More About Mr. E. Words

How will you ever remember all those vocab words and their meanings when it comes time to take the SAT? Mr. E. Words wrote in to let us know a great memory technique.

You say she ate it? It satisfied her hunger? You want more o’s? You’re sad and gloomy?

From satiate to morose, you may remember your SuperCamp team leaders putting on hilarious skits to illustrate the meanings of real SAT vocab words. Why do mystery words work so well? Brain research shows that we remember information that has associations with pleasant emotions, like humor or happiness. You can probably sing most of the words of your favorite songs—this works on the same principle. You may also know all the lines of a favorite funny movie—same thing.

Creating your own mystery words uses all three learning modalities: visual, auditory and kinesthetic. By seeing, drawing (or simply imagining) outlandish characters, scenarios and costumes, your visual modality is fired up. By creating sounds-like words or phrases (like cattle-list) and saying them along with the meaning of the mystery word, your auditory modality builds connections that last. By becoming involved in creating your own mystery words (act them out, or simply write them down), your kinesthetic modality ensures that your whole body remembers the word and its meaning!

Here are some words with definitions to get you started on creating your own sounds-like mystery words along with their stories! If you’ve already been using this process, great—if not, practice with these words and it’ll come more easily. We’ve included the two words from our other mystery words article—congenial and morose—to remind you of the outcome you’re looking for.

Affinity
Sounds like: a finny tee
Definition: fondness, feeling of kinship
Your mystery word sentence or story:

Benign
Sounds like:
Definition: kind, gentle
Your mystery word sentence or story:

Candid
Sounds like:
Definition: honest, frank
Your mystery word sentence or story:

Congenial
Sounds like: con Genie Al
Definition: friendly, compatible, similar to oneself in tastes and habits
Your mystery word sentence or story:
Example: Just because we’re similar in tastes and habits doesn’t mean you can con Genie Al!
**Copious**  
Sounds like: copy us  
Definition: plentiful, abundant  
Your mystery word sentence or story:

**Disperse**  
Sounds like: this purse  
Definition: to spread, scatter in all directions  
Your mystery word sentence or story:

**Efface**  
Sounds like:  
Definition: to eliminate, erase  
Your mystery word sentence or story:

**Eloquent**  
Sounds like:  
Definition: fluid and graceful in speech  
Your mystery word sentence or story:

**Expedient**  
Sounds like:  
Definition: useful, advantageous  
Your mystery word sentence or story:

**Mitigate**  
Sounds like:  
Definition: to make less severe or harsh  
Your mystery word sentence or story:

**Morose**  
Sounds like: more roses  
Definition: sad, gloomy  
Your mystery word sentence or story:  
*Example: I gave Pam more roses because she was sad and gloomy.*

**Satiate**  
Sounds like:  
Definition: to satisfy, gratify completely  
Your mystery word sentence or story:

**Gregarious**  
Sounds like:  
Definition: sociable  
Your mystery word sentence or story:
**Intrepid**
Sounds like:
Definition: fearless
Your mystery word sentence or story:

**Superfluous**
Sounds like:
Definition: unnecessary, extra
Your mystery word sentence or story: