**8th GRADE HONORS 2017-2018 SAT Words**

**arduous (adj)**

The **arduous** construction made the employees tired from all of the extra hours and work they had to do in order to meet their deadline.

Definition: requiring a strenuous effort; difficult

**ambivalent (adj)**

The teenager became **ambivalent** about whether he should start working on his English research paper or his math project because he enjoyed math more but knew the research would take longer.

Definition: being unable to choose between two courses of action because choices are of equal value or worth

**stupefy (v)**

The magician hoped to **stupefy** his guests by cutting his assistant in half because they would never know him capable of such an accomplishment so they will be astounded.

Definition: to astonish or shock

**vex (v)**

The boy tried to **vex** his sister by turning up the music even though he knew she hated that song.

Definition: to annoy, provoke, or irritate

**opulent (adj)**

Her **opulent** parents gave her money to start her own cupcake business because they had the extra money and wanted their daughter to be happy.

Definition: wealth

**assiduous (adj)**

The **assiduous** student earned an A in Science by all of the extra hours spent studying even though it was his toughest subject.

Definition: working diligently; showing perseverance

**inundate (v)**

We were **inundated** with work right before our holiday which we felt was not fair.

Definition: to flood or overwhelm

.**denizen (n)**

I am a **denizen** of the United States of America.

Definition: inhabitant

**auspicious (adj)**

The first quarter of the football game was **auspicious**; the home team was up by 70 points.

Definition: promising success; favorable conditions; given or being a sign of fortune

**arbitrary (adj)**

His selection of his employees seemed to be **arbitrary**; some of them were Harvard graduates and others did not even have a degree.

Definition: random or based on personal whim rather than on reason or system

**enduring (adj or verb)**

The poignant stories from Flares have an **enduring** effect on the reader as can be seen from their discussions in class the year after they read the book.

The survivors **endured** torture and starvation hoping only to last another day.

Definition: adj- long lasting v.- suffer patiently or to last

**credibility (n)**

In order to demonstrate **credibility** in our research, we need to use reliable and reputable sources**.**

Definition:the quality of being trusted or believable

**perpetrator (n)**

Many of the Nazi **perpetrators** were put on trial after the war ended.

 Definition: a person who commits a harmful, illicit, or immoral act

**pretentious (adj)**

Although the **pretentious** young man joined our group late and had no understanding of the topic, he ignored all of our ideas and insisted his were best.

Definition: attempting to impress by affecting greater importance than is actually possessed; self-importance

**audacious** (adj)

“You been into some other audacious mischief when I wasn’t around, like enough.” (Twain)

Definition: showing a willingness to take bold risks OR showing a lack of respect

**intrepid** (adj)

“Tom had deserted long ago and she wondered at seeing him place himself in her power again in this intrepid way.”

Definition: fearless

**plausible** (adj)

“Tom got out of the presence as quickly as he plausibly could…”

Definition: seeming reasonable or possible

**despondent (adj)**

The group was feeling very **despondent** when they realized that the trip they had been anticipating was cancelled because of the weather.

Definition: in low spirits from loss of spirit or courage

**poignant (adj)**

The end of the movie, Titanic, is very **poignant**; there wasn’t a dry eye in the theater.

Definition: keenly felt; affecting or moving the emotions

**emulate (v)**

Aspiring to become a good cook, Kate will **emulate** the recipes and cooking techniques of chef Emeril.

Definition: to match or surpass typically by imitation

**contentious (adj)**

The conversation began and seemed innocuous, but Matt made an incendiary comment about Melanie’s political views, and the whole discussion became **contentious.**

Definition: tending to argument; quarrelsome

**pedestrian (adj)**

Marie thought the artist’s work was brilliant, but I found it to be quite **pedestrian**; I have seen more creative work in kindergarten classes

Definition: unimaginative; ordinary; dull

**contrived (adj or v)**

Sam’s acting was **contrived**; no one in the audience believed his character or enjoyed his performance.

They **contrived** an emergency situation which created chaos in the building.

Definition: obviously placed, planned, orchestrated or forced; artificial

**languid (adj)**

The elderly gentleman was pale and **languid** after his triple by-pass surgery.

Definition: lacking in vigor, slack or slow (often because of an illness)

Definition: mournful in an exaggerated manner

**incoherent (adj)**

The president’s speech was **incoherent** so the audience left feeling uncertain of her message.

Definition: spoken or written language expressed in a confusing or unclear manner.