

Test Your GRE Vocabulary

This set contains **25 GRE-style vocabulary questions**. Each question presents a word in bold, followed by five possible meanings. Choose the option that best matches the meaning of the given word.

1. Ambiguous

- A. Open to more than one interpretation
- B. Clear and precise
- C. Firmly established
- D. Easily understood
- E. Obvious and straightforward

2. Substantiate

- A. To weaken a claim
- B. To hide or conceal
- C. To prove or support with evidence
- D. To dismiss as unimportant
- E. To question or doubt

3. Pragmatic

- A. Idealistic and dreamy
- B. Practical and focused on results
- C. Theoretical without application

- D. Imaginative and fanciful
- E. Abstract and speculative

4. Erudite

- A. Lacking in knowledge
- B. Careless about learning
- C. Practical but unlearned
- D. Superficial in understanding
- E. Highly educated and scholarly

5. Contentious

- A. Peaceful and harmonious
- B. Easily accepted by all
- C. Universally admired
- D. Causing disagreement or conflict
- E. Free from debate

6. Disparate

- A. Entirely different or distinct
- B. Closely related
- C. Similar in nature
- D. Identical in form
- E. Easily comparable

7. Tenuous

- A. Strong and well supported
- B. Weak or lacking a solid basis
- C. Firm and convincing
- D. Deeply rooted
- E. Substantial and clear

8. Ubiquitous

- A. Rare and unusual
- B. Limited to one place
- C. Hard to find
- D. Restricted in scope
- E. Present everywhere

9. Venerate

- A. To despise or scorn
- B. To ignore without care
- C. To treat casually
- D. To speak against
- E. To respect or honor deeply

10. Admonish

- A. To praise highly
- B. To warn or scold gently
- C. To ignore faults
- D. To encourage strongly
- E. To reward openly

11. Precarious

- A. Secure and steady
- B. Dangerous or unstable
- C. Safe from harm
- D. Firmly grounded
- E. Protected and strong

12. Ameliorate

- A. To improve or make better
- B. To worsen a situation
- C. To leave unchanged

D. To cause harm

E. To intensify problems

13. Enumerate

- A. To confuse with details
- B. To hide information
- C. To count or list one by one
- D. To summarise vaguely
- E. To overlook deliberately

14. Capricious

- A. Predictable and steady
- B. Firmly consistent
- C. Cautious and deliberate
- D. Given to sudden changes in mood or behavior
- E. Stable and reliable

15. Proliferate

- A. To decrease gradually
- B. To disappear completely
- C. To reduce in number
- D. To multiply or increase rapidly
- E. To wither slowly

16. Eschew

- A. To embrace eagerly
- B. To accept without question
- C. To support openly
- D. To follow closely
- E. To deliberately avoid or shun

17. Corroborate

- A. To contradict directly
- B. To doubt or question
- C. To confirm or support with evidence
- D. To conceal deliberately
- E. To weaken or undermine

18. Equivocal

- A. Clear and definite
- B. Open to multiple interpretations
- C. Straightforward and simple
- D. Certain and unquestionable
- E. Precise and exact

19. Candor

- A. Evasiveness in speech
- B. Honest and open expression
- C. Careful concealment of facts
- D. Subtle manipulation
- E. Indirect communication

20. Catalyst

- A. Something that speeds up change or reaction
- B. Something that delays progress
- C. An obstacle preventing action
- D. A stabiliser that maintains balance
- E. A neutral element with no effect

21. Mitigate

- A. To worsen a situation

- B. To lessen the severity of something
- C. To ignore deliberately
- D. To intensify further
- E. To provoke unnecessarily

22. Dichotomy

- A. A union of similar ideas
- B. A harmony of differences
- C. A blend of different elements
- D. A division into two contrasting parts
- E. A gradual transition

23. Arduous

- A. Very easy to accomplish
- B. Requiring great effort or difficulty
- C. Done with little thought
- D. Simple and straightforward
- E. Pleasant and relaxing

24. Prevalent

- A. Rare and hardly seen
- B. Widely existing or common
- C. Limited to one area
- D. Short-lived and temporary
- E. Restricted in influence

25. Archaic

- A. Modern and up-to-date
- B. Current and practical
- C. Ancient or outdated

- D. Recent and innovative
- E. Contemporary and relevant

Check your answers

- 1. A
- 2. C
- 3. B
- 4. E
- 5. D
- 6. A
- 7. B
- 8. E
- 9. E
- 10. B
- 11. B
- 12. A
- 13. C
- 14. D
- 15. D
- 16. E
- 17. C
- 18. B
- 19. B
- 20. A
- 21. B
- 22. D
- 23. B
- 24. B

25. C

Scoring & Remarks

22–25 marks: Excellent

Your vocabulary is top-tier, you're test-ready. Keep revising 10–15 words daily using flash cards just to stay sharp, and focus more on practice questions than rote learning.

18–21 marks: Very Good

You have a strong grasp with minor gaps. Revise 15–20 words a day through flash cards, or from mock tests or reading passages, and track tricky words in a personal notebook.

14–17 marks: Fair

You know a decent amount, but consistency will help. Spend 30–40 minutes daily, learning 20 new words and revising old ones; also read editorials or essays to see words in context.

10–13 marks: Weak

The basics are there, but you need discipline. Start with 15 words daily, focus on roots and read widely,

especially non-fiction material, and revise frequently instead of cramming.

Below 10 marks: Poor

You're at the foundation stage. [Begin with 10 words a day](#) and steadily build up; read simple articles to [build your vocabulary in context](#) so meanings stick naturally.