SAT Vocabulary Lesson and Practice: Lesson 5

Word List with Definitions
1. **absence** (n) the fact of being gone or not present
2. **ambiguous** (adj) having two possible meanings; able to be understood in two different ways
3. **askance** (adj) with a sideways glance, as with distrust
4. **botany** (n) the scientific study of plants
5. **clumsy** (adj) moving awkwardly, especially causing collisions, accidents, or mishaps
6. **converge** (v) to come together; to meet
7. **decrepit** (adj) lacking in strength, especially due to old age or illness
8. **diffidence** (n) not trusting or believing in one's self; self-doubt
9. **enthrall** (v) to hold in a rapt state; to have overpowering influence
10. **foresight** (n) the ability to anticipate future happenings or to plan for the future
11. **hypocrisy** (n) professing beliefs or acting in opposition to one's true beliefs or actions; insincerity
12. **inhospitable** (adj) ill-disposed toward newcomers; unwelcoming
13. **malign** (v) to talk harshly or critically of, particularly to speak false criticisms
14. **mollify** (v) to calm or pacify
15. **obsolete** (adj) no longer used or useful
16. **penitence** (n) a desire to atone for wrongdoing
17. **pommel** (v) to strike repeatedly; to beat, as with a club
18. **pyromania** (n) an abnormal and unhealthy obsession with fire; often the obsessive desire to start fires
19. **regress** (v) to move backwards, especially to retreat to a former state
20. **sediment** (n) particles that fall to the bottom of a liquid
21. **subsequent** (adj) occurring afterward
22. **tortuous** (adj) having many twists and turns; intricate and difficult to follow
23. **undermine** (v) to work against a project or purpose; to subvert or sabotage
24. **vapid** (adj) lacking in liveliness and flavor; dull
25. **waif** (n) a person, especially a child, with no home or prospects
SAT Vocabulary Lesson and Practice: Lesson 5 (cont’d)

**Synonyms:**
In the space provided, write the word from the list above that means the same or about the same as the word given.

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<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. insecurity</td>
<td>6. urchin</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. following</td>
<td>7. uncoordinated</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. archaic</td>
<td>8. join</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. spellbind</td>
<td>9. unfriendly</td>
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<td>5. clobber</td>
<td>10. suspiciously</td>
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**Antonyms:**
In the space provided, write the word from the list above that means opposite of the word given.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11. unequivocal</td>
<td>16. confidence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. praise</td>
<td>17. upset</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. sincerity</td>
<td>18. presence</td>
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<tr>
<td>14. graceful</td>
<td>19. straight</td>
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<tr>
<td>15. progress</td>
<td>20. strong</td>
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**Analogies:**
Choose the word from the list that best completes the analogy, creating the same relationship between the second set of words as exists between the first set of words.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21. kleptomania : steal ::</td>
<td>burn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22. astronomy : stars ::</td>
<td>plants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23. brat : obnoxious ::</td>
<td>penniless</td>
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<tr>
<td>24. indebtedness : loan ::</td>
<td>sin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25. previous : cause ::</td>
<td>consequence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26. help : succeed ::</td>
<td>fail</td>
</tr>
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<td>27. stale : bread ::</td>
<td>beer</td>
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<tr>
<td>28. hindsight : past ::</td>
<td>future</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29. irritate : annoyed ::</td>
<td>calm</td>
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<tr>
<td>30. froth : top ::</td>
<td>bottom</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
In the space provided, write the word from the list above that best completes each given sentence.

31. Mark would _________________ his enemies by spreading rumors about them.

32. The painting by Picasso could _________________ a viewer, and often museum visitors were seen standing and gazing at it for hours.

33. He wanted to study _________________ because he found photosynthesis an amazing process.

34. Caroline called her sister _________________ for falling down the stairs.

35. She used to enjoy these parties, but now they seemed _________________ and joyless.

36. In order to _________________ her, he brought her flowers, hoping for forgiveness.

37. The _________________ of rain this season created a dry condition prone to forest fires.

38. His arrest and _________________ trial were in all the papers.

39. The environment on Venus is _________________ to life, with temperature of over 850° F.

40. The _________________ that settles at the bottom of a bottle of wine is bitter and should not be drunk.

41. The old house was _________________, with its paint peeling and its ceiling falling in.

42. He could tell that she looked at him _________________ now, unsure whether he would cheat on her again.

43. The child was a pitiful _________________, without parents or home.

44. The boys joined together to _________________ the bully who had beaten them, repaying him in kind.

45. I can't believe the _________________ of some politicians, who say one thing and then do another!

46. The road to the log cabin was _________________, winding intricately up the mountain.

47. Her _________________ made her unsure of her ability to succeed in college.

48. The candidate did everything possible to _________________ his opponent's campaign, including negative TV and radio ads.

49. After learning a lot about playing the piano, the injury to her hand caused her to _________________.

50. Her _________________ was clear when she offered to do extra chores for two weeks.

51. His _________________ began with watching matches burn and culminated when he started a fire.

52. The meaning of this passage is _________________: is it talking about the wife or the girlfriend?

53. New computers quickly become _________________ as more demanding software is released.

54. She had the _________________ to buy her house before the prices began rising.

55. The two roads that _________________ at the intersection meet again in about 35 miles.
SAT Vocabulary Lesson and Practice: Lesson 5 Answer Key

Synonyms
1. diffidence 26. undermine
2. subsequent 27. vapid
3. obsolete 28. foresight
4. enthrall 29. mollify
5. pommel 30. sediment
6. waif 31. malign
7. clumsy 32. enthrall
8. converge 33. botany
9. inhospitable 34. clumsy
10. askance 35. vapid

Antonyms
11. ambiguous 36. mollify
12. malign 37. absence
13. hypocrisy 38. subsequent
14. clumsy 39. inhospitable
15. regress 40. sediment
16. diffidence 41. decrepit
17. mollify 42. askance
18. absence 43. waif
19. tortuous 44. pommel
20. decrepit 45. hypocrisy

Analogies
21. pyromania 46. tortuous
22. botany 47. diffidence
23. waif 48. undermine
24. penitence 49. regress
25. subsequent 50. penitence

Sentence Usage
31. malign 51. pyromania
32. enthrall 52. ambiguous
33. botany 53. obsolete
34. clumsy 54. foresight
35. vapid 55. converge