

Vocabulary in context

Reading and Writing / Craft and Structure / Words in Context

Prerequisites: Read short academic texts and use nearby clues

Level: Foundational to intermediate instruction

Coverage: 12 original questions: 1 diagnostic, 3 worked examples, 3 guided, 3 independent, 1 exit ticket and 1 extension. Selected skill coverage, not the complete SAT syllabus.

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Student worksheet

Select one answer per question. Explain the supporting equation, context clue or evidence. Questions 1-10 are practice, 11 is the exit ticket, and 12 is an extension.

Question 1

The researcher offered a tentative explanation, stressing that more trials were needed. Tentative most nearly means:

- A. certain
- B. provisional
- C. hostile
- D. detailed

Reasoning: _____

Question 2

The reviewer was critical, carefully evaluating both strengths and weaknesses. Critical most nearly means:

- A. essential
- B. analytical
- C. angry
- D. dangerous

Reasoning: _____

Question 3

The engineer tempered her optimism by noting several unresolved safety issues. Tempered most nearly means:

- A. heated
- B. announced
- C. moderated
- D. concealed

Reasoning: _____

Question 4

The result was robust: it remained similar across repeated trials and different instruments. Robust most nearly means:

- A. reliable
- B. loud
- C. physical
- D. unexpected

Reasoning: _____

Question 5

The archive yielded letters that had previously escaped historians' attention. Yielded most nearly means:

- A. surrendered
- B. produced
- C. bent
- D. postponed

Reasoning: _____

Question 6

The author's account was candid, openly acknowledging her own mistakes. Candid most nearly means:

- A. brief
- B. decorative
- C. frank
- D. uncertain

Reasoning: _____

Question 7

The two estimates diverged: one was twice as large as the other. Diverged most nearly means:

- A. differed
- B. ended
- C. improved
- D. combined

Reasoning: _____

Question 8

The instructions were precise, specifying each measurement to the nearest millimeter. Precise most nearly means:

- A. flexible
- B. exact
- C. lengthy
- D. popular

Reasoning: _____

Question 9

The apparent anomaly disappeared when the team corrected a recording error. Anomaly most nearly means:

- A. irregularity
- B. agreement
- C. routine
- D. prediction

Reasoning: _____

Question 10

Her enthusiasm was palpable: she smiled, leaned forward, and spoke eagerly. Palpable most nearly means:

- A. hidden
- B. temporary
- C. obvious
- D. measured

Reasoning: _____

Question 11 - Exit ticket

The scientist challenged the assumption by presenting evidence against it. Challenged most nearly means:

- A. invited
- B. questioned
- C. accepted
- D. delayed

Reasoning: _____

Question 12 - Extension

The proposal was feasible because the team already had the necessary equipment and funding.
Feasible most nearly means:

- A. costly
- B. unusual
- C. possible to carry out
- D. guaranteed to succeed

Reasoning: _____