



Test Ninjas

VOCABULARY STUDY SERIES

PSAT 8/9 VOCABULARY

PSAT 8/9 Vocabulary: Time & Duration

13 focused words in Time & Duration

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.

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 arriving *verb · Foundational***TIME & DURATION**

reaching a destination or coming to a place

Guests are **arriving** at the venue for the ceremony, clarifying whether the condition or event was brief, repeated, or long-lasting.

MEMORY CUE: Crossing the destination marker means you are arriving: finally reaching the place.

002 constant *adjective · Foundational***TIME & DURATION**

occurring continuously; unchanging

The **constant** noise from construction made it hard to concentrate, clarifying whether the condition or event was brief, repeated, or long-lasting.

MEMORY CUE: A constant light never flickers and a constant rhythm never stops or changes.

003 incident *noun · Foundational***TIME & DURATION**

an event or occurrence, especially one that is unusual or unpleasant

The security team investigated the **incident** thoroughly, showing how timing and duration affected the situation described in the example.

MEMORY CUE: An incident is one event circled on the timeline, often because it was unusual or unpleasant.

004 ongoing *adjective · Foundational***TIME & DURATION**

continuing without interruption; still in progress

The **ongoing** investigation has uncovered new evidence, making the sequence and length of the relevant events easier to understand.

MEMORY CUE: An ongoing road continues past the horizon with no interruption or finish marker.

005 rarely *adverb · Foundational***TIME & DURATION**

not often; seldom

She **rarely** misses a day of work, making the sequence and length of the relevant events easier to understand.

MEMORY CUE: A rare event appears on only one square of a long calendar.

006 scheduled *verb/adjective · Foundational***TIME & DURATION**

planned for a certain time; arranged according to a timetable

The meeting is **scheduled** for three o'clock, showing how timing and duration affected the situation described in the example.

MEMORY CUE: A scheduled event is pinned to one exact square and time on the calendar.

007 traditional *adjective · Foundational***TIME & DURATION**

existing in or as part of a tradition; long-established

The family prepared a **traditional** meal for the holiday celebration, clarifying whether the condition or event was brief, repeated, or long-lasting.

MEMORY CUE: A traditional practice travels down a long chain from earlier generations.

008 chronic *adjective · Foundational***TIME & DURATION**

persisting for a long time or constantly recurring

He suffers from **chronic** back pain, showing how timing and duration affected the situation described in the example.

MEMORY CUE: A chronic condition stretches along a long calendar and repeatedly returns.

009 eternal *adjective · Foundational***TIME & DURATION**

lasting or existing forever

The philosopher pondered **eternal** truths, clarifying whether the condition or event was brief, repeated, or long-lasting.

MEMORY CUE: An eternal loop has no beginning or ending point.

010 temporary *adjective · Foundational***TIME & DURATION**

lasting for only a limited time

The **temporary** shelter housed flood victims, making the sequence and length of the relevant events easier to understand.

MEMORY CUE: A temporary structure carries an expiration date and will not remain.

011 permanent *adjective · Foundational***TIME & DURATION**

lasting or remaining without change

The injury caused **permanent** damage, making the sequence and length of the relevant events easier to understand.

MEMORY CUE: A permanent mark is carved into stone to remain without change.

012 continuous *adjective · Foundational***TIME & DURATION**

forming an unbroken whole; without interruption

The **continuous** line stretched for miles, clarifying whether the condition or event was brief, repeated, or long-lasting.

MEMORY CUE: A continuous line runs unbroken from start to finish.

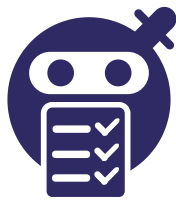
013 brief *adjective · Foundational*

TIME & DURATION

of short duration

The meeting was surprisingly **brief**, showing how timing and duration affected the situation described in the example.

MEMORY CUE: A brief event fits between two nearby ticks of a clock.



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