



Test Ninjas

VOCABULARY STUDY SERIES

PSAT 8/9 VOCABULARY

PSAT 8/9 Vocabulary: Beauty & Ugliness

11 focused words in Beauty & Ugliness

11

UNIQUE WORDS

1

CATEGORIES

PSAT 8/9

EXAM FOCUS



About this study guide

This vocabulary guide was prepared and published by Test Ninjas as an independent study resource. It is designed to help students build the precise word knowledge needed for demanding academic reading and reasoning.

How to use this guide

Study in short, repeated sessions. Read each definition, say the word aloud, and use the example to understand how the word functions in context. Return to unfamiliar words until you can explain them without looking at the definition.

Copyright and permitted use

© 2026 Test Ninjas. All rights reserved. A lawful purchaser may print this document for personal study or for students in one class directly taught by that purchaser. Redistribution, resale, public posting, dataset extraction, and use for training or evaluating automated systems are prohibited without written permission.

Independent publication. SAT, ACT, GRE, GMAT, and LSAT are trademarks of their respective owners. Their owners are not affiliated with, and do not endorse, Test Ninjas.

001 attractive *adjective · Foundational***BEAUTY & UGLINESS**

pleasing to look at; appealing

The **attractive** storefront display drew many customers inside, making the visual effect an important part of the audience's reaction.

MEMORY CUE: Something attractive acts like a magnet for the eyes because it is appealing.

002 decorations *noun · Foundational***BEAUTY & UGLINESS**

ornaments or embellishments used to make something look more attractive

The holiday **decorations** transformed the plain room into a festive space, making the visual effect an important part of the audience's reaction.

MEMORY CUE: Decorations are the added ornaments that turn a plain space into an attractive one.

003 stained *verb/adjective · Foundational***BEAUTY & UGLINESS**

marked or discolored with something difficult to remove

The tablecloth was **stained** with red wine, shaping how observers responded to the object's appearance and overall design.

MEMORY CUE: A stubborn dark mark that will not wash away leaves the surface stained.

004 exquisite *adjective · Foundational***BEAUTY & UGLINESS**

extremely beautiful and delicate

The **exquisite** jewelry was handcrafted, giving viewers specific details on which to base their aesthetic judgment.

MEMORY CUE: An exquisite glass flower combines extreme beauty with delicate detail.

005 elegant *adjective · Foundational***BEAUTY & UGLINESS**

graceful and stylish in appearance

The **elegant** gown attracted attention, shaping how observers responded to the object's appearance and overall design.

MEMORY CUE: An elegant dancer moves with graceful, stylish lines.

006 crude *adjective · Foundational***BEAUTY & UGLINESS**

in a natural state; lacking refinement

The **crude** drawing showed talent, giving viewers specific details on which to base their aesthetic judgment.

MEMORY CUE: A crude object remains rough and unrefined from its natural state.

007 aesthetic *adjective · Foundational***BEAUTY & UGLINESS**

concerned with beauty or art

The **aesthetic** appeal drew visitors, giving viewers specific details on which to base their **aesthetic** judgment.

MEMORY CUE: An aesthetic eye judges the beauty and artistic form of what it sees.

008 refined *adjective · Foundational***BEAUTY & UGLINESS**

elegant and cultured

Her **refined** manners impressed everyone, making the visual effect an important part of the audience's reaction.

MEMORY CUE: A refined surface has been polished into elegant, cultured smoothness.

009 dull *adjective · Foundational***BEAUTY & UGLINESS**

lacking interest or excitement

The **dull** colors matched his mood, shaping how observers responded to the object's appearance and overall design.

MEMORY CUE: A dull presentation drains the interest gauge and leaves it gray.

010 gorgeous *adjective · Foundational***BEAUTY & UGLINESS**

beautiful; very attractive

The **gorgeous** sunset painted the sky, making the visual effect an important part of the audience's reaction.

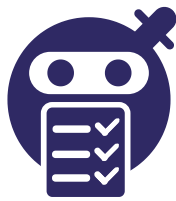
MEMORY CUE: A gorgeous view makes every eye stop at its striking beauty.

011 magnificent *adjective · Foundational***BEAUTY & UGLINESS**

impressively beautiful, elaborate, or extravagant

The **magnificent** castle dominated the hillside, shaping how observers responded to the object's appearance and overall design.

MEMORY CUE: A magnificent hall overwhelms the eye with impressive beauty and elaborate scale.



PSAT 8/9 VOCABULARY

Keep building your edge.

Vocabulary grows through repeated exposure and deliberate use.
Revisit this list, write with the words, and practice recognizing their
meaning in context.

More focused practice at test-ninjas.com