

Examples from the textbook:

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Word Cluster: Decrease

- 1) atrophy (v) **to waste away** from not being used; to degenerate
- 2) *curtail (v) **to shorten or abbreviate**
- 3) *diminution (n) **a decrease or down-sizing**; reduction
diminutive (adj) **small**
- 4) abate (v) **to lessen**
- 5) *abridge (v) **to reduce in length; to condense**
- 6) truncate (v) **to cut off**; to shorten
- 7) *contract (v) **to catch a disease** [remember, it could shorten your life]; **to enter into a formal agreement** [which is reducing everything to a formal arrangement]; **to get smaller** or shrink
- 8) *subside (v) **to descend** or sink to a lower level; to decrease; **to quiet down**

deplete (v) to use up or empty; to reduce, lessen



Claude hoped the diminution of his corpulent subject would please her when she viewed the completed portrait.

Write a sentence explaining how the cartoon and caption above illustrate the meaning of *diminution*.

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Word Parts: Roots, prefixes, and suffixes can help you figure out a word's meaning. They can also help you to remember a definition. The following word parts relate to some of your vocabulary words already covered in this lesson, and will help you to learn some new words. Read through this list and then listen to the Lesson II portion of your Chapter 1 podcast.

Away/From = AB-, OB- (remember *abstract*, *abstruse*, and *obscure* = away from easy understanding)

- 21) *abstemious (adj) **moderate** or sparing **in eating and drinking habits**
- 22) *obliterate (v) to wipe out without a trace; **to demolish or destroy completely**
- 23) *oblivion (n) **forgetfulness; the state of being entirely forgotten**
- 24) *obstinate (adj) **stubborn; difficult to manage or treat**

Word Parts: ANA = *without or out of* + CHRON = *time* (anachronistic); ANTE = *before* (antediluvian); ANTIQU = *from before, old* (antiquated)

Four Time/Age Words Start With A

Antediluvian, Archaic, and Antiquated

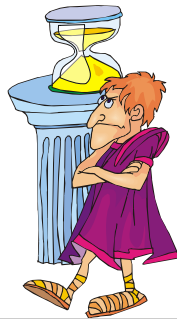
All mean old or outdated.

That long word Anachronistic

Means time-unrealistic,

Like Newton with a laptop

Or Mozart writing Hip-Hop.



Study Lesson III flashcards while listening to the podcast.



Critical Reading: Sentence Completion- How-To Tips:

Here is how to tackle the 19 multiple choice Sentence Completion questions in the SAT (about 1/3 of the questions in the Critical Reading Section). Remember that these questions take less time to answer than the passage-related questions, and should be answered first. Sentence Completion questions are generally arranged in order of difficulty (easiest ones first).

These questions depend on your vocabulary and on your ability to unravel the logic of a complicated sentence. Vocabulary questions are based on understanding the way words are used in a particular sentence. Logic-based questions demand a good vocabulary, but also require that you figure out what a rather convoluted and confusing sentence actually means. . . .



Writing: Sentence fragments

A sentence fragment is an incomplete sentence – one that needs some fixing before it qualifies as an actual sentence. It may look like a sentence at first glance, but it is usually just a clause or a phrase.

Things to look for in identifying sentence fragments in the test:

- When you read it carefully, does it sound as if something is missing? Does it leave you hanging?
- Is there a verbal (participle, gerund, infinitive) underlined?
 - “Jumping” or any verb with -ing tacked on the end is either a gerund or a present participle, not a real verb.
 - “To be” (or any verb with the word “to” in front of it) is an infinitive and not a real verb.

Examples from the workbook:

Word Soup: Short words can be chopped into smaller pieces and used to fill in blanks so that each vocabulary word matches its brief definition. Do NOT rearrange the letters in the short words. Definitions and short words are NOT in the same order.

Example: (answers at end of exercise) SHORT WORDS: SAGE, LATE

Definition	Vocabulary Word
To relieve	al _ _ evi _ _ _ _
To soothe	a _ _ su _ _ _ _

SHORT WORDS: NARY, TIC, SURE, CRY, FAME, ONUS, BRAT

(Cross out each short word as you use it)

Definition	Vocabulary Word
1. hard to understand	un _ _ _ tho _ _ abl _ _
2. unclear	ob _ _ c _ _ _ _
3. theoretical	a _ _ st _ _ _ c _ _
4. dilemma	qua _ _ d _ _ _ _
5. heavy or bulky	p _ _ _ _ dero _ _ _
6. understood by few	eso _ _ er _ _ _

Word Scramble: Each “scramble” below uses all the letters in a vocabulary word. Unscramble to fill in each blank.

<u>Definition</u>	<u>Scramble</u>	<u>Vocabulary Word</u>
<i>Example: to increase value of</i>	<i>hen cane</i>	*
1. to relieve	tail leave	_____
2. to moderate	it game it	_____
3. to moderate	pert me	_____
4. unclear	core bus	_____
5. obscure	bats sure	_____
6. puzzle	in game	_____

**Example answer: enhance*

First/Last – The following short words consist of the first and last letters of vocabulary words from Lessons I and II. The first item has been answered for you and the first clue shows the First and Last letters separated by a dash. *HINT: Look at very first and last letters of any word that fits the definition. Remaining letters in the clue can come from either end of the vocabulary word.*

<u>First/Last Clue</u>	<u>Definition</u>	<u>Vocabulary Word</u>	<u>Lesson</u>
1. unwa-nted	not justified	<u>UNWArRaNTED</u>	II
2. mate	to make milder	_____	I
3. end	to improve by editing	_____	I
4. ponds	hard to work through	_____	I
5. inns	harmless	_____	II
6. quay	dilemma or predicament	_____	I

Mini Crossword - "Short-Winded" words - and "CPR" to help*

				6					
	1		C	C			C		
		7	R						
		2		C				R	
		3	C		C				
				8					
		4		R					
5	P								

Across

Down

1 concise

2 habitually quiet

3 expressing much in few words

4 succinct

5 full of substance

6 terse

7 uncommunicative

8 briefness