seize 表示“拿，抓，握住”	emancipate, inception, receptacle
cur(r) / curs / cour(i) / cours	Root	to run 表示“跑”，引申为“发生”；cur还表示“注意，关心”	curative, cursive, incursion
gen(e) / gener / geni(t)	Root	birth, to produce, race 表示“出生；产生；种族”	congenial, generic, genesis
log(u) / loqu / locu	Root	to speak 表示“说话”	apologue, colloquium, circumlocution
luc / lust / lumin / lustr	Root	light, to shine 表示“光；照亮”	lucent, lucid, luster
lud / lus	Root	to play, play 表示“玩；戏剧”	elusive, ludic, prelude
voc / vok	Root	to call, voice 表示“叫喊；声音”	equivoke, irrevocable, vocalist
–acious	Suffix	表形容词，“多…的，有…性质的，属于…的”	audacious, fallacious, rapacious

Part 2 · Word Families — Prefixes 前缀

mal- / male- / mali-

PREFIX · 11 WORDS

表示“坏，恶”

malefaction n. 罪恶，犯罪
male＋fact（做）＋ion（名词后缀）→做坏事→犯罪
noun. A crime, an offense, an evil deed.

malevolent a. 恶意的
male＋vol（意愿）＋ent（形容词后缀）→恶意的
adj. Having or displaying ill will; wishing harm on others.

malign a. 邪恶的；恶意的；恶性的
mal＋ign→恶意，参考：benign（a. 善良的，良性的）
adj. Evil or malignant in disposition, nature, intent or influence.

malignant a. 恶意的；恶性的
malign＋ant（形容词后缀）→恶意的；恶性的
adj. Harmful, malevolent, injurious.

maladjusted a. 失调的
mal＋adjust（调整）＋ed→调坏了的→失调的
adj. Adjusted badly or wrongly.

malcontent a. 不满的
mal＋content（满意的）→不满的
adj. Dissatisfied with current conditions; disaffected, discontented, rebellious.

malediction n. 恶言；诅咒
male＋dict（说）＋ion（名词后缀）→说坏话→恶言
noun. A curse.

malfunction n. 故障；机能障碍；失灵
mal＋function（功能）→功能不良→机能障碍
noun. Faulty functioning.

malice n. 恶意
mal＋ice→恶意
noun. Intention to harm or deprive in an illegal or immoral way. Desire to take pleasure in another's…

malpractice n. 玩忽职守
mal＋practice（做事）→不好好做事→玩忽职守
noun. The improper treatment of a patient by a physician that results in injury or loss.

maltreat v. 虐待
mal＋treat（对待）→虐待
verb. To treat badly, to abuse.

per-

PREFIX · 13 WORDS

- ①表示“贯穿，自始至终”
- ②表加强
- ③表示“假；坏；否定；远离”

perambulate v. 巡视；漫步
per＋ambul（行走）＋ate（动词后缀）→从头走到尾→巡视
verb. To walk around, roam, or stroll.

perennial a. 全年的；多年生的
per＋enn（年）＋ial（形容词后缀）→全年的
adj. Lasting or remaining active throughout the year, for multiple years, or all the time.

perfuse v. 洒遍，横流
per＋fus（流）＋e→流遍→洒遍
verb. To permeate or suffuse something, especially with a liquid or with light.

perspire v. 出汗
per＋spir（呼吸）＋e→全身呼吸→出汗
verb. To emit (sweat or perspiration) through the skin's pores.

pervade v. 弥漫，遍及
per＋vad（走）＋e→走遍→遍及
verb. To be in every part of; to spread through; to permeate.

percussion n. 敲打
per＋cuss（敲打）＋ion（名词后缀）→敲打
noun. The collision of two bodies in order to produce a sound.

peremptory a. 不容反抗的，强制的；专横的
per＋empt（拿）＋ory（形容词后缀）→全部拿走→专横的
adj. Precluding debate or expostulation; not admitting of question or appeal.

pernicious a. 有害的；致命的
per＋nic（害，杀）＋ious（形容词后缀）→有害的；致命的
adj. Causing much harm in a subtle way.

perturb v. 打扰
per＋turb（扰乱）→打扰
verb. To cause (something) to be physically disordered or disturbed; to cause confusion.

perfidy n. 不忠，背叛
per＋fid（相信）＋y（名词后缀）→假相信→不忠
noun. A state or act of violating faith or allegiance; violation of a promise or vow, or of trust.

perjury n. 伪证，假誓
per＋jur（发誓）＋y→假誓
noun. The deliberate giving of false or misleading testimony under oath.

perverse a. 堕落的；倔强的，执拗的；故意作对的
per＋vers（转）＋e→转向坏的方面→堕落的
adj. Turned aside while against something, splitting off from a thing.

pervert v. 使堕落；滥用
per＋vert→自始至终转→颠倒
verb. To turn another way; to divert.

Part 2 · Word Families — Roots 词根

cap(t) / cep(t) / ceive / cip / cup

ROOT · 10 WORDS

to take, to hold, to seize · 表示“拿，抓，握住”

emancipate v. 解放
e（出）＋man（手）＋cip＋ate→把手拿开→解放
verb. To set free (a person or group) from the oppression or restraint of another; to liberate.

inception n. 开始，开端
in（进入）＋cept＋ion→开始拿→开端
noun. The creation or beginning of something; the establishment.

receptacle n. 容器
re（一再）＋cept＋a＋cle→装了可以再装的东西→容器
noun. A container.

capacious a. 宽阔的；容积大的
cap＋aci＋ous→拿得多的→容积大的
adj. Having a lot of space inside; roomy.

captious a. 挑剔的，吹毛求疵的
capt＋i＋ous→抓人（毛病）的→挑剔的
adj. That captures; especially, (of an argument, words etc.) designed to capture or entrap in misleading…

captivate v. 迷惑；吸引
capt＋iv＋ate→抓人的→迷惑
verb. To make (a person, an animal, etc.) a captive; to take prisoner; to capture, to subdue.

incipient a. 开始的，初期的
in（进入）＋cip＋i＋ent→开始抓的→开始的
adj. In an initial stage; beginning, starting, coming into existence.

intercept v. 拦截，阻止
inter（在…之间）＋cept→在…之间抓→拦截
verb. To stop, deflect or divert (something in progress or motion).

precept n. 箴言；规范
pre（预先）＋cept→预先拿好的话→箴言
noun. A rule or principle, especially one governing personal conduct.

preoccupation n. 全神贯注
pre＋occupation→先占有注意力→专心
noun. The state of being preoccupied or an idea that preoccupies the mind; enthrallment.

cur(r) / curs / cour(i) / cours

ROOT · 11 WORDS

to run · 表示“跑”，引申为“发生”；cur还表示“注意，关心”

curative a. 治病的，（药）有效的
cur(e)＋ative→治病的
adj. Possessing the ability to cure, to heal or treat illness.

cursive a.（字）草写的
curs＋ive→像跑一样快地写→草写的
adj. Running; flowing.

incursion n. 侵犯
in＋cur＋sion→跑进去→侵犯
noun. A military action consisting of armed forces of one geopolitical entity entering territory controlled…

precursor n. 先驱；先兆
pre（前）＋curs＋or→跑在前面→先驱
noun. That which precurses: a forerunner, predecessor, or indicator of approaching events.

procure v.（费心）取得，获得
pro（前）＋cur＋e→跑在前的先得→获得
verb. To acquire or obtain.

courier n. 信使
couri＋er→跑着（送东西）的人→信使
noun. A person who delivers messages.

curator n.（博物馆等）馆长
cur＋ator（表人）→跑来跑去照看（展品）→馆长
noun. A person who manages, administers or organizes a collection, either independently or employed by a…

cursory a. 草率的
curs＋ory→随便跑过去→草率的
adj. Hasty or superficial.

excursive a. 离题的；散漫的
ex（出）＋curs＋ive→（思想）跑了→离题的
adj. Tending to digress.

recourse n. 依赖，求助
re（回）＋cours＋e→跑回来→求助
noun. The act of seeking assistance or advice.

succor n. 救助者，救援人员
suc（下）＋cour→（压在下面）跑去救援→救援人员
noun. Alternative spelling of succour.

gen(e) / gener / geni(t)

ROOT · 13 WORDS

birth, to produce, race · 表示“出生；产生；种族”

congenial a. 意气相投的
con（共同）＋gen＋ial→产生共同（兴趣）→情投意合的
adj. Having the same or very similar nature, personality, tastes, habits or interests.

generic a. 科属的；一般的；通用的
来自genus（n. 种类）
adj. Very broad; pertaining or appropriate to large classes or groups as opposed to specific instances.

genesis n. 起源，开端
gen（产生）＋esis→起源
noun. The origin, start, or point at which something comes into being.

genial a. 和蔼的；愉快的
gen＋ial→产生（感情）的→和蔼的
adj. Friendly and cheerful; enlivening.

regenerate a. 改过自新的 v. 再生
re（一再）＋generate→再生
adj. Spiritually reborn.

congenital a. 天生的，与生俱来的
con（共同）＋genit＋al→出生时即共同带来的→天生的
adj. Of a trait or a disease, present since birth.

engender v.（使）产生
en（使）＋gen＋der→（使）产生
verb. To beget (of a man); to bear or conceive (of a woman).

generosity n. 慷慨；丰富
generous（a. 慷慨的）的同根名词
noun. The trait of being willing to donate money, resources, or time.

genteel a. 高雅的；有礼貌的
gen＋t＋eel→出身好的→高雅的；gentle（a. 温柔的）的变体
adj. Affectedly proper or refined; somewhat prudish refinement; excessively polite.

genus n. 种类，类属
noun. A category in the classification of organisms, ranking below family (Lat. familia) and above species.

heterogeneous a. 混杂的；多种多样的
hetero（异类）＋gen＋eous→产生不同的→不同的
adj. Diverse in kind or nature; composed of diverse parts.

ingenuous a. 纯朴的，单纯的
in（向内）＋genu（=gen）＋ous→生自内心→天真的
adj. Naive and trusting.

pathogeny n. 病原学
patho（病）＋gen＋y→病的产生→病原学
noun. The generation and method of development of disease.

log(u) / loqu / locu

ROOT · 14 WORDS

to speak · 表示“说话”

apologue n. 寓言
apo（离开）＋logu＋e→远离（现实）的话→寓言
noun. A short story with a moral, often involving talking animals or objects; a fable.

colloquium n. 学术讨论会
col（共同）＋loqu＋ium（场所）→一起说的地方→讨论会
noun. A colloquy; a meeting for discussion.

circumlocution n. 拐弯抹角的说法
circum（环绕）＋locu＋tion→绕着圈子说话→转弯抹角说话
noun. A roundabout or indirect way of speaking; thus

colloquial a. 口语的
col＋loqu＋ial→大家都说话的→口语的
adj. Characteristic of familiar conversation, of common parlance; informal.

colloquy n. 谈话
col＋loqu＋y→共同说→谈话
noun. A conversation or dialogue.

elocution n. 演说术
e＋locu＋tion→有技巧地说→演说术
noun. The art of speaking, especially public speaking, with expert control of gesture and voice, diction…

epilogue n. 后记，结尾部分
epi（在…后面）＋logu＋e→说在后面→尾声，后记
noun. A short speech, spoken directly at the audience at the end of a play

eulogy n. 颂词，称赞
eu（好）＋log＋y→好话→颂词
noun. An oration to honor a deceased person, usually at a funeral.

locution n. 语言风格；惯用语
locu＋tion→语言风格；惯用语
noun. A phrase or expression peculiar to or characteristic of a given person or group of people.

loquacious a. 多嘴的，话太多的
loqu＋acious（多…的）→话太多的
adj. Talkative; chatty.

obloquy n. 大骂，谩骂
ob（逆，否定）＋loqu＋y→不说好话→大骂
noun. Abusive language.

philology n. 语文学；文学
philo（爱）＋log＋y→喜爱研究说话→语言学
noun. The humanistic study of texts and their languages, especially ancient or classical languages.

prologue n. 前言，序言
pro（在前）＋logu＋e→说在前面的（话）→前言
noun. A speech or section used as an introduction, especially to a play or novel.

soliloquy n. 自言自语；独白
soli（单独）＋loqu＋y→一个人说→自言自语；独白
noun. The act of a character speaking to themselves so as to reveal their thoughts to the audience.

luc / lust / lumin / lustr

ROOT · 10 WORDS

light, to shine · 表示“光；照亮”

lucent a. 发亮的
luc＋ent→照亮的→发亮的
adj. Emitting light; shining, luminous.

lucid a. 透明的；清楚的
luc＋id→照亮的→清楚的
adj. Clear; easily understood.

luster n. 光泽，光彩
lust＋re→光→光泽；同luster
noun. UK standard spelling of luster (shine, etc.).

translucent a. 半透明的
trans（横过）＋luc＋ent→光透过一部分的→半透明的
adj. Allowing light to pass through, but diffusing it.

elucidate v. 阐明，解释
e（表加强）＋lucid＋ate→弄清楚→阐明
verb. To make (something) lucid (“bright, luminous; also, clear, transparent”).

illustrious a. 卓越的，杰出的；辉煌的
il（进入）＋lustr＋ious→光照耀的→辉煌的
adj. Admired, distinguished, respected, or well-known.

lackluster a. 呆板的；毫无生气的
lack（缺少）＋luster（光泽）→不灵光→呆板的
adj. Lacking brilliance or intelligence.

luminary n. 发光体；杰出人物
lumin＋ary（表人或物）→发亮的人→杰出人物
noun. One who is an inspiration to others; one who has achieved success in one's chosen field; a leading…

lustrous a. 有光泽的
lustr＋ous→有光泽的
adj. Having a glow or lustre.

lusty a. 精力充沛的；精神饱满的
lust＋y→人有光→满面红光的→精力充沛的
adj. Exhibiting lust (in the obsolete sense meaning "vigor"); strong, healthy, robust; vigorous; full of sap…

lud / lus

ROOT · 11 WORDS

to play, play · 表示“玩；戏剧”

elusive a. 难懂的，难捉摸的
e（出）＋lus＋ive→玩得出神入化→难懂的
adj. Evading capture, comprehension or remembrance.

ludic a. 顽皮的；开玩笑的
lud＋ic→开玩笑的
adj. Playful.

prelude n. 序曲
pre（前）＋lud＋e→前面玩的、先演奏的→序曲
noun. An introductory or preliminary performance or event.

allude v. 提及；暗指
al（表加强）＋lud＋e→演戏→不直截了当→暗指
verb. To refer to something indirectly or by suggestion; to invoke it by implication rather than mention.

collude v. 勾结，串通
col（共同）＋lud＋e→共同玩弄手段→勾结
verb. to act in concert with; to conspire.

collusion n. 同谋；勾结
col＋lus＋ion→共同玩弄手段→勾结
noun. A private, cooperative agreement or arrangement between groups that otherwise maintain the pretense of…

delude v. 欺骗
de＋lud＋e→玩阴的（手段）→欺骗
verb. To deceive into believing something which is false; to lead into error; to dupe.

delusion n. 欺骗
noun. An adamant belief in a falsehood despite incontestable evidence.

elude v. 躲避；使…困惑
e（出）＋lud＋e→出去玩→躲出去→躲避
verb. To evade or escape from (someone or something), especially by using cunning or skill.

interlude n.（剧间）休息
inter（在…之间）＋lud＋e→在戏剧中间的暂停→休息
noun. An intervening episode, etc.

ludicrous a. 滑稽的，可笑的
ludicr（=lud）＋ous→闹着玩的→可笑的
adj. Idiotic or unthinkable, often to the point of being funny; amusing by being plainly incongruous or…

voc / vok

ROOT · 13 WORDS

to call, voice · 表示“叫喊；声音”

equivoke n. 双关语
equi（平等）＋vok＋e→有两种声音（平等）→双关语
noun. Archaic spelling of equivoque.

irrevocable a. 不可取消的
ir（不）＋re（回）＋voc＋able→不可叫回的→不能改变的
adj. Unable to be retracted or reversed; final.

vocalist n. 歌手
vocal＋ist→以声音为生的人→歌手
noun. A singer; a person who likes to sing.

vocation n. 职业；使命
voc＋ation→（受到）召唤→使命
noun. A divine calling to establish one's lifestyle.

avocation n. 副业
a（非）＋vocation（职业）→非职业→副业
noun. A calling away; a diversion.

convocation n. 集会
con（共同）＋voc＋ation→共同说话→集会
noun. The act of calling or assembling by summons.

convoke v. 召集
con＋vok＋e→喊到一起→召集
verb. To convene, to cause to assemble for a meeting.

equivocal a. 支支吾吾的，模棱两可的；可疑的
equi（平等）＋voc＋al→平等声音→模棱两可的
adj. Having two or more equally applicable meanings; capable of double or multiple interpretation.

equivocate v. 推托，支吾
equi＋voc＋ate→平等声音→支吾
verb. To speak using double meaning; to speak ambiguously, unclearly or doubtfully, with intent to deceive…

invocatory a. 祈求的
in（向内）＋voc＋atory→内心说话→祈求的
adj. Containing or characterized by invocation; invoking.

invoke v. 请求；使（法规）生效；援引
in（使）＋vok＋e→使有发言权→使（法规）生效
verb. To call upon (a person, a god) for help, assistance or guidance.

revoke v. 取消
re（回）＋vok＋e→喊回来→取消
verb. To cancel or invalidate by withdrawing or reversing.

vociferous a. 喧闹的
voci（=voc）＋fer（带来）＋ous→带来声音的→喧闹的
adj. Making or characterized by a noisy outcry; clamorous.

Part 2 · Word Families — Suffixes 后缀

-acious

SUFFIX · 9 WORDS

表形容词，“多…的，有…性质的，属于…的”

audacious a. 大胆的
aud（大胆）＋acious→大胆的；参考：audacity（n. 大胆）
adj. Showing willingness to take bold risks; recklessly daring.

fallacious a. 谬误的
fall（谬误）＋acious→谬误的；参考：fallacy（n. 谬误）
adj. Characterized by fallacy; false or mistaken.

rapacious a. 掠夺的
rap(e)（掠夺）＋acious→掠夺的
adj. Voracious; avaricious.

sagacious a. 睿智的，聪明的
sag（察觉，认知）＋acious→认知力强的→睿智的
adj. Having or showing keen discernment, sound judgment, and farsightedness; mentally shrewd.

sequacious a. 前后连贯的
sequ（跟随）＋acious→一直跟着的→前后连贯的
adj. Likely to follow or yield to physical pressure; easily shaped or molded.

tenacious a. 顽强的
ten（紧握）＋acious→紧握的→顽强的；参考：tenable（a. 防守得住的）
adj. Clinging to an object or surface; adhesive.

veracious a. 真实的
ver（真实）＋acious→真实的；参考：verify（v. 证实）
adj. True.

vivacious a. 活泼的；有生气的
viv（生命）＋acious→有生气的；参考：revive（v. 复活）
adj. Lively and animated; full of life and energy.

voracious a. 贪婪的；狼吞虎咽的
vor（吞食）＋acious→狼吞虎咽的；参考：omnivorous（a. 无所不吃的）
adj. Wanting or devouring great quantities of food.

Part 3 · A–Z Dictionary 单词详解

A

allude /əˈlud/

v. 提及；暗指

- *verb.* To refer to something indirectly or by suggestion; to invoke it by implication rather than mention

Roots: `lud` · al（表加强）＋lud＋e→演戏→不直截了当→暗指

1. In her speech, the mayor did not name the scandal directly but chose to **allude** to it with a brief remark.
2. Poets often **allude** to ancient myths, trusting that educated readers will recognize the references without any explanation.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Verb meaning to refer to something indirectly, without naming it; usually followed by to. Noun: allusion. Don't confuse with elude (to escape) or delude (to deceive). Near-synonyms: hint, refer, suggest.

apologue /ˈæpəlɒg/

n. 寓言

- *noun.* A short story with a moral, often involving talking animals or objects; a fable; The use of fable to persuade the audience

Roots: `apo-` · `log(u)` · apo＋log（说话）＋ue→远离（现实）的话→寓言

1. The teacher told an **apologue** about a tortoise and a hare to show children why patience can beat speed.
2. In the old collection, each **apologue** ended with a plain moral, explaining what readers should learn from the animals' mistakes.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Noun meaning a short moral tale, often with animals or objects as characters; a fable. Near-synonyms: fable, parable. Root clue: log means word or speech. Don't confuse with apology, which has a different meaning.

audacious /ɔˈdeɪ.ʃəs/

a. 大胆的

- *adj.* Showing willingness to take bold risks; recklessly daring; Impudent, insolent

Roots: `-acious` · aud（大胆）＋acious→大胆的；参考：audacity（n. 大胆）

1. The **audacious** young architect proposed a glass tower that curved like a ribbon, a design the city council had never imagined approving.
2. It was an **audacious** plan for a small startup to challenge the industry's biggest manufacturer, yet the founders were completely unafraid.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Usually positive or admiring: boldly daring; it can turn negative when it means disrespectfully bold. Near-synonyms: intrepid, bold, brazen. Don't confuse with atrocious or auspicious.

avocation /ævoʊˈkeɪʃən/

n. 副业

- *noun.* A calling away; a diversion; A hobby or recreational or leisure pursuit

Roots: `voc` · a（非）＋vocation（职业）→非职业→副业

1. Although she worked as an accountant, her true **avocation** was restoring antique clocks, which she tinkered with every weekend in the garage.
2. For the surgeon, painting was a cherished **avocation** that offered a quiet escape from the pressures of the hospital.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** A hobby or minor occupation pursued for pleasure rather than as a main job. Don't confuse with vocation, which is one's main calling or career. Often contrasted with vocation on tests.

C

capacious /kəˈpeɪʃəs/

a. 宽阔的；容积大的

- *adj.* Having a lot of space inside; roomy; Capable, able

Roots: `cap(t)` · cap＋aci＋ous→拿得多的→容积大的

1. The **capacious** closet held enough winter coats, boots, and spare blankets to outfit an entire family for a long storm.
2. Her **capacious** handbag, large enough for a laptop, a lunch, and an umbrella, became something of a family joke.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Positive or neutral: roomy and able to hold a great deal. Near-synonyms: spacious, commodious, ample, voluminous. Root clue: cap means hold, as in capacity. Opposite: cramped, confined.

captious /ˈkæpʃəs/

a. 挑剔的，吹毛求疵的

- *adj.* That captures; especially, (of an argument, words etc.) designed to capture or entrap in misleading arguments; sophistical; Having a disposition to find fault…

Roots: `-eous` · `cap(t)` · cap（拿）＋tious→拿（别人的缺点）→吹毛求疵的

1. The **captious** reviewer found fault with every detail, even complaining about the font size in an otherwise excellent report.
2. His **captious** remarks at the meeting discouraged the junior staff, who feared that any small mistake would draw sharp criticism.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Negative: tending to find fault and raise petty objections. GRE Sentence Equivalence partners: carping, caviling, hypercritical, censorious. Don't confuse with captivating (charming) or cautious.

captivate /ˈkæptəˌveɪt/

v. 迷惑；吸引

- *verb.* To make (a person, an animal, etc.) a captive; to take prisoner; to capture, to subdue; To capture or control (the mind, etc.); to subdue, to subjugate
- *adj.* Made captive; taken prisoner; captured, subdued

Roots: `cap(t)` · capt＋iv＋ate→抓人的→迷惑

1. The young pianist could **captivate** an audience within seconds, holding a silent hall in thrall as she played the opening bars.
2. Stories of distant lands used to **captivate** the child, who spent hours poring over maps and imagining the journeys.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Positive: to charm or hold the attention of someone completely. Near-synonyms: enchant, enthrall, fascinate, mesmerize. Root clue: capt means take or seize, as in capture. Adjective: captivating.

circumlocution /ˌsɝkəmləˈkjuʃən/

n. 拐弯抹角的说法

- *noun.* A roundabout or indirect way of speaking; thus; Unnecessary use of extra words to express an idea, such as a pleonastic phrase (sometimes driven by an attempt…

Roots: `circum–` · `log(u)` · circum＋locu（说话）＋tion→拐弯抹角的说法

1. The official spoke in **circumlocution**, using long and vague phrases to avoid admitting that the project had failed.
2. Instead of saying no, she used a gentle **circumlocution**, talking about scheduling difficulties until her friend understood.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Negative or neutral: using many words to say what could be said briefly, often to avoid being direct. Root clue: circum means around and locut means speak. Near-synonyms: verbosity, evasiveness. Opposite: brevity.

colloquial /kəˈloʊ.kwi.əl/

a. 口语的

- *adj.* Characteristic of familiar conversation, of common parlance; informal; Of or pertaining to a conversation; conversational or chatty
- *noun.* A colloquial word or phrase, colloquialism

Roots: `co–` · `log(u)` · col＋loqu（说话）＋i＋al→一起说的→口语的

1. The novelist's **colloquial** style, full of slang and sentence fragments, made the narrator sound like a neighbor chatting over a fence.
2. Although the word is acceptable in **colloquial** speech, the editor changed it to a more formal term in the published article.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Adjective for informal, conversational language; neutral label, not an insult. Fits blanks about tone and diction. Opposite: formal, literary. Root clue: col- (together) plus loqu- (speak), as in loquacious.

colloquium /kəˈləʊkwiəm/

n. 学术讨论会

- *noun.* A colloquy; a meeting for discussion; An academic meeting or seminar usually led by a different lecturer and on a different topic at each meeting

Roots: `log(u)` · col（共同）＋loqu＋ium（场所）→一起说的地方→讨论会

1. The department hosts a monthly **colloquium** where visiting biologists present unfinished research and graduate students offer blunt but helpful criticism.
2. Attendance at the **colloquium** was so high that organizers moved the discussion from a classroom to the main auditorium.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Noun for an academic meeting or seminar, usually with discussion; formal and neutral. Plural: colloquia or colloquiums. Root clue: col- (together) plus loqu- (speak). Related to colloquy and colloquial.

colloquy /ˈkɒləkwi/

n. 谈话

- *noun.* A conversation or dialogue; A formal conference
- *verb.* To converse

Roots: `log(u)` · col＋loqu＋y→共同说→谈话

1. The two scholars' long **colloquy** about the meaning of the poem continued past midnight and left both of them energized.
2. Published as a short book, the **colloquy** between the physician and the philosopher explores whether illness can ever be fully understood by outsiders.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Formal noun for a conversation or a written dialogue, often serious. Neutral to positive. Root clue: col- (together) plus loqu- (speak). Don't confuse with colloquial (informal) or colloquium (academic meeting).

collude /kəˈluːd/

v. 勾结，串通

- *verb.* to act in concert with; to conspire

Roots: `lud` · col（共同）＋lud＋e→共同玩弄手段→勾结

1. Regulators suspected that the three largest airlines had begun to **collude**, since all of them raised fares by the same amount on the same day.
2. The two students were accused of trying to **collude** during the exam by passing answers back and forth in a coded series of coughs.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Negative verb: to conspire secretly, often to cheat or fix prices; typically followed by with or in. GRE near-synonyms: conspire, connive. Related noun: collusion. Root clue: col- (together) plus lud- (play).

collusion /kəˈluːʒən/

n. 同谋；勾结

- *noun.* A private, cooperative agreement or arrangement between groups that otherwise maintain the pretense of competition, contention or non-cooperation; A private…

Roots: lud · col＋lus＋ion→共同玩弄手段→勾结

1. Investigators found no evidence of **collusion** between the rival bakeries, since their price increases followed a sharp rise in the cost of flour.
2. The referee's strange decisions led fans to suspect **collusion** between him and the visiting team's owner.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Negative noun: secret cooperation for illegal or dishonest ends, such as price fixing. Fits blanks about conspiracy or fraud. GRE near-synonyms: conspiracy, connivance. Related verb: collude.

congenial /kənˈd͡ʒiːniəl/

a. 意气相投的

- *adj.* Having the same or very similar nature, personality, tastes, habits or interests; Friendly or sociable

Roots: -ial · gen(e) · con（共同）＋gen（产生）＋ial→产生共同点→意气相投的

1. The new office felt **congenial** from the first morning, with colleagues who shared lunches and cheerfully answered every question.
2. The two scientists were **congenial** partners, since both enjoyed long debates and neither minded admitting a mistake.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Positive adjective: pleasant because of shared tastes or temperament; also suited to one's needs. GRE near-synonyms: amiable, agreeable, genial. Don't confuse with congenital (present from birth).

congenital /kənˈdʒɛnɪt(ə)l/

a. 天生的，与生俱来的

- *adj.* Of a trait or a disease, present since birth

Roots: -al · gen(e) · con（伴随）＋gen（出生）＋it＋al→生来就有的→天生的

1. Doctors diagnosed the heart defect as **congenital**, meaning the infant had been born with it rather than developing it later.
2. Some critics treat laziness as a **congenital** trait of certain people, but studies suggest that habits are learned, not inherited.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Adjective: existing from birth, often a condition or defect. Usually medical, though it can describe a deep trait. Don't confuse with congenial (pleasant) or genetic. Opposite: acquired. Root clue: gen- means birth.

convocation /kɑn.vəˈkeɪ.ʃən/

n. 集会

- *noun.* The act of calling or assembling by summons; An assembly or meeting

Roots: voc · con（共同）＋voc＋ation→共同说话→集会

1. At the opening **convocation**, the university president welcomed the freshmen and urged them to treat the library as their second home.
2. A formal **convocation** of delegates from every province met in the capital to debate the proposed constitution.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Noun: a formal assembly of people, such as at a university or church; formal and neutral. Related verb: convoke. Near-synonyms: assembly, gathering. Root clue: voc- means call, as in vocal.

convoke /kənˈvoʊk/

v. 召集

- *verb.* To convene, to cause to assemble for a meeting; To call together

Roots: voc · con＋vok＋e→喊到一起→召集

1. The chairwoman had the authority to **convoke** an emergency session whenever she believed the committee needed to act quickly.
2. Leaders from several nations agreed to **convoke** a summit in the spring to discuss the shared problem of river pollution.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Formal verb: to call together for a meeting or assembly. Neutral. Related noun: convocation. Near-synonyms: summon, assemble, convene. Root clue: voc- means call, as in vocation and advocate.

courier /ˈkʊɹ.i.ɚ/

n. 信使

- *noun.* A person who delivers messages; A company that delivers messages
- *verb.* To deliver by courier

Roots: cur(r) · couri＋er→跑着（送东西）的人→信使

1. A **courier** on horseback carried the sealed message across the mountains, changing mounts at each village along the road.
2. The law firm hired a **courier** to deliver the signed contract by hand, since it could not risk losing it in the mail.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Noun: a messenger who carries letters, packages, or news, often quickly; neutral. Plain concrete word. Near-synonyms: messenger, envoy (though an envoy has diplomatic status). Don't confuse with courtier.

curative /ˈkjʊɹ.ə.tɪv/

a. 治病的，（药）有效的

- *adj.* Possessing the ability to cure, to heal or treat illness; Remediative
- *noun.* A substance that acts as a cure

Roots: cur(r) · cur(e)＋ative→治病的

1. Ancient travelers believed the spring had **curative** powers, and they carried its water home in bottles to treat ailments of every kind.
2. The new therapy was not **curative**, but it slowed the disease enough for patients to enjoy several more years of health.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Adjective: able to heal or cure; positive. Noun use: a remedy. Related verb: cure. Near-synonyms: healing, therapeutic, remedial. Opposite: harmful, pernicious. Root clue: cur- means care.

curator /kjʊəˈɹeɪtɚ/

n.（博物馆等）馆长

- *noun.* A person who manages, administers or organizes a collection, either independently or employed by a museum, library, archive or zoo; One appointed to act as…

Roots: cur(r) · cur＋ator（表人）→跑来跑去照看（展品）→馆长

1. The museum's **curator** spent months selecting paintings for the new exhibit, arranging them so that each room told part of one story.
2. As **curator** of the botanical garden, he oversaw the collection of rare orchids and approved every new purchase.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Noun: a person who manages a museum, library, or collection and decides what to display; neutral to positive. Related verb: curate. Root clue: cur- means care, since a curator takes care of the collection.

cursive /ˈkɝsɪv/

a.（字）草写的

- *adj.* Running; flowing; Having successive letters joined together
- *noun.* A cursive character, letter or font; A manuscript written in cursive characters

Roots: `cur(r)` · curs＋ive→像跑一样快地写→草写的

1. Many schools have stopped teaching **cursive**, so some young adults struggle to read the flowing handwriting in their grandparents' letters.
2. The invitation was printed in an elegant **cursive** script, with each letter joined to the next in a graceful line.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Adjective (also noun): written with joined, flowing letters. Neutral. Root clue: curs- means run, as in current and cursory; cursive writing runs along. Opposite: block letters, print.

cursory /ˈkɝ.sə.ɹi/

a. 草率的

- *adj.* Hasty or superficial; Careless or desultory

Roots: `cur(r)` · curs＋ory→随便跑过去→草率的

1. Giving the contract only a **cursory** glance, the manager signed it, and later discovered a clause that raised the annual fees.
2. The inspector made a **cursory** check of the building, never opening the cabinets where the real problems lay.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Negative or neutral adjective: done quickly and without attention to detail; superficial. GRE near-synonyms: perfunctory, hasty, superficial. Opposite: thorough, meticulous. Root clue: curs- means run.

D

delude /dɪˈluːd/

v. 欺骗

- *verb.* To deceive into believing something which is false; to lead into error; to dupe; To frustrate or disappoint

Roots: `lud` · de＋lud＋e→玩阴的（手段）→欺骗

1. Do not **delude** yourself into thinking the exam will be easy simply because the first chapter of the textbook was familiar.
2. The salesman tried to **delude** the elderly couple with a glossy brochure that hid the fact that the land flooded every spring.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Negative; to trick or mislead someone, often oneself ("delude oneself"). Near-synonyms: deceive, hoodwink, mislead. Don't confuse with elude (to escape) or allude (to refer to).

delusion /dɪˈluːʒn/

n. 欺骗

- *noun.* An adamant belief in a falsehood despite incontestable evidence; The state of being deluded or misled, or process of deluding somebody

Roots: `lud`

1. He lived under the **delusion** that his small bakery could rival the chain stores, despite losing money every single month.
2. Psychologists distinguish a passing misunderstanding from a true **delusion**, a false belief that persists even when clear evidence contradicts it.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Negative; a false belief held despite evidence. Don't confuse with illusion (a false appearance or perception that may not be believed). Near-synonyms: misconception, fallacy.

E

elocution /ɛləˈkjuːʃən/

n. 演说术

- *noun.* The art of speaking, especially public speaking, with expert control of gesture and voice, diction (articulation and word choice), and usage

Roots: `log(u)` · e＋locu＋tion→有技巧地说→演说术

1. The school once required daily **elocution** lessons, in which students recited poems aloud to practice clear, graceful speech.
2. Her **elocution** was so polished that every word reached the back of the hall without any need for a microphone.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Noun: the art of clear and expressive public speaking. Neutral to positive tone. Root loqui (to speak), as in eloquent and loquacious. Related: eloquence. Near-synonyms: oratory, delivery, enunciation.

elucidate /əˈlusəˌdeɪt/

v. 阐明，解释

- *verb.* To make (something) lucid ("bright, luminous; also, clear, transparent"); To make (something) clear and understandable; to clarify, to illuminate, to shed…
- *adj.* Clear, understandable

Roots: `luc` · e（表加强）＋lucid＋ate→弄清楚→阐明

1. The teacher drew a diagram on the board to **elucidate** the process, and the confused students nodded in sudden understanding.
2. The author's footnotes **elucidate** several obscure references, making the dense novel far easier for modern readers to follow.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Verb: to make clear by explaining. Positive tone. GRE Sentence Equivalence partners: clarify, explicate, illuminate. Root lucidus (clear, shining), as in lucid and translucent. Opposite: obscure, muddy.

elude /ɪˈlud/

v. 躲避；使…困惑

- *verb.* To evade or escape from (someone or something), especially by using cunning or skill; To shake off (a pursuer); to give someone the slip

Roots: `lud` · e（出）＋lud＋e→出去玩→躲出去→躲避

1. The thief managed to **elude** the police for months by moving between cities and never staying in one place for long.
2. The answer continued to **elude** the researchers, no matter how many different experiments they designed to test the problem.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Verb: to escape or avoid by cleverness; to escape understanding or memory. Don't confuse with allude (refer to) or illude. Near-synonyms: evade, dodge, baffle. Related adjective: elusive. Neutral tone.

elusive /ɪˈl(j)u.sɪv/

a. 难懂的，难捉摸的

- *adj.* Evading capture, comprehension or remembrance; Difficult to make precise

Roots: `lud` · e（出） ＋lus＋ive→玩得出神入化→难懂的

1. The **elusive** snow leopard is so hard to spot that wildlife photographers sometimes wait for weeks without seeing it once.
2. Happiness proved **elusive** for the character, who chased wealth and fame only to find that satisfaction always seemed a step beyond reach.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Adjective: hard to find, catch, or grasp; difficult to define. Near-synonyms: evasive, slippery, intangible. Related verb: elude. Don't confuse with illusive (deceptive). Neutral tone, common in descriptive passages.

emancipate /əˈmæn(t)səˌpeɪt/

v. 解放

- *verb.* To set free (a person or group) from the oppression or restraint of another; to liberate; To cause (a place) to be free from the colonization or rule of…
- *adj.* Synonym of emancipated (“having been set free from someone's control, or from some constraint; at liberty, free”)

Roots: `cap(t)` · e（出） ＋man（手） ＋cip＋ate→把手拿开→解放

1. The new law would **emancipate** the tenant farmers, freeing them from debts that had bound their families to the land for generations.
2. Reformers argued that universal schooling could **emancipate** children from poverty, giving them skills that no landlord could ever take away.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Verb: to free from legal, social, or political restraint, especially slavery. Positive tone. Near-synonyms: liberate, free, unshackle. Related noun: emancipation. Root manus (hand) plus capere (take): release from control.

engender /ɛnˈd͡ʒɛn.dɚ/

v.（使）产生

- *verb.* To beget (of a man); to bear or conceive (of a woman); To give existence to, to produce (living creatures)

Roots: `gen(e)` · en（使） ＋gen＋der→（使）产生

1. Constant public praise can **engender** arrogance in young athletes, who begin to believe that practice is something other people need.
2. Shared hardship during the long winter tended to **engender** a deep loyalty among the settlers that outlasted the colony itself.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Means to bring into being or cause, usually a feeling or condition such as trust, hatred, or conflict. Formal; near-synonyms: breed, foster, provoke. Don't confuse with endanger or the noun gender.

epilogue /ˈɛpɪlɔg/

n. 后记，结尾部分

- *noun.* A short speech, spoken directly at the audience at the end of a play; The performer who gives this speech
- *verb.* To conclude with an epilogue

Roots: `epi-` · `log(u)` · epi＋log（说话） ＋ue→在后面说的话→后记

1. In the **epilogue**, the author reveals what became of each character twenty years after the final battle, tying up every loose thread.
2. The documentary closed with a brief **epilogue** explaining that the town had been rebuilt and the river had finally returned to its old course.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** A closing section after the main story, often showing what happened later. Opposite: prologue (the opening). Root clue: epi- upon or after, and -logue speech. Neutral tone.

equivocal /ɪˈkwɪvək(ə)l/

a. 支支吾吾的，模棱两可的；可疑的

- *adj.* Having two or more equally applicable meanings; capable of double or multiple interpretation; Capable of being ascribed to different motives, or of signifying…
- *noun.* A word or expression capable of different meanings; an ambiguous term

Roots: `equ(i)` · `voc` · equi＋voc（声音） ＋al→声音平平不能确定→模棱两可的

1. The senator's **equivocal** answer left reporters unsure whether she supported the bill, since she praised it and criticized it in the same breath.
2. Scientists described the results as **equivocal**, because the data could be read as supporting the theory or as undermining it.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Open to more than one interpretation, vague or evasive. Often used for answers, evidence, or results. Opposite: unequivocal. Near-synonyms: ambiguous, noncommittal. Root clue: equi- equal, voc- voice.

equivocate /ɪˈkwɪvəˌkeɪt/

v. 推托，支吾

- *verb.* To speak using double meaning; to speak ambiguously, unclearly or doubtfully, with intent to deceive; to vacillate in one's answers, responding with…

Roots: `voc` · equi＋voc＋ate→平等声音→支吾

1. When asked directly about the missing funds, the treasurer began to **equivocate**, offering vague phrases rather than a plain yes or no.
2. Witnesses who **equivocate** on the stand frustrate lawyers, who need clear statements and not answers that could mean almost anything.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** To speak in an evasive, ambiguous way to avoid committing. Negative tone. Near-synonyms: hedge, waffle, prevaricate, dodge. Related: equivocal. Opposite: speak plainly, be forthright.

equivoke /ˈekwɪvəʊk/

n. 双关语

- *noun.* Archaic spelling of equivoque

Roots: voc · equi（平等）＋vok＋e→有两种声音（平等）→双关语

1. The poet loved the **equivoke**, a phrase that could be read as praise or as mockery, depending on the reader's mood.
2. Her headline was an **equivoke**, pairing two meanings of the same word so that readers smiled before they understood the joke.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** A word or phrase with a double meaning, a pun or ambiguity. Rare variant of equivoque. Root clue: equi- equal, voc- voice, meaning two equally valid readings. Near-synonyms: pun, double entendre.

eulogy /ˈjuː.lə.d͡ʒi/

n. 颂词，称赞

- *noun.* An oration to honor a deceased person, usually at a funeral; Speaking highly of someone or something; the act of praising or commending someone or something

Roots: log(u) · eu（好）＋log＋y→好话→颂词

1. The grandson delivered a moving **eulogy** at the funeral, describing his grandfather's quiet kindness and his habit of whistling in the garden.
2. The editorial was less a report than a **eulogy** for the old factory, praising its workers and mourning its closing.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** A speech or writing of high praise, especially at a funeral. Positive tone. Root clue: eu- good, logos word. Don't confuse with elegy (a mournful poem). Near-synonyms: tribute, panegyric, encomium.

excursive /ɪkˈskɜːsɪv/

a. 离题的；散漫的

- *adj.* Tending to digress; Tending to go out

Roots: cur(r) · ex（出）＋curs＋ive→（思想）跑了→离题的

1. His **excursive** lectures wandered from medieval law to bird migration, and students often wondered how the topics were connected.
2. The author's **excursive** style, full of tangents and side stories, made the book charming but also hard to summarize.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Tending to wander from the main topic; digressive. Neutral to mildly negative. Near-synonyms: rambling, discursive, tangential, meandering. Opposite: focused, direct, concise. Root clue: ex- out, curs- run.

F

fallacious /fəˈleɪ.ʃəs/

a. 谬误的

- *adj.* Characterized by fallacy; false or mistaken; Deceptive or misleading

Roots: -acious · fall · fall（谬误）＋acious→谬误的；参考：fallacy（n. 谬误）

1. The article rested on a **fallacious** argument, treating a single unusual case as proof that the whole policy had failed.
2. Her **fallacious** reasoning went unnoticed at first, but a careful reader soon saw that the conclusion did not follow from the evidence.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Based on a mistaken belief or faulty logic. Negative tone. Near-synonyms: erroneous, specious, spurious, illogical. Noun: fallacy. Opposite: sound, valid, cogent. Often describes arguments.

G

generic /dʒɪˈnɛɹ.ɪk/

a. 科属的；一般的；通用的

- *adj.* Very broad; pertaining or appropriate to large classes or groups as opposed to specific instances; Lacking in precision, often in an evasive fashion; vague…
- *noun.* A product sold under a generic name; A wine that is a combination of several wines, or made from a combination of several grape varieties

Roots: gen(e) · 来自genus（n. 种类）

1. The company's **generic** reply to complaints, a form letter that never mentioned the specific problem, only deepened customers' frustration.
2. Pharmacists often suggest the **generic** version of a drug, which contains the same active ingredient as the brand-name product at a lower price.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Means general, not specific; can imply bland or lacking distinctiveness. Neutral to slightly negative. Often contrasted with specific, particular, or distinctive. Related to genus, a general class.

generosity /ˌd͡ʒɛn.əˈɹɑ.sə.ti/

n. 慷慨；丰富

- *noun.* The trait of being willing to donate money, resources, or time; A desire to give or share without expecting payment; charity; an eager willingness to…

Roots: -osity · gen(e) · gener（产生）＋osity→大量产生→丰富

1. The family's **generosity** during the flood was remarkable; they opened their home to a dozen strangers and fed them for nearly a week.
2. Her **generosity** went beyond money, since she also gave hours of her time each month to tutor children who had fallen behind.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Means willingness to give freely; positive. Near-synonyms: munificence, liberality, benevolence. Opposites: stinginess, miserliness. Don't confuse with genius or genuineness.

genesis /ˈd͡ʒɛn.ə.sɪs/

n. 起源，开端

- *noun.* The origin, start, or point at which something comes into being

Roots: -esis · gen(e) · gen（产生）＋esis→起源

1. Historians trace the **genesis** of the modern postal system to a network of mounted couriers who carried royal messages across the empire.
2. The **genesis** of the project was a casual conversation between two neighbors who wondered why their town had no public library.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Means an origin or beginning. Neutral to positive. Near-synonyms: inception, origin, birth. Root gen- means birth or creation, as in generate and genetics.

genial /ˈdʒinjəl/

a. 和蔼的；愉快的

- *adj.* Friendly and cheerful; enlivening; Pleasantly mild and warm

Roots: gen(e) · gen＋ial→产生（感情）的→和蔼的

1. Our **genial** host greeted every guest at the door with a warm handshake and a joke, and soon the whole room felt at ease.
2. The island's **genial** climate, with mild winters and gentle breezes, has long attracted retirees from colder parts of the country.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Means friendly and cheerful, or pleasantly mild. Positive tone. Near-synonyms: affable, amiable, cordial. Don't confuse with genital or with congenial, which means pleasantly compatible.

genteel /dʒɛnˈtiːl/

a. 高雅的；有礼貌的

- *adj.* Affectedly proper or refined; somewhat prudish refinement; excessively polite; Polite and well-mannered

Roots: gen(e) · gen＋t＋eel→出身好的→高雅的；gentle（a. 温柔的）的变体

1. The **genteel** tea room, with its lace curtains and silver spoons, attracted elderly customers who valued quiet conversation and perfect manners.
2. Her **genteel** upbringing taught her never to raise her voice or to mention money at the table, even when she was upset.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Means polite and refined, sometimes with a hint of affected or overly proper manners. Can be mildly ironic. Near-synonyms: refined, well-bred, polished. Related to gentle and gentry.

genus /ˈdʒiːnəs/

n. 种类，类属

- *noun.* A category in the classification of organisms, ranking below family (Lat. familia) and above species; A taxon at this rank

Roots: gen(e)

1. Biologists classify wolves and domestic dogs in the same **genus**, a rank above species that groups closely related organisms together.
2. The newly discovered beetle was so unusual that researchers created a new **genus** to hold it, rather than adding it to an existing group.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Means a biological category above species and below family. Plural is genera. Technical but neutral; the root gen- (kind, birth) also appears in generic, which means pertaining to a general class.

H

heterogeneous /ˌhɛt.(ə.)ɹəˈdʒiː.ni.əs/

a. 混杂的；多种多样的

- *adj.* Diverse in kind or nature; composed of diverse parts; Incommensurable because of different kinds

Roots: hetero– · –eous · gen(e) · hetero＋gen（种，属）＋eous→多种多样的

1. The city's **heterogeneous** population includes recent immigrants, retired farmers, college students, and artists, each group with its own customs.
2. A **heterogeneous** mixture such as granite shows visibly different minerals, while a solution like salt water looks uniform throughout.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Means made up of different kinds of parts; diverse. Opposite: homogeneous. Root clues: hetero- (different) plus gen- (kind). Common in science and social science passages.

I

illustrious /ɪˈlʌs.tɹi.əs/

a. 卓越的，杰出的；辉煌的

- *adj.* Admired, distinguished, respected, or well-known

Roots: il– · luc · il＋lustr（光）＋ious→光彩照人→辉煌的

1. The university's **illustrious** alumni include two Nobel laureates, several explorers, and a famous architect who designed airports on three continents.
2. The **illustrious** career of the surgeon, spanning five decades and thousands of operations, was honored with a lifetime award.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Means famous and admired for achievements; positive. Near-synonyms: eminent, distinguished, renowned. Opposites: obscure, undistinguished. Often modifies career, history, or ancestor.

inception /ɪnˈsɛpʃən/

n. 开始，开端

- *noun.* The creation or beginning of something; the establishment; A layering, nesting, or recursion of something within itself

Roots: cap(t) · in（进入）＋cept＋ion→开始拿→开端

1. Since its **inception** in 1998, the small charity has provided meals to more than two million people.
2. The scientist insisted that the idea had been flawed from its **inception**, since it relied on measurements that no instrument could make.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Means the start or beginning of an institution or activity. Neutral. Near-synonyms: genesis, outset, commencement. Opposite: conclusion, termination. Often follows 'since' or 'from'.

incipient /ɪnˈsɪp.i.ənt/

a. 开始的，初期的

- *adj.* In an initial stage; beginning, starting, coming into existence
- *noun.* A beginner; A verb tense of the Hebrew language

Roots: cap(t) · incip · in（进入）＋cip＋i＋ent→开始抓的→开始的

1. The doctor spotted an **incipient** infection in the wound and prescribed antibiotics before it could spread.
2. **Incipient** signs of unrest appeared in the capital, where small crowds began gathering each evening in the main square.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Means just beginning to appear or develop. Neutral; used before harmful or notable developments. Near-synonyms: nascent, budding, emerging. Root clue: cip- (take, begin), as in inception.

incursion /ɪŋˈkɜː(ɹ)ʒən/

n. 侵犯

- *noun.* A military action consisting of armed forces of one geopolitical entity entering territory controlled by another such entity, generally with the objective of…

Roots: im– · cur(r) · in＋curs（跑）＋ion→跑入→侵犯

1. The border guards reported a brief **incursion** by armed bands, who crossed the river at dawn and withdrew before the army could respond.
2. An **incursion** of salt water into the delta has damaged rice fields that farmers had cultivated for generations.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** A sudden entry into territory that belongs to someone else, often a raid; can be figurative. Related to incur and current (cur means run). Near-synonyms: invasion, foray, raid. Negative tone.

ingenuous /ɪnˈd͡ʒɛn.ju.əs/

a. 纯朴的，单纯的

- *adj.* Naive and trusting; Demonstrating childlike simplicity

Roots: –eous · gen(e) · in（向内）＋genu（=gen）＋ous→生自内心→天真的

1. The **ingenuous** young clerk believed every promise the salesman made, and he signed the contract without reading a single page.
2. Her **ingenuous** smile and open answers convinced the interviewers that she had nothing to hide.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Means innocent, frank, and without guile; sometimes naive. Don't confuse with ingenious (clever) or disingenuous (insincere). Opposite: disingenuous, artful, calculating.

intercept /ɪntəˈsɛpt/

v. 拦截，阻止

- *verb.* To stop, deflect or divert (something in progress or motion); To gain possession of (the ball) in a ball game
- *noun.* An interception of a radio broadcast or a telephone call; An interception of a missile

Roots: cap(t) · inter（在…之间）＋cept→在…之间抓→拦截

1. Coast guard ships moved quickly to **intercept** the vessel before it reached the shipping lane, where it would have endangered other boats.
2. In the final minute, the safety managed to **intercept** the pass and carry the ball to midfield.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** To stop or seize something on its way, such as a message, a ball, or a ship. Near-synonyms: cut off, waylay, block. Don't confuse with intercede. Root: capere, to take, with inter, between.

interlude /ˈɪntə(ɹ)luːd/

n.（剧间）休息

- *noun.* An intervening episode, etc; An entertainment between the acts of a play
- *verb.* To provide with an interlude; To serve as an interlude

Roots: lud · inter（在…之间）＋lud＋e→在戏剧中间的暂停→休息

1. The orchestra played a gentle **interlude** between the acts, giving the audience time to stretch and rest before the final scene.
2. A calm **interlude** in the war allowed the villagers to repair their homes and plant a new crop.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Noun for a short break, pause, or piece between longer parts of something. Near-synonyms: intermission, respite, interval. Neutral to positive tone. Root: ludus, play, with inter, between.

invocatory /ɪnˈvɒkətəri/

a. 祈求的

- *adj.* Containing or characterized by invocation; invoking

Roots: voc · in（向内）＋voc＋atory→内心说话→祈求的

1. The ceremony opened with an **invocatory** prayer, in which the speaker called on the spirits of the harvest for a good season.
2. In the old epic, the **invocatory** lines at the start ask the muse to inspire the poet's voice.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Rare adjective: calling on a higher power, or used in an invocation. Related verb: invoke. Root: vocare, to call, as in vocal. Appears in literary or ritual contexts. Neutral tone.

invoke /ɪnˈvoʊk/

v. 请求；使（法规）生效；援引

- *verb.* To call upon (a person, a god) for help, assistance or guidance; To solicit, petition for, appeal to a favorable attitude

Roots: voc · in（使）＋vok＋e→使有发言权→使（法规）生效

1. The lawyer chose to **invoke** a rarely used clause in the contract, which allowed her client to cancel the sale at no cost.
2. Politicians often **invoke** the memory of great leaders in order to give their own plans a sense of authority.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Means to call on for support, to cite as authority, or to bring into effect, such as a law or a spirit. Don't confuse with evoke (call forth a feeling) or revoke. Root: vocare, to call.

irrevocable /iˈɹɛvəkəbəl/

a. 不可取消的

- *adj.* Unable to be retracted or reversed; final

Roots: ir– · voc · ir＋revocable（可取消的）→不可取消的

1. Once the papers were signed, the decision was **irrevocable**, and the buyers could not withdraw even if prices fell the next day.
2. The king's decree was **irrevocable**, so even his own advisors could not change it once it had been announced.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Means impossible to take back or cancel. Near-synonyms: final, irreversible, binding. Root: revocare, to call back. Opposite: revocable. Fits blanks about decisions, contracts, or steps.

L

lackluster /ˈlæklʌstəɹ/

a. 呆板的；毫无生气的

- *adj.* Lacking brilliance or intelligence; Having no shine or luster; dull
- *noun.* Lack of brightness or points of interest; A person or thing of no particular brilliance or intelligence

Roots: luc · lack（缺少）＋luster（光泽）→不灵光→呆板的

1. The team's **lackluster** performance disappointed the fans, who had expected a lively game and instead saw players walking through the plays.
2. A **lackluster** speech with no stories or surprises left the audience checking their watches before the first ten minutes were over.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Negative; dull, lacking brightness or enthusiasm. GRE Sentence Equivalence partners: uninspired, mediocre, drab. Often modifies performance, sales, or results. Opposite: sparkling, vivid.

locution /loʊˈkju.ʃn̩/

n. 语言风格；惯用语

- *noun.* A phrase or expression peculiar to or characteristic of a given person or group of people; The use of a word or phrase in an unusual or specialized way

Roots: log(u) · locu＋tion→语言风格；惯用语

1. The old sailor's folksy **locution**, with phrases like all hands on deck for every small task, delighted the children.
2. Critics noted that the senator's formal **locution** made even simple promises sound like legal documents.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Noun for a particular style of speaking or a phrase, especially a characteristic one. Near-synonyms: idiom, expression, phrasing. Root: loqui, to speak. Related: elocution, circumlocution. Formal tone.

loquacious /loʊˈkweɪʃəs/

a. 多嘴的，话太多的

- *adj.* Talkative; chatty

Roots: log(u) · loqu＋acious（多…的）→话太多的

1. The **loquacious** host kept the guests entertained for hours, hardly pausing for breath between one story and the next.
2. Normally quiet, he became **loquacious** when the conversation turned to birds and talked until the café closed.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Means very talkative; may be mildly negative or neutral. GRE Sentence Equivalence partners: garrulous, voluble, talkative. Opposite: taciturn, reticent. Root: loqui, to speak.

lucent /ˈluːs(ə)nt/

a. 发亮的

- *adj.* Emitting light; shining, luminous; Translucent; clear, lucid

Roots: luc · luc＋ent→照亮的→发亮的

1. The **lucent** glow of the lamp through the paper screen lit the whole room with a soft, even light.
2. Morning sunlight turned the frost into a **lucent** layer of glitter across the field.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Adjective: shining, glowing, or clear; literary. Root: lucere, to shine, as in translucent and lucid. Near-synonyms: luminous, radiant. Positive tone. Rare outside poetry or descriptive prose.

lucid /ˈl(j)uːsɪd/

a. 透明的；清楚的

- *adj.* Clear; easily understood; Mentally rational; sane
- *noun.* A lucid dream

Roots: luc · luc＋id→照亮的→清楚的

1. The professor gave a **lucid** explanation of the theory, using plain language and a single clear example.
2. Despite his fever, the patient was **lucid** enough to recall the names of every medicine he had taken.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Positive; clear and easy to understand, or mentally clear and rational. GRE Sentence Equivalence partners: clear, limpid, coherent. Opposite: muddled, opaque. Root: lucere, to shine.

ludic /ˈluː.dɪk/

a. 顽皮的；开玩笑的

- *adj.* Playful; Of or pertaining to play or games

Roots: lud · lud＋ic→开玩笑的

1. The designers gave the classroom a **ludic** feel, with puzzles on the walls and games built into every lesson.
2. Children's **ludic** behavior, such as inventing rules for a made-up sport, helps them learn to cooperate.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Adjective: relating to play, or playful, often without a serious purpose. Root: ludus, play or game, as in prelude, ludicrous, and interlude. Appears in psychology and design. Neutral to positive tone.

ludicrous /ˈluː.dɪ.kɹəs/

a. 滑稽的，可笑的

- *adj.* Idiotic or unthinkable, often to the point of being funny; amusing by being plainly incongruous or absurd; Playful, fun, entertaining

Roots: lud · ludicr（=lud）＋ous→闹着玩的→可笑的

1. The idea of building a skyscraper on the swamp seemed **ludicrous** to the engineers, who knew the ground would never support it.
2. It was **ludicrous** for the company to claim record profits while its factories were closing one by one.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Negative; so absurd that it is laughable. Near-synonyms: ridiculous, preposterous, risible, absurd. Root: ludus, play, as in ludic. Describes ideas, claims, or demands.

luminary /ˈlumə˞ˌnɛɹi/

n. 发光体；杰出人物

- *noun.* One who is an inspiration to others; one who has achieved success in one's chosen field; a leading light; A body that gives light; especially, one of the…

Roots: -ary · luc · lumin（光）＋ary→发亮的人→杰出人物

1. The conference featured a **luminary** of modern physics, whose lecture drew listeners from universities across the region.
2. Every **luminary** of the film world seemed to be at the premiere, filling the red carpet with famous faces.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Noun for a famous or admired person in a field; also a body that gives light. Positive tone. Near-synonyms: notable, star, eminence. Root: lumen, light. Often followed by of the field.

luster /ˈlʌstə/

n. 光泽，光彩

- *noun.* UK standard spelling of luster (shine, etc.); Alternative form of luster: A 5-year period, especially (historical) in Roman contexts
- *verb.* Alternative form of luster; To have luster, to gleam, to shine

Roots: luc · lust＋re→光→光泽；同luster

1. Years of polishing gave the silver bowl a rich **luster** that caught the light across the dining room.
2. The scandal took away much of the actor's **luster**, and fewer producers were eager to give him leading roles.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Noun for soft shine on a surface, or glory and distinction. Also spelled lustre in British English. Related adjective: lustrous. Positive tone; the figurative sense often appears in lose its luster.

lustrous /ˈlʌ.stɹəs/

a. 有光泽的

- *adj.* Having a glow or lustre; As if shining with a brilliant light; radiant

Roots: -eous · luc · lust(e)r（光）＋ous→有光泽的

1. The **lustrous** pearls gleamed against the dark velvet, each one reflecting a soft glow from the window.
2. After a careful brushing, the horse's **lustrous** coat shone like polished copper in the afternoon sun.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Positive; having a soft, glowing shine. Near-synonyms: gleaming, radiant, glossy. Related noun: luster. Often describes hair, pearls, silk, or metal. Opposite: dull, matte.

lusty /ˈlʌsti/

a. 精力充沛的；精神饱满的

- *adj.* Exhibiting lust (in the obsolete sense meaning "vigor"); strong, healthy, robust; vigorous; full of sap or vitality; Hearty, merry, gleesome, enthusiastic…

Roots: luc · lust＋y→人有光→满面红光的→精力充沛的

1. The **lusty** singing of the crowd filled the old hall, and the walls seemed to shake with every chorus.
2. After a week of rest, the **lusty** young foal was racing across the pasture, full of energy and strength.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Positive; full of vigor, health, and energy. Near-synonyms: robust, vigorous, hearty. Describes singing, appetite, or growth. In older use it can mean full of desire, but here it means strong.

M

maladjusted /ˌmælə'dʒʌstɪd/

a. 失调的

- *adj.* Adjusted badly or wrongly; Badly adjusted to the demands and stresses of daily living; unable to cope
- *verb.* simple past and past participle of maladjust

Roots: mal– · mal＋adjust（调整）＋ed→调坏了的→失调的

1. Counselors found that the transferred student was not lazy but **maladjusted**, overwhelmed by the new school and unable to cope with its demands.
2. The thermostat was **maladjusted**, so the greenhouse swung between freezing nights and sweltering afternoons until a technician corrected the settings.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Can mean badly adapted to life's demands (psychology) or simply set up wrongly (machines). Negative tone. Prefix mal- means bad, as in malfunction and malnutrition.

malcontent /'mæl.kənˌtɛnt/

a. 不满的

- *adj.* Dissatisfied with current conditions; disaffected, discontented, rebellious
- *noun.* A person who is not satisfied with current conditions; a discontented person, a rebel; A state of discontentment or dissatisfaction; something that causes…

Roots: mal– · mal＋content（满意的）→不满的

1. The **malcontent** workers gathered outside the factory gates, grumbling about unpaid overtime and the plant manager's broken promises.
2. A **malcontent** faction within the committee kept blocking every proposal, convinced that nothing the chairman did could ever be right.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Negative; discontented and rebellious about conditions one refuses to accept. Also common as a noun for a chronic complainer. Root clue: mal- (bad) plus content (satisfied).

malediction /ˌmæl.ə'dɪk.ʃən/

n. 恶言；诅咒

- *noun.* A curse; Evil speech

Roots: mal– · dic · male＋dict（说）＋ion（名词后缀）→说坏话→恶言

1. The old sorceress hurled a bitter **malediction** at the thieves, swearing that their harvest would rot and their wells would run dry.
2. Reviewers were shocked that a novelist so admired for tenderness could close his final chapter with such a venomous **malediction** against his critics.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** A curse or spoken evil; opposite of benediction. Root clue: mal- (bad) plus dict- (speak). Negative tone. Near-synonyms: curse, imprecation, anathema.

malefaction /ˌmælɪ'fækʃn/

n. 罪恶，犯罪

- *noun.* A crime, an offense, an evil deed

Roots: mal– · male＋fact（做）＋ion（名词后缀）→做坏事→犯罪

1. The auditor's report listed each **malefaction** in detail, from forged receipts to bribes paid to inspectors, and recommended that the clerks be dismissed.
2. Tales in the village blamed every **malefaction**, from stolen chickens to burned barns, on the stranger who had arrived last autumn.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Formal word for a crime or evil deed; negative. Root clue: mal- (bad) plus fact- (do), as in malefactor, a wrongdoer. Opposite: benefaction, a good deed.

malevolent /mə'lɛvələnt/

a. 恶意的

- *adj.* Having or displaying ill will; wishing harm on others; Having an evil or harmful influence

Roots: mal– · vol · male＋vol（意愿）＋ent（形容词后缀）→恶意的

1. The old tyrant's **malevolent** stare followed visitors across the hall, and everyone understood that he wished them nothing but harm.
2. A **malevolent** software program quietly erased the hospital's records, apparently designed by someone who wanted only to cause damage.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Negative; wishing harm to others. Sentence Equivalence synonyms: malign, spiteful, baleful. Opposite: benevolent. Root clue: mal- (bad) plus vol- (wish).

malfunction /ˌmæl'fʌŋk.ʃən/

n. 故障；机能障碍；失灵

- *noun.* Faulty functioning; Failure to function
- *verb.* To function improperly; To fail to function

Roots: mal– · mal＋function（功能）→功能不良→机能障碍

1. A sudden **malfunction** in the cooling system forced the laboratory to discard months of frozen samples that could not be replaced.
2. Investigators traced the crash to a **malfunction** in the plane's altitude sensor, which had reported the wrong height to the pilots.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Neutral-negative; a failure to work properly, usually of a machine or system. Also a verb. Near-synonyms: breakdown, glitch, failure. Prefix mal- means bad or faulty.

malice /'mælɪs/

n. 恶意

- *noun.* Intention to harm or deprive in an illegal or immoral way. Desire to take pleasure in another's misfortune; An intention to do injury to another party, which…
- *verb.* To intend to cause harm; to bear malice

Roots: `mal-` · `-ice` · mal＋ice→恶意

1. The prank was clumsy, not cruel; the students acted without **malice** and were embarrassed when it upset the elderly janitor.
2. In the play, the villain smiles warmly while feeding gossip to the king, and only the audience senses the **malice** behind each kind word.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Negative; a desire to harm or see others suffer, often in the phrases without malice or malice aforethought. Near-synonyms: spite, ill will, rancor. Adjective: malicious.

malign /mə'laɪn/

a. 邪恶的；恶意的；恶性的

- *adj.* Evil or malignant in disposition, nature, intent or influence; Malevolent
- *verb.* To make defamatory statements about; to slander or traduce; To treat with malice; to show hatred toward; to abuse; to wrong

Roots: `mal-` · mal＋ign→恶意，参考：benign（a. 善良的，良性的）

1. Superstitious sailors believed that a **malign** spirit lived in the fog, luring ships onto the rocks with false lights.
2. Critics said the report ignored the **malign** effects of the tax, which crushed small shops while barely troubling large chains.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** As an adjective, harmful or evil in influence; as a verb, to slander. Don't confuse with benign, its opposite. Related: malignant, malevolent. Always check the part of speech.

malignant /mə'lɪgnənt/

a. 恶意的；恶性的

- *adj.* Harmful, malevolent, injurious; Tending to produce death; threatening a fatal issue
- *noun.* A deviant; a person who is hostile or destructive to society; A person who fought for Charles I in the English Civil War

Roots: `mal-` · malign＋ant（形容词后缀）→恶意的；恶性的

1. Doctors removed the **malignant** tumor early, before the cancer cells could spread to other organs.
2. The rumor had a **malignant** effect on the village, turning old friends into suspicious enemies who stopped speaking to one another.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Negative; harmful and malevolent, or (medical) cancerous and life-threatening. Opposite: benign. Don't confuse with malign, which stresses evil intent or influence.

malpractice /ˌmæl'præktɪs/

n. 玩忽职守

- *noun.* The improper treatment of a patient by a physician that results in injury or loss; Improper or unethical conduct by a professional or official person

Roots: `mal-` · mal＋practice（做事）→不好好做事→玩忽职守

1. The surgeon was sued for **malpractice** after operating on the wrong knee, a mistake that no careful physician should ever make.
2. Accounting regulators accused the firm of professional **malpractice**, saying its auditors had ignored obvious warning signs in the client's books.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Negative; improper or negligent conduct by a professional, especially a doctor or lawyer. Compare malfeasance (wrongdoing by officials). Prefix mal- means bad.

maltreat /ˌmæl'tri:t/

v. 虐待

- *verb.* To treat badly, to abuse

Roots: `mal-` · `treat` · mal＋treat（对待）→虐待

1. Inspectors closed the kennel after finding that employees had **maltreated** the dogs, leaving them hungry and shut in filthy cages.
2. Reformers in the nineteenth century campaigned against factories that **maltreated** child laborers, forcing them to work long hours for almost no pay.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Negative; to treat cruelly or roughly. Near-synonyms: mistreat, abuse, ill-use. Prefix mal- means badly. The object is usually a person, animal, or thing in someone's care.

O

obloquy /'ɒbləˌkwi/

n. 大骂，谩骂

- *noun.* Abusive language; Disgrace

Roots: `ob-` · `log(u)` · ob＋loqu（说话）＋y→说不好的话→大骂

1. After the scandal, the former mayor endured years of **obloquy**, hearing himself denounced in newspapers and in the street.
2. The critic's **obloquy** against the young poet, a stream of bitter insults, said more about his temper than about the poems.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Harsh public condemnation, or the disgrace it brings. Negative. Near-synonyms: vilification, calumny, opprobrium, disgrace. Root clue: ob- (against) plus loqu- (speak). Don't confuse with soliloquy.

P

pathogeny /pə'θɒdʒɪni/

n. 病原学

- *noun.* The generation and method of development of disease

Roots: `gen(e)` · patho（病）＋gen＋y→病的产生→病原学

1. Researchers have long studied the **pathogeny** of the disease, tracing how the infection spreads from the lungs to other organs.
2. The textbook devoted a chapter to the **pathogeny** of malaria, explaining each stage in which the parasite develops inside the body.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** The origin and development of a disease. Root clue: Greek 'pathos', suffering or disease, plus '-geny', origin, as in genesis. Don't confuse with pathogen, the germ that causes disease.

perambulate /pəɹˈæmbjʊˌleɪt/

v. 巡视；漫步

- *verb.* To walk around, roam, or stroll; To inspect (an area) on foot

Roots: per– · ambul · per＋ambul（行走）＋ate（动词后缀）→从头走到尾→巡视

1. Each evening the old couple would **perambulate** through the park, stopping to greet neighbors and admire the blooming roses.
2. The inspector chose to **perambulate** the boundary of the estate on foot, noting every fence and stone that marked the property line.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** To walk through or around a place, often slowly or formally. A somewhat humorous or formal synonym for stroll or amble. Root: Latin 'per' through plus 'ambulare' to walk, as in ambulance.

percussion /pəˈkʌʃən/

n. 敲打

- *noun.* The collision of two bodies in order to produce a sound; The sound so produced

Roots: per– · per＋cuss（敲打）＋ion（名词后缀）→敲打

1. The orchestra's **percussion** section, with drums, cymbals, and a large gong, filled the hall with a thunderous finale.
2. The composer wrote a piece for **percussion** alone, using tapping, scraping, and striking to create rhythms without any melody.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Instruments played by striking, such as drums, or the act of striking itself. Root: Latin 'percutere', to strike. Don't confuse with 'precaution' or 'persuasion'.

peremptory /pəˈremptəri/

a. 不容反抗的，强制的；专横的

- *adj.* Precluding debate or expostulation; not admitting of question or appeal; Of a date or deadline, absolutely requiring compliance or attendance; brooking no…
- *noun.* A challenge to the admission of a juror, without the challenger needing to show good cause

Roots: per– · –ory · em · per＋empt（拿）＋ory（形容词后缀）→全部拿走→专横的

1. The captain issued a **peremptory** order to abandon ship, and no one dared to ask a question or delay.
2. Her **peremptory** tone left no room for discussion, and the committee simply nodded and signed the revised plan.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Commanding and not allowing refusal or debate; often negative, suggesting arrogance. Near-synonyms: imperious, dictatorial, domineering. Don't confuse with 'perfunctory' (done carelessly).

perennial /pəˈɹɛn.j(ə)l/

a. 全年的；多年生的

- *adj.* Lasting or remaining active throughout the year, for multiple years, or all the time; Continuing without cessation or intermission for several years, or for an…
- *noun.* A plant that is active throughout the year, or has a life cycle of more than two growing seasons; A thing that lasts forever

Roots: per– · ann(u) · per＋enn（年）＋ial（形容词后缀）→全年的

1. Traffic congestion has been a **perennial** problem for the city, resurfacing no matter how many new roads officials build.
2. The garden was full of **perennial** flowers, which return every spring without being replanted, so the beds required little effort.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Lasting for many years or recurring again and again; also a plant that lives more than two years. Generally neutral. Near-synonyms: enduring, constant, recurrent. Contrast with annual.

perfidy /ˈpɝ.fɪ.di/

n. 不忠，背叛

- *noun.* A state or act of violating faith or allegiance; violation of a promise or vow, or of trust; An illegitimate act of deception, such as using symbols like the…

Roots: per– · fid · per＋fid（相信）＋y（名词后缀）→假相信→不忠

1. The general's **perfidy** came to light when letters revealed that he had been passing secrets to the enemy for years.
2. Nothing hurt her more than her partner's **perfidy**, since he had sworn to protect the business while secretly planning to sell it.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Betrayal of trust or loyalty; strongly negative. Related adjective: perfidious. Root: Latin 'fides', faith, as in fidelity. Near-synonyms: treachery, duplicity, betrayal.

perfuse /pəɹˈfjuːz/

v. 洒遍，横流

- *verb.* To permeate or suffuse something, especially with a liquid or with light; To force a fluid to flow over or through something, especially through an organ of…

Roots: per– · per＋fus（流）＋e→流遍→洒遍

1. Warm light seemed to **perfuse** the room as the afternoon sun poured through the tall, uncurtained windows.
2. Surgeons must **perfuse** the donated organ with a cool fluid to keep its tissue alive until the transplant can begin.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** To spread through or over something, especially liquid or light; in medicine, to pump fluid through an organ. Related: suffuse, infuse. Root: Latin 'per' through plus 'fundere' to pour.

perjury /ˈpɜː(ɹ)d͡ʒəɹi/

n. 伪证，假誓

- *noun.* The deliberate giving of false or misleading testimony under oath

Roots: per– · jur · per＋jur（发誓）＋y→假誓

1. The witness was charged with **perjury** after investigators proved that he had lied under oath about where he was that night.
2. Because lawyers warned that **perjury** can bring a prison sentence, the executive decided to tell the court the whole truth.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** The crime of lying under oath. Root: Latin 'per' plus 'jurare', to swear. Related: perjure, perjured. Don't confuse with simply lying in everyday talk, which is not perjury.

pernicious /pəˈnɪʃəs/

a. 有害的；致命的

- *adj.* Causing much harm in a subtle way; Causing death or injury; deadly

Roots: per– · per＋nic（害，杀）＋ious（形容词后缀）→有害的；致命的

1. The **pernicious** rumor spread through the town and slowly poisoned the reputation of a family that had done nothing wrong.
2. Economists called inflation a **pernicious** force, because it quietly shrank the savings of families who had worked hard to build them.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Harmful in a gradual, often hidden way; strongly negative. Near-synonyms: insidious, noxious, baneful, destructive. Don't confuse with 'pernickety' (fussy).

perspire /pəˈspaɪɹ/

v. 出汗

- *verb.* To emit (sweat or perspiration) through the skin's pores; To be evacuated or excreted, or to exude, through the pores of the skin

Roots: `per-` · `spir` · per＋spir（呼吸）＋e→全身呼吸→出汗

1. Runners begin to **perspire** within minutes on a hot day, and the sweat helps cool the body down.
2. The nervous witness began to **perspire** as the lawyer asked about the missing receipts, and he wiped his forehead twice.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** To sweat; a polite, slightly formal word. Related noun: perspiration. Don't confuse with 'inspire' or 'expire'. Root: Latin 'per' through plus 'spirare' to breathe.

perturb /pəɹˈtɜɹb/

v. 打扰

- *verb.* To cause (something) to be physically disordered or disturbed; to cause confusion; To disturb (someone, their mind, etc.) mentally; to bother, trouble, upset

Roots: `per-` · `turb` · per＋turb（扰乱）→打扰

1. The sudden noise from the next room did not seem to **perturb** the cat, which continued to sleep on the warm windowsill.
2. Small changes in the planet's orbit can **perturb** its climate, shifting the balance between ice and open water over thousands of years.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** To make anxious or upset; also to disturb the normal state of something. Near-synonyms: unsettle, disturb, rattle, trouble. Related: perturbation, imperturbable (calm). Mildly negative.

pervade /pəˈveɪd/

v. 弥漫，遍及

- *verb.* To be in every part of; to spread through; to permeate

Roots: `per-` · `vad` · per＋vad（走）＋e→走遍→遍及

1. The smell of fresh bread seemed to **pervade** the whole house, drifting from the kitchen to the upstairs bedrooms.
2. A sense of unease began to **pervade** the town as the river rose higher each hour and no one could say when the rain would stop.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** To spread through every part of something. Related: pervasive. Near-synonyms: permeate, saturate, infuse, suffuse. Often used with smells, feelings, or ideas. Root: Latin 'per' through plus 'vadere' to go.

perverse /pəˈvɝs/

a. 堕落的；倔强的，执拗的；故意作对的

- *adj.* Turned aside while against something, splitting off from a thing; Morally wrong or evil; wicked; perverted
- *noun.* A chiral opposite of something; a mirror image with opposite handedness

Roots: `per-` · `vers` · per＋vers（转）＋e→转向坏的方面→堕落的

1. With **perverse** stubbornness, he refused to wear a coat in the snow simply because his sister had told him to.
2. It seems **perverse** that a policy designed to reduce waste should end up producing even more of it.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Stubbornly contrary or deliberately doing the opposite of what is reasonable or expected; also morally twisted. Near-synonyms: contrary, wayward, obstinate. Related: perversity.

pervert /ˈpɝ.vɝt/

v. 使堕落；滥用

- *verb.* To turn another way; to divert; To corrupt; to cause to be untrue; corrupted or otherwise impure
- *noun.* One who has been perverted; one who has turned to error, or adopted a twisted sense of values or morals; A person whose sexual habits are not considered…

Roots: `per-` · `vers` · per＋vert→自始至终转→颠倒

1. Corrupt officials can **pervert** the course of justice by hiding evidence or pressuring witnesses to change their stories.
2. Critics fear that the flood of money will **pervert** the original mission of the charity, turning a modest club into a business.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** As a verb (stress on the second syllable), to corrupt or twist something away from its proper use. Near-synonyms: distort, corrupt, subvert, warp. Strongly negative.

philology /fɪˈlɑ.lə.d͡ʒi/

n. 语文学；文学

- *noun.* The humanistic study of texts and their languages, especially ancient or classical languages; Historical or comparative linguistics

Roots: `-logy` · `log(u)` · `phil(o)` · phil（爱）＋ology→热爱研究语言的学科→语文学

1. **Philology** taught the young scholar to read faded medieval manuscripts and to trace how a word shifted in meaning over time.
2. The department of **philology** offered courses in ancient languages, and students spent semesters comparing different versions of the same old poem.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** The study of written texts and the history of languages. Root: Greek 'philos' loving plus 'logos' word. Don't confuse with philosophy or phonology (the study of sounds).

precept /ˈpɹiːsɛpt/

n. 箴言；规范

- *noun.* A rule or principle, especially one governing personal conduct; A written command, especially a demand for payment
- *verb.* To act as a preceptor; to teach a physician-in-training by supervising their clinical practice; To teach (something) by precepts

Roots: `cap(t)` · pre（预先）＋cept→预先拿好的话→箴言

1. The coach lived by the **precept** that practice should be harder than competition, and his players seldom faltered under pressure.
2. Ancient teachers handed down moral **precepts**, short rules such as honesty and respect for elders, which pupils memorized by heart.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** A rule or principle guiding behavior or thought. Near-synonyms: maxim, tenet, dictum, commandment. Don't confuse with 'percept' (something sensed) or 'concept'. Root: Latin 'praecipere', to instruct.

precursor /pɹɪˈkɜɹ.səɹ/

n. 先驱；先兆

- *noun.* That which precurses: a forerunner, predecessor, or indicator of approaching events; One of the compounds that participates in the chemical reaction that…
- *adj.* Caused by the following symbol

Roots: `cur(r)` · pre（前）＋curs＋or→跑在前面→先驱

1. The steam engine was a **precursor** to modern railways, since it first showed that heavy loads could move quickly over long distances.
2. A mild earthquake may serve as a **precursor** to a larger one, so seismologists track each small tremor carefully.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Something that comes before and prepares the way for something else. Near-synonyms: forerunner, harbinger, predecessor. Root: Latin 'prae' before plus 'currere' to run. Don't confuse with 'cursor'.

prelude /ˈpɹeɪl(j)uːd/

n. 序曲

- *noun.* An introductory or preliminary performance or event; A short, free-form piece of music, originally one serving as an introduction to a longer and more complex…
- *verb.* To introduce something, as a prelude; To play an introduction or prelude; to give a prefatory performance

Roots: `lud` · pre（前）＋lud＋e→前面玩的、先演奏的→序曲

1. The quiet diplomatic meetings were only a **prelude** to the formal treaty talks, which began once both delegations felt they could trust each other.
2. Before the orchestra launched into the symphony, the pianist played a brief **prelude** that set a calm, contemplative mood for the evening.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** A noun for something that introduces a larger event. Near-synonyms: preface, overture, preamble, introduction. Often followed by to, as in a prelude to war; also the musical piece that opens a longer work.

preoccupation /ˌpɹiɑkjʊˈpeɪʃən/

n. 全神贯注

- *noun.* The state of being preoccupied or an idea that preoccupies the mind; enthrallment; The act of occupying something before someone else

Roots: `cap(t)` · pre＋occupation→先占有注意力→专心

1. The student's **preoccupation** with her upcoming audition left her unable to follow the lecture, and she scribbled notes without reading any of them.
2. Historians often note the king's **preoccupation** with building monuments, which drained the treasury while the farmers of his realm went hungry.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Absorption of the mind by one thought, often to the exclusion of others. Often followed by with. Related to obsession but milder and less intense; fits blanks about distraction or fixation.

procure /pɹəˈkjʊɹ/

v.（费心）取得，获得

- *verb.* To acquire or obtain; To obtain a person as a prostitute for somebody else

Roots: `pro-` · `cur(r)` · pro＋cur（关心）＋e→在前面关心→（想要）获得

1. After weeks of searching, the museum managed to **procure** a rare manuscript from a private collector who had refused all earlier offers.
2. It took the relief agency several days to **procure** enough clean water and blankets for the families displaced by the flood.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** To obtain or acquire, usually with effort or care. Near-synonyms: secure, obtain, acquire, gain. Stronger than get; implies a task of some difficulty. Don't confuse with procrastinate.

prologue /ˈpɹoʊlɔg/

n. 前言，序言

- *noun.* A speech or section used as an introduction, especially to a play or novel; One who delivers a prologue
- *verb.* To introduce with a formal preface, or prologue

Roots: `pro-` · `log(u)` · pro＋logu（说话）＋e→说在前面的（话）→前言

1. The novel opens with a short **prologue** set two centuries earlier, hinting at the family secret that the main story slowly uncovers.
2. The actor stepped forward to deliver the **prologue**, explaining to the audience the feud that would drive the entire play.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** An introductory section to a play, poem, or novel; opposite is epilogue. Also used figuratively for an event that leads to a larger one. Related to prelude and preface; root: pro- (before) plus logos (word).

R

rapacious /ɹəˈpeɪ.ʃəs/

a. 掠夺的

- *adj.* Voracious; avaricious; Given to taking by force or plundering; aggressively greedy

Roots: `-acious` · `rap(t)` · rap(e)（掠夺）＋acious→掠夺的

1. The **rapacious** landlord raised rents every year and pocketed the profits, never spending a cent to repair the crumbling buildings.
2. **Rapacious** merchants stripped the island of its timber and gold, leaving the local people with little more than empty forests.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Greedy and grasping, taking more than one's share by force or cunning; negative. GRE near-synonyms: voracious, avaricious, predatory, grasping. Antonyms: generous, magnanimous. Noun: rapacity.

receptacle /ɹɪˈsɛptəkəl/

n. 容器

- *noun.* A container; The part of the flower stalk (peduncle or pedicel) to which the floral parts are attached; a thalamus, a torus

Roots: `cap(t)` · re（一再）＋cept＋a＋cle→装了可以再装的东西→容器

1. The park placed a metal **receptacle** beside every bench, so visitors had a convenient place to throw away bottles and wrappers.
2. Ancient potters shaped a large **receptacle** from clay to hold the village's grain, and archaeologists later found it nearly intact.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** A container that holds or receives something. Near-synonyms: vessel, container, repository. Root: recipere (to receive), as in receive and receptive. In botany, also the part of a flower that holds its parts.

recourse /ˈɹiːkɔɹs/

n. 依赖，求助

- *noun.* The act of seeking assistance or advice; Use (of someone or something) as a source of help in a difficult situation
- *verb.* To return; to recur; To have recourse; to resort

Roots: `cur(r)` · re（回）＋cours＋e→跑回来→求助

1. With no other options left, the tenants had **recourse** to the courts, hoping a judge would force the landlord to make repairs.
2. The patient's only **recourse** was surgery, since medicine and rest had failed to relieve the pain that had lasted for months.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** A source of help or a resort when other options fail; often in the phrase have recourse to. Near-synonyms: resort, remedy, option. Don't confuse with resource. Root: re- (back) plus cursus (running).

regenerate /ɹiːˈd͡ʒɛnəɹeɪt/

a. 改过自新的 v. 再生

- *adj.* Spiritually reborn; Reproduced
- *verb.* To construct or create anew, especially in an improved manner; To revitalize

Roots: `re-` · `-ate` · `gen(e)` · re＋gener（产生）＋ate→再生

1. Starfish can **regenerate** a lost arm, and in some species a single severed limb can even grow into an entirely new animal.
2. The city hopes to **regenerate** its old waterfront by turning abandoned warehouses into apartments, shops, and public parks.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** To grow back or bring new life to something; positive. Near-synonyms: renew, revive, restore, rejuvenate. Used for biology (tissue) and for urban or economic renewal. Noun: regeneration.

revoke /ɹɪˈvoʊk/

v. 取消

- *verb.* To cancel or invalidate by withdrawing or reversing; To fail to follow suit in a game of cards when holding a card in that suit
- *noun.* The act of revoking in a game of cards; A renege; a violation of important rules regarding the play of tricks in trick-taking card games serious enough to…

Roots: `voc` · re（回）＋vok＋e→喊回来→取消

1. The state may **revoke** a driver's license after repeated violations, and the person must then wait months to apply again.
2. The king chose to **revoke** the decree, admitting that the law had caused more hardship than he had expected.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** To officially cancel or withdraw, such as a law, license, or permission. GRE near-synonyms: rescind, repeal, annul, retract. Antonyms: grant, enact, issue, confirm. Noun: revocation.

S

sagacious /səˈgeɪʃəs/

a. 睿智的，聪明的

- *adj.* Having or showing keen discernment, sound judgment, and farsightedness; mentally shrewd

Roots: `-acious` · `sag` · sag（察觉，认知）＋acious→认知力强的→睿智的

1. The **sagacious** investor ignored the market frenzy, studied the company's long-term prospects, and quietly bought shares at a fair price.
2. A **sagacious** mentor, she could size up a young scientist's idea in minutes and spot the flaw others had missed.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Positive: showing keen judgment and wisdom, especially in practical matters. GRE Sentence Equivalence partners: astute, shrewd, perspicacious, judicious. Same root as sage and sagacity.

sequacious /sɪˈkweɪʃəs/

a. 前后连贯的

- *adj.* Likely to follow or yield to physical pressure; easily shaped or molded; Likely to follow, conform, or yield to others, especially showing unthinking adherence…

Roots: `-acious` · `secut` · sequ（跟随）＋acious→一直跟着的→前后连贯的

1. The **sequacious** crowd followed whichever speaker had spoken last, changing its mind three times in a single afternoon.
2. Critics called the board **sequacious**, noting that its members approved each of the chairman's plans without a question or a debate.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Negative: following others slavishly and without independent thought. Near-synonyms: servile, docile, compliant. Don't confuse with sequential (in order). Root sequ- means follow.

soliloquy /səˈlɪləkwi/

n. 自言自语；独白

- *noun.* The act of a character speaking to themselves so as to reveal their thoughts to the audience; A speech or written discourse in this form
- *verb.* To issue a soliloquy

Roots: `log(u)` · `sol(i)` · soli（单独）＋loqu＋y→一个人说→自言自语；独白

1. In the famous scene, the prince delivers a **soliloquy** alone on stage, revealing his doubts to the audience but to no other character.
2. The novelist's long **soliloquy**, spoken by a lonely sailor to the empty sea, exposed fears that he could share with no one.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Noun for a speech by a character alone on stage, revealing inner thoughts. Don't confuse with monologue (spoken to others) or dialogue. Root soli- means alone, loqu- means speak.

succor /ˈsʌkɚ/

n. 救助者，救援人员

- *noun.* Alternative spelling of succour; Aid, assistance, or relief given to one in distress; ministration
- *verb.* Alternative spelling of succour; To give aid, assistance, or help

Roots: cur(r) · suc（下）＋cour→（压在下面）跑去救援→救援人员

1. The nurses offered **succor** to the flood victims, handing out blankets, warm food, and quiet words of reassurance.
2. Besieged by enemy troops, the garrison hoped for **succor** from the northern army, but no reinforcements ever arrived.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Positive noun for help or relief in distress; also a verb meaning to aid. Near-synonyms: aid, assistance, relief, comfort. British spelling: succour. Don't confuse with sucker or succumb.

T

tenacious /təˈneɪʃəs/

a. 顽强的

- *adj.* Clinging to an object or surface; adhesive; Unwilling to yield or give up; dogged

Roots: -acious · tain · ten（紧握）＋acious→紧握的→顽强的；参考：tenable（a. 防守得住的）

1. The **tenacious** reporter followed the story for three years, refusing to give up even after her editors told her the trail had gone cold.
2. Ivy is a **tenacious** climber, gripping stone walls so firmly with its tiny roots that removing it often damages the bricks.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Positive tone in most contexts: persistent, holding firm. GRE Sentence Equivalence partners: dogged, persistent, resolute. Root 'ten-' means to hold, as in tenant and tenable.

translucent /tɹænzˈlu.sənt/

a. 半透明的

- *adj.* Allowing light to pass through, but diffusing it; Clear, lucid, or transparent
- *noun.* Something that is translucent

Roots: trans- · luc · trans＋luc（光）＋ent（形容词后缀）→光可穿过的→半透明的

1. The **translucent** curtains let in soft light but hid the street from view, so the room glowed without feeling exposed.
2. Frosted glass is **translucent**: a person standing behind it appears only as a blurry shadow, even though the light passes through.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Means letting light through but not clear images; between transparent and opaque. Don't confuse with 'transparent' (fully clear). Root 'luc' means light, as in lucid.

V

veracious /vəˈɹeɪ.ʃəs/

a. 真实的

- *adj.* True; Truthful; speaking the truth

Roots: -acious · ver(i) · ver（真实）＋acious→真实的；参考：verify（v. 证实）

1. The judge trusted the **veracious** witness, who described the accident exactly as it had happened and admitted details that hurt her own case.
2. A **veracious** historian reports the failures of his own nation as faithfully as its victories.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Positive: truthful or accurate. GRE partners: truthful, honest, candid. Root 'ver' means true, as in verify, verdict, and veracity. Opposite: mendacious (lying). Don't confuse with 'voracious' (greedy).

vivacious /vaɪˈveɪ.ʃəs/

a. 活泼的；有生气的

- *adj.* Lively and animated; full of life and energy; Long-lived

Roots: -acious · viv(i) · viv（生命）＋acious→有生气的；参考：revive（v. 复活）

1. The **vivacious** hostess moved from table to table, laughing and joking, and soon the whole party was full of life.
2. Her **vivacious** personality made her popular in the office, where her cheerful stories could lift the mood of an entire meeting.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Positive: lively, animated, and full of spirit, usually describing a person. GRE partners: spirited, sprightly, effervescent, animated. Root 'viv' means live, as in vivid and survive. Opposite: listless.

vocalist /ˈvoʊkəlɪst/

n. 歌手

- *noun.* A singer; a person who likes to sing

Roots: voc · vocal＋ist→以声音为生的人→歌手

1. The band's **vocalist** stepped to the microphone and sang the opening verse so softly that the crowd leaned closer to listen.
2. A talented **vocalist** can change the whole mood of a song by shifting from a whisper to a full, ringing note.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** A plain word for a singer, especially in a band or group. Root 'voc' means voice, as in vocal and vocabulary. Neutral tone. Compare 'instrumentalist', a musician who plays an instrument.

vocation /voʊˈkeɪʃən/

n. 职业；使命

- *noun.* A divine calling to establish one's lifestyle; An occupation for which a person is suited, trained or qualified

Roots: voc · voc＋ation→（受到）召唤→使命

1. For her, teaching was not just a job but a true **vocation**, and she gladly stayed late to help every struggling student.
2. After years in banking, he left to pursue his real **vocation** as a carpenter, building furniture by hand in a small workshop.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Positive: a strong calling to a particular occupation, or simply a career. Root 'voc' means call, as in advocate and invoke. Don't confuse with 'avocation' (a hobby) or 'vacation'.

vociferous /voʊˈsɪfərəs/

a. 喧闹的

- *adj.* Making or characterized by a noisy outcry; clamorous; Vocally and forcefully opinionated

Roots: voc · voci（=voc）＋fer（带来）＋ous→带来声音的→喧闹的

1. **Vociferous** critics filled the town hall, shouting their objections to the new road so loudly that the mayor could hardly be heard.
2. She was a **vociferous** supporter of the library, writing letters, attending meetings, and speaking out at every opportunity.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Means loud, noisy, and forceful in expressing opinions; tone is neutral to negative. GRE partners: clamorous, strident, outspoken. Root 'voc' means voice or call. Opposite: reticent, muted.

voracious /vɔːˈɹeɪ.ʃəs/

a. 贪婪的；狼吞虎咽的

- *adj.* Wanting or devouring great quantities of food; Having a great appetite for anything; eager

Roots: -acious · vor · vor（吞食）＋acious→狼吞虎咽的；参考：omnivorous（a. 无所不吃的）

1. She was a **voracious** reader, finishing three novels a week and carrying a book wherever she went.
2. A **voracious** appetite drove the caterpillars to strip every leaf from the tree in just a few days.

> **SAT & GRE tip:** Having an enormous appetite, for food or for anything else such as reading or knowledge. GRE partners: ravenous, insatiable, gluttonous, avid. Root 'vor' means devour, as in carnivore. Don't confuse with 'veracious'.

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