



Test Ninjas

VOCABULARY STUDY SERIES

SAT VOCABULARY

SAT Vocabulary: Speed & Pace

24 focused words in Speed & Pace

24

UNIQUE WORDS

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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.

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001 **abrupt** *adjective*

SPEED & PACE

sudden and unexpected; without warning

The **abrupt** change in weather caught everyone off guard, showing how quickly the situation developed once the activity had begun.

MEMORY CUE: Picture a road ending at an abrupt cliff: no warning, just a sudden stop.

002 **delayed** *verb*

SPEED & PACE

made late or slow; postponed

The flight was **delayed** by three hours due to severe weather conditions, helping observers compare the actual pace with what they had originally expected.

MEMORY CUE: A delayed event has its clock pushed later along the timeline.

003 **hastily** *adverb*

SPEED & PACE

with excessive speed or urgency; hurriedly

She **hastily** packed her bags when she heard about the emergency, helping observers compare the actual pace with what they had originally expected.

MEMORY CUE: A hasty runner rushes past the THINK sign because excessive speed leaves no time for care.

004 **steadily** *adverb*

SPEED & PACE

in a regular and even manner; gradually and consistently

The company has grown **steadily** over the past decade, showing how quickly the situation developed once the activity had begun.

MEMORY CUE: A steady metronome advances at one even, consistent pace.

005 **expedite** *verb*

SPEED & PACE

to make an action happen sooner

Extra staff helped **expedite** the process, showing how quickly the situation developed once the activity had begun.

MEMORY CUE: An express lane expedites the process and brings the finish sooner.

006 **gradual** *adjective*

SPEED & PACE

taking place slowly over time

There was a **gradual** improvement in her health, helping observers compare the actual pace with what they had originally expected.

MEMORY CUE: A gradual staircase rises through many tiny steps over time.

007 instantaneous *adjective***SPEED & PACE**

occurring or done instantly

The effect was almost **instantaneous**, helping observers compare the actual pace with what they had originally expected.

MEMORY CUE: An instantaneous change occurs within a single lightning flash.

008 expeditious *adjective***SPEED & PACE**

done with speed and efficiency

The **expeditious** service impressed customers, making the rate of progress noticeable to everyone monitoring the process.

MEMORY CUE: An expeditious process takes the fast lane without wasting motion.

009 swift *adjective***SPEED & PACE**

happening quickly or promptly

The **swift** response prevented disaster, making the rate of progress noticeable to everyone monitoring the process.

MEMORY CUE: A swift arrow crosses the distance almost immediately.

010 rapid *adjective***SPEED & PACE**

happening in a short time

The **rapid** growth surprised analysts, making the rate of progress noticeable to everyone monitoring the process.

MEMORY CUE: A rapid sequence races through many steps in little time.

011 leisurely *adjective***SPEED & PACE**

acting without hurry

They enjoyed a **leisurely** lunch, showing how quickly the situation developed once the activity had begun.

MEMORY CUE: A leisurely walker follows a slow path without hurry.

012 hasty *adjective***SPEED & PACE**

done with excessive speed

The **hasty** decision proved costly, showing how quickly the situation developed once the activity had begun.

MEMORY CUE: A hasty hand rushes ahead before checking its work.

013 **deliberate** *adjective*

SPEED & PACE

done consciously and intentionally

Her **deliberate** pace showed confidence, making the rate of progress noticeable to everyone monitoring the process.

MEMORY CUE: A deliberate action moves from conscious thought through a planned arrow.

016 **immediate** *adjective*

SPEED & PACE

occurring or done at once

The situation required **immediate** action, making the rate of progress noticeable to everyone monitoring the process.

MEMORY CUE: An immediate response follows the signal with no gap.

014 **precipitous** *adjective*

SPEED & PACE

done suddenly and without consideration

The **precipitous** decline alarmed investors, making the rate of progress noticeable to everyone monitoring the process.

MEMORY CUE: A precipitous move plunges suddenly like a step over a steep cliff.

017 **prompt** *adjective*

SPEED & PACE

done without delay

Your **prompt** reply is appreciated, helping observers compare the actual pace with what they had originally expected.

MEMORY CUE: A prompt action begins the instant the start bell rings.

015 **measured** *adjective*

SPEED & PACE

having a slow, regular rhythm

She spoke in **measured** tones, helping observers compare the actual pace with what they had originally expected.

MEMORY CUE: A measured pace follows the slow, regular beat of a metronome.

018 **tardy** *adjective*

SPEED & PACE

delaying or delayed beyond expected time

Tardy students missed the announcement, helping observers compare the actual pace with what they had originally expected.

MEMORY CUE: A tardy arrival crosses the expected-time line too late.

019 accelerated *adjective***SPEED & PACE**

happening at a faster rate

The **accelerated** program finished early, helping observers compare the actual pace with what they had originally expected.

MEMORY CUE: An accelerated arrow climbs from normal speed to a faster rate.

022 plodding *adjective***SPEED & PACE**

slow-moving and unexciting

The **plodding** narrative bored readers, helping observers compare the actual pace with what they had originally expected.

MEMORY CUE: A plodding walker takes heavy, slow, unexciting steps.

020 decelerated *adjective***SPEED & PACE**

reduced in speed

The **decelerated** economy worried officials, making the rate of progress noticeable to everyone monitoring the process.

MEMORY CUE: A decelerated vehicle moves its speed needle downward.

023 hurried *adjective***SPEED & PACE**

done in a hurry; hasty

The **hurried** breakfast left her hungry, showing how quickly the situation developed once the activity had begun.

MEMORY CUE: Hurried work races against the clock with hasty movement.

021 fleet *adjective***SPEED & PACE**

fast and nimble in movement

The **fleet** runner won the race, making the rate of progress noticeable to everyone monitoring the process.

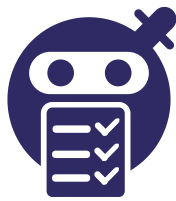
MEMORY CUE: A fleet-footed animal moves quickly and nimbly.

024 unhurried *adjective***SPEED & PACE**

moving or acting without haste

The **unhurried** conversation lasted hours, making the rate of progress noticeable to everyone monitoring the process.

MEMORY CUE: An unhurried traveler strolls beside the clock without haste.



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