

Online Resources

Vocabulary

Recall that you won't be directly asked for vocabulary definitions on the ACT Reading Test, but it is still helpful to understand a variety of words in order to aid your reading comprehension, and to spot synonyms of words used in the passage.

Below are several word lists you can use to build your vocabulary. Look up any words you don't know in a dictionary or online and write a definition using your own words and examples. Creating definitions yourself makes you much more likely to remember them!

General Vocab			
Word	Definition	Word	Definition
Abstract		Diligent	
Adhere		Disingenuous	
Arcane		Dynamic	
Banal		Enervating	
Blunt		Enhance	
Capricious		Equivocate	
Channel		Ethereal	
Charge		Finite	
Compromise		Firm	
Critical		Forge	
Custom		Foster	

Grave		Revere	
Idle		Rich	
Immerse		Robust	
Inane		Solemn	
Intrepid		Spare	
Litter		Spurious	
Mundane		State	
Obscure		Staunch	
Organic		Tense	
Placid		Track	
Principle		Transcendent	
Prodigious		Verdant	
Profound		Visceral	
Reserve		Yearn	

Prose Fiction Vocab			
Word	Definition	Word	Definition
Aesthetic		Imagery	
Allegory		Innuendo	
Allusion		Irony	
Analogy		Metaphor	
Anecdote		Motif	
Didactic		Paradox	
Esoteric		Parody	
Figurative		Pedantic	
Foreshadow		Personification	
Hyperbole		Protagonist	

Simile		Theme	
Symbolism		Trope	
Syntax			

Social Science Vocab			
----------------------	--	--	--

Word	Definition	Word	Definition
Association		Insight	
Attribution		Interest	
Bias		Method	
Cognitive		Monopoly	
Concept		Perception	
Conditional		Phenomenon	
Correlation		Principle	
Criterion		Process	
Deduction		Reinforcement	
Framing		Stereotype	
Franchise		Stock	
Generalization		Subsidy	
Inference			

Humanities Vocab			
------------------	--	--	--

Word	Definition	Word	Definition
Ambiguity		Constituency	
Anarchy		Custom	
Boycott		Essence	
Bureaucracy		Ethics	
Composition		Exposition	

Extrinsic		Proportion	
Fallacy		Resolution	
Harmony		Resource	
Ideology		Rhetoric	
Jurisdiction		Static	
Juxtapose		Subjective	
Libel		Symmetry	
Multimedia			

Natural Science Vocab			
Word	Definition	Word	Definition
Accuracy		Inductive	
Adaptation		Model	
Catalyst		Reliability	
Causality		Qualitative	
Concentration		Quantitative	
Control		Sample	
Diffusion		Satellite	
Divergence		Stimulus	
Environment		Symbiotic	
Evidence		Theory	
Experiment		Valid	
Gene		Variable	
Hypothesis			