

SAT Vocabulary | Unit 9

1. **bilk** *v.* to cheat or swindle; to thwart
The landscapers tried to *bilk* the homeowner out of money by charging for work that was never authorized.
Syn: *defraud; con*
2. **homily** *n.* a sermon
“Sir,” I said, “If I may interrupt you, I need food and clothing for these people, not a *homily* on patience.
Syn: *lecture; speech*
3. **demise** *n.* death; a ceasing to exist
Mary will inherit the estate upon the *demise* of Uncle Irving.
Syn: *termination; conclusion*
4. **emit** *v.* to send out; to give forth, as in sound or light.
The lamp did not *emit* enough light for reading.
Syn: *produce; discharge; release*
5. **decadence** *n.* moral deterioration
It is often suggested that Rome fell as a result of its own *decadence*.
Syn: *decay; corruption; debauchery* *Ant:* *decency*
6. **aghast** *adj.* feeling great dismay or horror
We were *aghast* when we saw the disrespectful manner in which the teenager treated her parents.
Syn: *terrified; horrified; shocked*
7. **granary** *n.* a storehouse for grain
We lost a year’s supply of corn when the *granary* burned down.
8. **choleric** *adj.* easily angered
He was a *choleric* man, whose temper often got him into trouble.
Syn: *irascible; cantankerous* *Ant:* *apathetic; impassive*
9. **impede** *v.* to hinder; obstruct
The reckless fan’s running through the outfield *impeded* the playoff game.
Syn: *delay* *Ant:* *aid; encourage*
10. **qualm** *n.* a feeling of uneasiness
The boy had no *qualms* about cheating on the test.
Syn: *misgiving* *Ant:* *ease*

11. **lampoon** *n.* a written satire used to ridicule or attack someone
The *lampoon* of the athletic program in the school newspaper angered the players and the coach.
Syn: *parody; caricature*
12. **narcissistic** *adj.* conceited; having excessive self-love or admiration
The *narcissistic* criminal cared only about his own fate.
Syn: *vain; egotistic* *Ant:* *humble; modest*
13. **eradicate** *v.* to wipe out; to destroy
The pest control specialist *eradicated* the termites in our house.
Syn: *eliminate* *Ant:* *add; create*
14. **fabricate** *v.* to concoct; to make up a story in order to deceive
The scientist's career ended when someone discovered that he had *fabricated* his experiments.
Syn: *forge; fake*
15. **ghastly** *adj.* horrible; frightful
The *ghastly* smile on the dead man at the end of the movie showed that he had enjoyed the last laugh.
Syn: *dreadful; hideous* *Ant:* *lovely; attractive*