

# 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 op-ed ("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.

# Is An 8 Good On The Sat Essay

**S Ashworth**



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**Tom Wedgwood, the First Photographer** Richard Buckley Litchfield, 1903 **Good Housekeeping**, 1925 *Readers' Guide to Periodical Literature* Anna Lorraine Guthrie, 1929 An author subject index to selected general interest periodicals of reference value in libraries

**McGraw-Hill's 12 SAT Practice Tests with PSAT, 2ed**, *McGraw-Hill's SAT, 2012 Edition* Christopher Black, Mark Anestis, 2011-06-10 McGraw Hill's SAT will help you prepare for the big exam with its valuable features and interactive test taking practice online McGraw Hill's SAT offers the critical thinking skills designed to help you solve any SAT problem And it provides test taking practice with questions just like those on the real SAT Inside you'll find Four complete practice tests in the book and two complete interactive practice tests online Advice on how to use the book for your study preparing your study plan getting the most from the online tests and more Four full length practice SATs with fully explained answers A

detailed 10 week study plan Pull out Smart Cards for easy subject review      **Tom Wedgwood** R. Burr Litchfield,1903

**The Complete Book of Colleges, 2018 Edition** Princeton Review,2017-07 Includes information on admissions cost financial aid required and recommended admissions criteria cost breakdowns and types of financial aid for 1 355 colleges and universities      **The Best Books** William Swan Sonnenschein,1910      The Best Books: Class A, Theology. B, Mythology and folklore. C, Philosophy. 1910 William Swan Sonnenschein,1910      **McGraw-Hill's SAT, 2008 Edition book only** Christopher Black,Mark Anestis,2007-06-19 We Want to Help You Succeed on the SAT We ve put all of our proven expertise into McGraw Hill s SAT to make sure you re ready for this difficult exam With this book you ll get essential skill building techniques and strategies developed by a team of renowned test prep tutors Their innovative teaching methods and expert coaching will help you master every question type You ll also get vital access to hundreds of practice problems model SAT essays 5 full length practice tests and all the facts about the current exam With McGraw Hill s SAT we ll guide you step by step through your preparation program and give you the tools you need to succeed Inside you ll find 5 full length practice SATs 20 model essays to show you exactly what the graders are looking for Hundreds of sample questions with explanations Strategies to help you answer every type of SAT question Diagnostic techniques to help you create your most effective study plan Online help including practice SATs test taking tips and more      The College Buzz Book Carolyn C. Wise,Stephanie Hauser,2007-03-26 Many guides claim to offer an insider view of top undergraduate programs but no publisher understands insider information like Vault and none of these guides provides the rich detail that Vault s new guide does Vault publishes the entire surveys of current students and alumni at more than 300 top undergraduate institutions Each 2 to 3 page entry is composed almost entirely of insider comments from students and alumni Through these narratives Vault provides applicants with detailed balanced perspectives      **The Elements of English Grammar with a Chapter on Essay-writing** Alfred Slater West,1913      **The Best 373 Colleges, 2011** Tom Meltzer,Christopher Maier,2010 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 College Buzz Book** ,2006-03-23 In this new edition Vault publishes the entire surveys of current students and alumnni at more than 300 top undergraduate institutions as well as the schools responses to the comments Each 4 to 5 page entry is composed of insider comments from students and alumni as well as the schools responses to the comments      American Paint and Oil Dealer ... ,1915      *The Nation* ,1923      **The Athenaeum** ,1913      **Stenographer and Phonographic World** ,1897

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## **Table of Contents Is An 8 Good On The Sat Essay**

1. Understanding the eBook Is An 8 Good On The Sat Essay
  - The Rise of Digital Reading Is An 8 Good On The Sat Essay
  - Advantages of eBooks Over Traditional Books
2. Identifying Is An 8 Good On The 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 Is An 8 Good On The Sat Essay
  - User-Friendly Interface
4. Exploring eBook Recommendations from Is An 8 Good On The Sat Essay
  - Personalized Recommendations
  - Is An 8 Good On The Sat Essay User Reviews and Ratings
  - Is An 8 Good On The Sat Essay and Bestseller Lists
5. Accessing Is An 8 Good On The Sat Essay Free and Paid eBooks
  - Is An 8 Good On The Sat Essay Public Domain eBooks
  - Is An 8 Good On The Sat Essay eBook Subscription Services
  - Is An 8 Good On The Sat Essay Budget-Friendly Options
6. Navigating Is An 8 Good On The Sat Essay eBook Formats

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

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