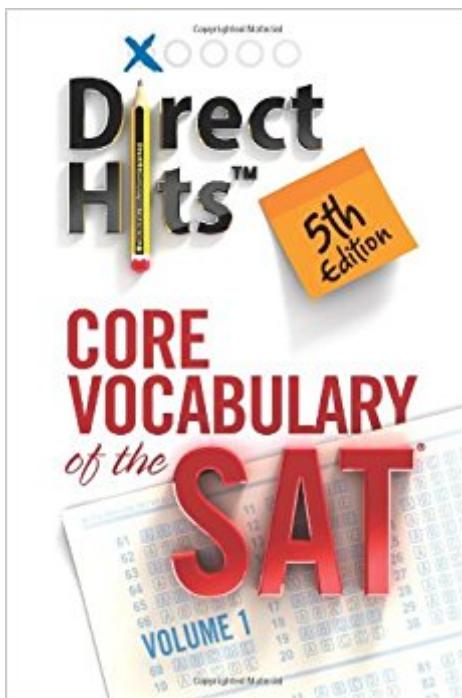


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Direct Hits Core Vocabulary Of The SAT 5th Edition (2013) (Volume 1)



Synopsis

Does developing a high-level vocabulary need to be a tedious, frustrating task? Direct Hits doesn't think so. Research has shown that a powerful and vibrant vocabulary has a high correlation with success in school, business, the professions, AND standardized tests, including the PSAT, SAT, SSAT, and AP exams. Direct Hits Core Vocabulary of the SAT offers a different approach. Direct Hits' Core Vocabulary focuses on the level 3 and 4 words a student needs to know to achieve a Critical Reading score above a 500. This book includes the following features:

- Selective vocabulary found on recent SATs and PSATs used in context. No more memorizing the definitions of long lists of seemingly random words in a vacuum.
- Relevant, vivid, and memorable examples from literature, historic events, contemporary issues, and pop culture.
- A Fast Review for each chapter, with quick definitions.
- A Final Review with sentence completion questions just like real SATs and PSATs, including complete solution explanations.
- The book is organized into six easy-to-tackle chapters as follows:
 - Chapters One and Two are devoted to 100 core words that have repeatedly appeared on the SAT and PSAT.
 - Chapter Three introduces 30 words about interesting types of people, defined through examples from pop culture icons to make the words relevant and understandable to any teen.
 - Chapter Four uses historic figures and events to explain each vocabulary word.
 - Chapter Five focuses on the most frequently used prefixes on the SAT.
 - Chapter Six highlights tone words that are commonly tested in sentence completion and critical reading sections.
- Formatted as a 6" by 9" paperback book with 162 pages, teens are comfortable carrying the Direct Hits Core Vocabulary book with them to study another word or two when time permits.

Building on the success of previous four editions, the authors of Direct Hits Core Vocabulary of the SAT - 5th Edition consulted secondary school teachers, tutors, parents, and students from around the world to ensure that these words and illustrations are on target to prepare you for success on the SAT. You will find that the process is effective, worthwhile, and even fun!

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Based in Atlanta, Georgia, the Direct Hits Publishing team is made up of educators including reading specialists, AP English teachers, and master tutors. Building on the success of the previous four editions, they take the SAT themselves and consult with other secondary school teachers, parents, and students from around the world to ensure that these words and illustrations are on target to prepare students for success on standardized tests.

Great book, the way this book is written makes it very easy to use and interesting to read. All the other vocabulary books are really boring to read, however this book uses modern examples that grabs the attention of the reader. Although the new SAT does not need a strong vocabulary, this book helped me in many ways such as my college essays, school work, and daily uses (speaking, etc.) For anyone who is going to purchase this book I'd recommend using this method for memorising the words, as it worked perfectly with me. The method is to go through 5 words a day. However, each day you will go through the words that you went through in the past. For example, the first day you went through the first 5 words, the second day you will go through the first 10 words, on the third day you will go through the next 15 words, and so on. By time they might seem that there is a lot of words to go through, but trust me the words you already revised will be a piece of cake. Once the words are stuck in your head and you have started using them in your speaking or writing you can let go of the words and stop going over them when you want to review the next new 5 words.

Before receiving Direct Hits, I was confused as to how a book can teach you words, but actually, it's the best thing. Each paragraph with a word is constructed so brilliantly, that before you know it, you can name three synonymous rather than one. Like trite, banal, hackneyed. And then you learn even more words in the paragraph that they describe that word. Such as Paula Abdul's "banal comments on American Idol". I 100% recommend Direct Hits. I'm finding it more helpful than flashcards, and that's a lot to say as I've been using flashcards all my life.

This is an excellent book. I am using it for my high school English classes for the first time. The definitions use current examples, and students seem to grasp the meanings much more easily than standard dictionary definitions. One of my students took the SAT on Saturday, and he felt that the vocabulary section was a breeze due to our focus on improving vocabulary this year using this edition. The only improvement I can recommend to the editor is to not use a form of the word in its definition (something so many dictionaries are guilty of, too)!

I have used this vocabulary book working with students who are studying for the SAT. The up-to-date relevant examples help students readily understand how a word is used in context. As soon as I started to explain a few of the examples for an entry, students would come up with their own examples, sometimes the next example illustrated under the entry word.

I received a review copy of the 5th edition, both volumes. As a tutor who has been using Direct Hits since the 1st edition and has also used 300 Essential Words, I offer the following comments. First, there are a lot of lists out there (I'm sure I've seen almost all of them), but the Direct Hits Family is the best. The list is based upon the actual SAT Test. The list is manageable. 1000 words, 3500 words, 5000 words?! Really? If you know that many words you need to work for Merriam-Webster. Time would be better spent reading. It is so well organized. The 5th edition shows welcome changes from the earlier editions. The explanations require less reading, sentences rather than passages. The Latin/Greek roots are interspersed throughout the books and connected with the relevant words. Direct Hits does a fantastic job in bringing up previous words in new lessons; this serves as functional review. There are less sentence completion review exercises than in the earlier versions, but if you know how to use the blog posts it more than makes up for it. Heck, if you're already in college but find the reading "so hard" get both volumes and get educated son. It's not gonna get easier. In conclusion, I recommend Direct Hits for tutors, self-studying SAT students or anyone who wants to get a vocabulary foundation for college level. Remember, it is a start not a panacea, but it's probably the best start out there

I like this book because it provides a deeper understanding in learning words by including informative examples of the words being used. I usually just look up words' meanings but they don't stick in my mind because I need application and associations to effectively memorize them. I think this book, although not solely, contributed in raising my CR score from around the low-mid 500's to

a 600 on my following practice tests. I recommend this to anyone who wants to expand their vocabulary and improve their score. It would be best to buy the *Toughest Vocabulary* book by the same publisher though.

We bought couple of other vocabulary books, we also bought the flash cards but it is hard to motivation to read those books. This book on the other hand is an easy and fun read. It is short, less than 150 pages making so it seems doable. While explaining the word they draw references to popular culture making it a fun read. The also use other hard words in their explanation so you learn other words while learning the original word.

I brought both *Direct Hits* books about a month ago. I'm still reading the first Volume but it is simply amazing. I took the 2nd practice test in the BB and scored a 580 in CR. My range before starting *Direct Hits* was 400-460. The scary part is that I'm only on chapter 4 of this book. I will also take the SAT's in October and most likely in November. I will make updates when I receive those scores.

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