



Test Ninjas

VOCABULARY STUDY SERIES

PSAT 8/9 VOCABULARY

PSAT 8/9 Vocabulary: Power & Authority

13 focused words in Power & Authority

13

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.

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001 assigned *verb · Foundational***POWER & AUTHORITY**

allocated or designated for a particular task

Each student was **assigned** a topic for their research paper, making the balance of influence within the group easier for observers to recognize.

MEMORY CUE: A name written beside a task shows that the task has been assigned to that person.

002 command *noun · Foundational***POWER & AUTHORITY**

an authoritative order or instruction

The general issued a **command** to advance at dawn, demonstrating how control was distributed among the people and institutions involved.

MEMORY CUE: A commander points and gives an order; a command carries authority.

003 demands *noun/verb · Foundational***POWER & AUTHORITY**

insistent requests or requirements; asks for forcefully

The job **demand**s excellent communication skills and attention to detail, demonstrating how control was distributed among the people and institutions involved.

MEMORY CUE: Demands arrive as forceful requests stamped REQUIRED, not gentle suggestions.

004 directed *verb · Foundational***POWER & AUTHORITY**

guided or aimed toward a particular direction or purpose

The officer **directed** traffic away from the accident scene, showing who possessed the authority to determine what would happen next.

MEMORY CUE: A compass arrow directed the traveler toward one particular destination and purpose.

005 influence *noun · Foundational***POWER & AUTHORITY**

the capacity to have an effect on someone's character, development, or behavior

Her parents had a strong **influence** on her career choice, demonstrating how control was distributed among the people and institutions involved.

MEMORY CUE: Influence acts like an invisible magnet that bends another person's path or development.

006 influenced *verb · Foundational***POWER & AUTHORITY**

had an effect on the character, development, or behavior of someone or something

The artist was greatly **influenced** by the Impressionist movement, showing who possessed the authority to determine what would happen next.

MEMORY CUE: The compass needle changed direction because a nearby magnet influenced it.

007 mandatory *adjective · Foundational***POWER & AUTHORITY**

required by law or rules; compulsory

Attendance at the safety training session is **mandatory** for all new employees, showing who possessed the authority to determine what would happen next.

MEMORY CUE: A mandatory task carries a REQUIRED stamp from the rulebook or law.

008 powerful *adjective · Foundational***POWER & AUTHORITY**

having great power, influence, or effect

The **powerful** speech inspired the crowd to take action, demonstrating how control was distributed among the people and institutions involved.

MEMORY CUE: A powerful force lifts a heavy weight and moves every nearby needle.

009 prescribed *verb · Foundational***POWER & AUTHORITY**

recommended or authorized officially; ordered as a medical treatment

The doctor **prescribed** antibiotics for the infection, demonstrating how control was distributed among the people and institutions involved.

MEMORY CUE: A prescribed treatment arrives on an official order signed by an authorized professional.

010 regulate *verb · Foundational***POWER & AUTHORITY**

to control or maintain the rate or speed of something; to control by means of rules

The government must **regulate** the financial industry more effectively, demonstrating how control was distributed among the people and institutions involved.

MEMORY CUE: A regulator holds the speed needle steady and enforces the rules controlling it.

011 democratic *adjective · Foundational***POWER & AUTHORITY**

supporting or practicing democracy

The **democratic** process allows citizen participation, demonstrating how control was distributed among the people and institutions involved.

MEMORY CUE: A democratic circle gives each citizen a ballot and a voice.

012 sovereign *adjective · Foundational***POWER & AUTHORITY**

possessing supreme power

The **sovereign** nation rejected foreign interference, demonstrating how control was distributed among the people and institutions involved.

MEMORY CUE: A sovereign crown sits at the very top with supreme power.

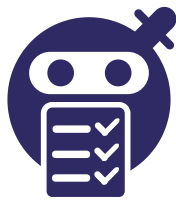
013 optional *adjective · Foundational*

POWER & AUTHORITY

available to be chosen but not obligatory

The extra credit assignment is **optional**, making the balance of influence within the group easier for observers to recognize.

MEMORY CUE: An optional choice stands beside doors marked DO or SKIP.



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