## The SAT Essay: Basic Principles

#### RocketRule #4: Use Smart-Sounding Words

I know that English teachers often tell students not to use big words just because they're big, but trust me, on the SAT essay, big words have a better chance of impressing graders than do their smaller synonyms.

I wish I didn't have to write this—and I know that many teachers will object but, smart people do use certain words to connect with other smart people. Yes, it's almost a code language.

Don't great writers tend to use simple language? Yes, but so do simpletons, and SAT readers blitzing their way through a mountain of essays can't afford the time to distinguish between the two.

While it's true that the best word is the one that says precisely what you mean, it's also true that big words impress SAT graders. Don't go overboard or it will seem like you're trying to impress. Just sprinkle your essay with at least a few big words so that your opinion sounds authoritative.

## 100 Words That Really Impress SAT Graders—Make Sure Your Essay Includes at Least a Few

It's likely that you'll be able to use certain big words more frequently than others because the same topics and themes show up time and again on SAT essays. The following list emphasizes those SAT words that you can probably work into just about any assigned essay topic (they're also great words to know in any event).

This list is compiled from the words professional writers use most often when writing persuasive essays. It isn't intended to be complete. Examine any oped ("opposite-the-editorial") piece in your local newspaper and you'll find at least one word, or a variation of it, from this list. I wouldn't be surprised if you found half a dozen or more. Again, this list gives special weight to the rhetorical concepts that occur most frequently in SAT essays.

Don't get overwhelmed and think you have to use every word on this list. Just try to include a few of these words or similar ones in your essay. These words are especially effective in the first and last paragraphs of SAT essays, which the graders read most carefully.

# **Good S To Use For Sat Essay**

The Princeton Review, Robert Franck, David Soto, Stephen Koch, Aaron Riccio, Laura Rose

#### **Good S To Use For Sat Essay:**

Crush the SAT with Growth Mindset Stephen Tarsitano, Paul Koontz, 2018-06-26 The first book to apply growth mindset strategies to SAT prep Preparing to take the SAT can seem overwhelming and stressful making it all too easy to give up or zone out on your prep work However if you follow the growth mindset approach outlined in this book you will stay focused and driven and continue to improve until you surpass your highest expectations on test day Research has shown that adopting a growth mindset is directly linked to increased test scores so the authors of this helpful study guide have interwoven this revolutionary approach to teaching into every aspect of their SAT prep In addition to the test prep and practice questions the authors impart powerful advice on how you can overcome stress and anxiety while staying positive and setting goals during the months leading up to the test The strategies in Crush the SAT with Growth Mindset will be invaluable tools for your SAT test day and for your life moving forward into college and beyond Colleges, 2011 Edition Princeton Review (Firm), 2010-08-03 Lists more than 1 600 colleges and universities and provides The Complete Book of Colleges, 2012 Edition Princeton information about admissions and academic programs Review (Firm), 2011-08-15 Presents a comprehensive guide to 1 571 colleges and universities and includes information on academic programs admissions requirements tuition costs housing financial aid campus life organizations athletic programs The Complete Book of Colleges, 2013 Edition Princeton Review, 2012-08-07 Profiles every four and student services year college in the United States providing detailed information on academic programs admissions requirements financial aid Complete Book of Colleges Princeton Review (Firm), 2009-08-04 services housing athletics contact names and campus life Target the schools that best match your interests and goals TheComplete Book of Collegesprofiles all of the four year colleges in the U S more than 1 600 and is the key to a successful college search Complete Book of Collegesis packed with all of the information that prospective applicants need to know including the details on Academics Admissions requirements Application procedures Tuition and fees Transferring options Housing Financial Aid Athletics and much much more Fully updated for 2010 the Complete Book of Colleges contains all of the latest information about each school Its unique Admissions Wizard questionnaire is designed to help you find schools that meet your individual needs With competition for college admission at an all time high count on The Princeton Review to provide you with the most thorough and accurate guidance The Best 371 Colleges Princeton Review (Firm), 2009-07-28 Selects 371 of the best schools based on on the market student feedback and provides information on tuition financial aid housing admission requirements and other statistics

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Princeton Review the Best 382 Colleges Robert Franck, Kristen O'Toole, David Soto, Princeton Review (Firm), 2017 A survey of life on the nation's campuses offers detailed profiles of the best colleges and rankings of colleges in sixty two different categories along with a wealth of information and applications tips The Best 368 Colleges 2009 Robert Franek, Princeton Review, Tom Meltzer, Christopher Maier, 2008-07-29 A survey of life on the nation's campuses offers detailed profiles of the best colleges and rankings of colleges in sixty two different categories along with a wealth of information and applications tips Lisa Muehle, 2004-12-01 With 25 years of experience as a professional tutor and test prep expert Lisa Muehle offers her secrets tips and techniques for students tackling the newly revised SAT in two companion test prep guides Strategies for Success on the SAT 2005 Mathematics Section Strategies for Success on the SAT 2005 Critical Reading Writing Sections Features included in Strategies for Success on the SAT 2005 Critical Reading and Writing Sections are New 25 Minute Essay Tips for Writing a Winning Essay Sample SAT Essays Different Score Levels with a Full Scoring Explanation Grammar Made Easy Spot Classic SAT Grammar Traps Multiple Choice Writing Questions Keys to Unlock Critical Reading Passages New Short Passages Traditional Long and Dual Passages Secrets to Sentence Completions Proven Techniques to Succeed with Challenging Vocabulary Lisa Muehle Director of the Colloquium Test Prep Course for the SAT is a professional educator dedicated to students success in preparing for the SAT Her enthusiasm and encouragement throughout the program helps her students master the skills needed to be successful on the SAT Both of our daughters have participated in the Colloquium program and are successfully pursuing their educational goals As parents we feel fortunate to have access to Lisa Muehle and her Colloquium Program Dr Eric Speare Mrs Vaughan Speare Laguna Beach California Parents of Sasha Speare How to Write a Winning College Application Essay, Revised 4th Edition Michael James Mason, 2000-05-25 Get into the College of Your Dreams An original and creative essay is one of the keys to getting into the college you ve always dreamed of as well as to getting the financial aid you deserve This book gives you everything you need to make your own unique talents shine in your college application essay Even if writing is not your strong point author Michael James Mason shows you Exactly what admissions officers look for What works and what doesn t using actual student essays Proven techniques for writing your best essay Special tips for SAT and scholarship essays A last minute checklist before you submit your essay And much more Well written very useful and highly recommended Hunter's Guide to the College Guides Demystifies one of the most important and challenging parts of the college application process the personal

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#### **Table of Contents Good S To Use For Sat Essay**

- 1. Understanding the eBook Good S To Use For Sat Essay
  - The Rise of Digital Reading Good S To Use For Sat Essay
  - Advantages of eBooks Over Traditional Books
- 2. Identifying Good S To Use For Sat Essay
  - Exploring Different Genres
  - Considering Fiction vs. Non-Fiction
  - Determining Your Reading Goals
- 3. Choosing the Right eBook Platform
  - Popular eBook Platforms
  - Features to Look for in an Good S To Use For Sat Essay
  - User-Friendly Interface
- 4. Exploring eBook Recommendations from Good S To Use For Sat Essay
  - Personalized Recommendations
  - Good S To Use For Sat Essay User Reviews and Ratings
  - Good S To Use For Sat Essay and Bestseller Lists
- 5. Accessing Good S To Use For Sat Essay Free and Paid eBooks
  - Good S To Use For Sat Essay Public Domain eBooks
  - Good S To Use For Sat Essay eBook Subscription Services
  - Good S To Use For Sat Essay Budget-Friendly Options
- 6. Navigating Good S To Use For Sat Essay eBook Formats

- o ePub, PDF, MOBI, and More
- Good S To Use For Sat Essay Compatibility with Devices
- Good S To Use For Sat Essay Enhanced eBook Features
- 7. Enhancing Your Reading Experience
  - o Adjustable Fonts and Text Sizes of Good S To Use For Sat Essay
  - Highlighting and Note-Taking Good S To Use For Sat Essay
  - Interactive Elements Good S To Use For Sat Essay
- 8. Staying Engaged with Good S To Use For Sat Essay
  - Joining Online Reading Communities
  - Participating in Virtual Book Clubs
  - Following Authors and Publishers Good S To Use For Sat Essay
- 9. Balancing eBooks and Physical Books Good S To Use For Sat Essay
  - Benefits of a Digital Library
  - Creating a Diverse Reading Collection Good S To Use For Sat Essay
- 10. Overcoming Reading Challenges
  - Dealing with Digital Eye Strain
  - Minimizing Distractions
  - Managing Screen Time
- 11. Cultivating a Reading Routine Good S To Use For Sat Essay
  - Setting Reading Goals Good S To Use For Sat Essay
  - Carving Out Dedicated Reading Time
- 12. Sourcing Reliable Information of Good S To Use For Sat Essay
  - Fact-Checking eBook Content of Good S To Use For Sat Essay
  - Distinguishing Credible Sources
- 13. Promoting Lifelong Learning
  - $\circ\,$  Utilizing eBooks for Skill Development
  - Exploring Educational eBooks
- 14. Embracing eBook Trends
  - Integration of Multimedia Elements
  - Interactive and Gamified eBooks

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