



Test Ninjas

VOCABULARY STUDY SERIES

SAT VOCABULARY

SAT Vocabulary: Courage & Fear

24 focused words in Courage & Fear

24

UNIQUE WORDS

1

CATEGORIES

SAT

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 **bold** *adjective*

COURAGE & FEAR

showing courage and confidence; daring

Her **bold** decision to speak up changed the direction of the meeting, giving observers a clear view of the person's response to genuine danger.

MEMORY CUE: A bold person steps into the spotlight with courage instead of shrinking back.

ALSO · ADJECTIVE: showing a willingness to take risks

002 **dangerous** *adjective*

COURAGE & FEAR

able or likely to cause harm or injury

The icy roads made driving conditions **dangerous** for commuters, giving observers a clear view of the person's response to genuine danger.

MEMORY CUE: A dangerous path carries a warning sign because it is likely to cause harm.

003 **risky** *adjective*

COURAGE & FEAR

full of the possibility of danger, failure, or loss

Investing all your savings in one stock is **risky**, giving observers a clear view of the person's response to genuine danger.

MEMORY CUE: A risky path crosses a cracked bridge above signs for danger, failure, and loss.

004 **audacious** *adjective*

COURAGE & FEAR

showing bold willingness to take risks

Her **audacious** plan surprised everyone, giving observers a clear view of the person's response to genuine danger.

MEMORY CUE: An audacious climber boldly steps onto the risky ledge.

005 **valiant** *adjective*

COURAGE & FEAR

possessing or showing courage

The **valiant** soldier fought bravely, giving observers a clear view of the person's response to genuine danger.

MEMORY CUE: A valiant defender stands courageously between danger and others.

006 **timid** *adjective*

COURAGE & FEAR

showing a lack of courage

The **timid** child hid behind her mother, giving observers a clear view of the person's response to genuine danger.

MEMORY CUE: A timid figure hides behind the doorway instead of facing risk.

007 intrepid *adjective***COURAGE & FEAR**

fearless; adventurous

The **intrepid** explorer ventured into the unknown, giving observers a clear view of the person's response to genuine danger.

MEMORY CUE: An intrepid explorer walks fearlessly into an unknown adventure.

008 cowardly *adjective***COURAGE & FEAR**

lacking courage

The **cowardly** bully backed down, giving observers a clear view of the person's response to genuine danger.

MEMORY CUE: A cowardly figure runs from a tiny danger and leaves courage behind.

009 dauntless *adjective***COURAGE & FEAR**

showing fearlessness and determination

The **dauntless** firefighters entered the building, giving observers a clear view of the person's response to genuine danger.

MEMORY CUE: A dauntless climber advances without fear and refuses to be discouraged.

010 apprehensive *adjective***COURAGE & FEAR**

anxious or fearful about the future

She was **apprehensive** about the interview, showing whether fear or resolve guided the decision made under pressure.

MEMORY CUE: An apprehensive person watches tomorrow's calendar beneath an anxiety cloud.

011 gallant *adjective***COURAGE & FEAR**

brave; heroic

The **gallant** knight rescued the princess, showing whether fear or resolve guided the decision made under pressure.

MEMORY CUE: A gallant rescuer acts with brave, heroic courage.

012 craven *adjective***COURAGE & FEAR**

lacking courage; cowardly

The **craven** betrayal shocked everyone, giving observers a clear view of the person's response to genuine danger.

MEMORY CUE: A craven figure hides from danger before it even arrives.

013 courageous *adjective***COURAGE & FEAR**

not deterred by danger or pain

The **courageous** witness testified, giving observers a clear view of the person's response to genuine danger.

MEMORY CUE: A courageous person moves toward danger despite pain or fear.

014 fearful *adjective***COURAGE & FEAR**

feeling afraid; showing fear

The **fearful** passengers gripped their seats, revealing how the person responded when the risks became immediate and difficult to ignore.

MEMORY CUE: A fearful person trembles beneath a danger sign.

015 heroic *adjective***COURAGE & FEAR**

having the characteristics of a hero

His **heroic** efforts saved lives, showing whether fear or resolve guided the decision made under pressure.

MEMORY CUE: A heroic figure risks personal safety to protect or rescue others.

016 pusillanimous *adjective***COURAGE & FEAR**

showing a lack of courage

The **pusillanimous** retreat was criticized, giving observers a clear view of the person's response to genuine danger.

MEMORY CUE: A pusillanimous figure shrinks from every challenge for lack of courage.

017 daring *adjective***COURAGE & FEAR**

adventurous or audaciously bold

The **daring** rescue made headlines, giving observers a clear view of the person's response to genuine danger.

MEMORY CUE: A daring adventurer boldly crosses the risky gap.

018 timorous *adjective***COURAGE & FEAR**

showing or suffering from nervousness

The **timorous** voice barely whispered, revealing how the person responded when the risks became immediate and difficult to ignore.

MEMORY CUE: A timorous person approaches the doorway with nervous, trembling steps.

019 **stalwart** *adjective*

COURAGE & FEAR

loyal, reliable, and hardworking

The **stalwart** supporter never wavered, revealing how the person responded when the risks became immediate and difficult to ignore.

MEMORY CUE: A stalwart supporter stands like a strong pillar: loyal, reliable, and hardworking.

020 **fainthearted** *adjective*

COURAGE & FEAR

lacking courage; timid

This job is not for the **fainthearted**, revealing how the person responded when the risks became immediate and difficult to ignore.

MEMORY CUE: A fainthearted figure's courage gauge fades before the challenge.

021 **plucky** *adjective*

COURAGE & FEAR

having or showing determined courage

The **plucky** underdog won the match, showing whether fear or resolve guided the decision made under pressure.

MEMORY CUE: A small plucky fighter faces a large obstacle with determined courage.

022 **tremulous** *adjective*

COURAGE & FEAR

shaking or quivering from nervousness

She spoke in a **tremulous** voice, giving observers a clear view of the person's response to genuine danger.

MEMORY CUE: A tremulous hand visibly shakes and quivers from nervousness.

023 **irresolute** *adjective*

COURAGE & FEAR

showing hesitation; uncertain

The **irresolute** leader lost support, showing whether fear or resolve guided the decision made under pressure.

MEMORY CUE: An irresolute decision pointer hesitates between two paths.

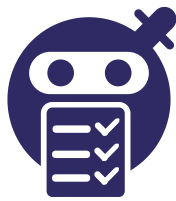
024 **undaunted** *adjective*

COURAGE & FEAR

not intimidated or discouraged

Undaunted by setbacks, she persisted, giving observers a clear view of the person's response to genuine danger.

MEMORY CUE: An undaunted traveler continues toward the challenge without intimidation.



SAT 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