

7th Grade Vocab List

Week 1

Week 2

1	convoluted	intricate; complex	The directions were so convoluted that we drove all around the city and got lost
2	cryptic	difficult to comprehend	The writing on the walls of the crypt was cryptic; none of the scientists understood it.
3	futile	having no useful purpose; pointless	It is futile to try to explain the difference between right and wrong to your pet.
4	impede	to slow the progress of	The retreating army constructed barbed-wire fences and destroyed bridges to impede the advance of the enemy.
5	obscure	(adj.) relatively unknown,	Scott constantly makes references to obscure cult films, and no one ever gets his jokes.
6	obscure	(v.) to conceal or make indistinct	The man in front of me was so tall that his head obscured my view of the movie
7	quandary	a state of uncertainty or perplexity	Ann was in a quandary because she had no soap with which to do her laundry.
8	indolent	lazy	Mr. Lan said his students were indolent because they had not done their homework.

Week 3

9	insipid	uninteresting; unchallenging	That insipid movie was so boring and predictable.
10	listless	lacking energy	Since he is accustomed to an active lifestyle, Mark feels listless when he has nothing to do.
11	torpor	laziness; inactivity; dullness	The hot and humid day filled everyone with an activity-halting torpor.
12	alienated	removed or disassociated from (friends, family, or homeland)	Rudolf felt alienated from the other reindeer because they never let him join in their reindeer games.
13	alliance	a union of two or more groups	The two countries formed an alliance to stand against their common enemy.
14	disparity	inequality in age, rank, or degree; difference	There is a great disparity between rich and poor in many nations.
15	servile	submissive; like a servant	Cameron's servile behavior finally ended when he decided to stand up to his older brother.
16	suppressed	subdued; kept from being circulated	The author's book was suppressed because the dictator thought it was too critical of the regime.

Week 4

17	embellish	to make beautiful by ornamenting; to decorate	We embellished the account of our vacation by including descriptions of many colorful people and places we visited.
18	florid	describing flowery or elaborate speech	The candidate's speech was so florid that although no one could understand what he was talking about, they all agreed that he sounded good saying it.
19	opulent	exhibiting a display of great wealth	Dances at the king's palace are always very opulent affairs because no expense is spared.
20	ornate	elaborately decorated	The carved wood was so ornate that you could examine it several times and still notice things you had not seen before.
21	ostentatious	describing a showy or pretentious display	Whenever the millionaire gave a party, the elaborate decorations and enormous amounts of food were always part of his ostentatious display of wealth.
22	poignant	profoundly moving; touching	The most poignant part of the movie was when the father finally made peace with his son.
23	ebullience	intense enthusiasm	A sense of ebullience swept over the crowd when the matador defeated the bull.
24	effusive	emotionally unrestrained; gushy	Gwyneth Paltrow was effusive in her thanks after winning the Oscar; she even burst into tears.

Week 5

25	egregious	conspicuously bad or offensive	Forgetting to sterilize surgical tools before an operation would be an egregious error.
26	flagrant	extremely or deliberately shocking or noticeable	His throwing the pie at his teacher was a flagrant sign of disrespect.
27	frenetic	wildly excited or active	The pace at the busy office was frenetic; Megan never had a moment to catch her breath.
28	gratuitous	given freely; unearned; unwarranted	The film was full of gratuitous sex and violence that was not essential to the story.
29	superfluous	extra; unnecessary	If there is sugar in your tea, adding honey would be superfluous.
30	alleviate	to ease a pain or burden	John took aspirin to alleviate the pain from the headache he got after taking the SAT.
31	asylum	a place of retreat or security	The soldiers sought asylum from the bombs in the underground shelter.
32	auspicious	favorable, promising	Our trip to the beach had an auspicious start; the rain stopped just as we started the car.

Week 6 (Test 1)

Week 7

33	benevolent	well-meaning; generous	She was a kind and benevolent queen who was concerned about her subjects' well-being.
34	benign	kind and gentle	Uncle Charlie is a benign and friendly man who is always willing to help.
35	mollify	to calm or soothe	Anna's apology for scaring her brother did not mollify him; he was mad at her all day.
36	reclamation	the act of making something useful again	Thanks to the reclamation project, the once unusable land became a productive farm.
37	sanction	to give official authorization or approval	The students were happy when the principal agreed to sanction the use of calculators in math classes.
38	dubious	doubtful; of unlikely authenticity	Jerry's claim that he could fly like Superman seemed dubious—we didn't believe it.
39	fabricated	made; concocted to deceive	Fabio fabricated the story that he used to play drums for Metallica; he had never actually held drumsticks in his life.
40	hypocrisy	the practice of pretending to be something one is not; insincerity	People who claim to be vegetarian but eat chicken and fish are guilty of hypocrisy.

Week 8

41	slander	false charges and malicious oral statements about someone	After the radio host stated that Monica was a space alien, she sued him for slander.
42	spurious	not genuine	The sportscaster made a spurious claim when he said that the San Antonio Spurs were undefeated.
43	astute	shrewd, clever	Kevin is financially astute; he never falls for the tricks that credit card companies play.
44	clandestine	secretive	The spies planned a clandestine maneuver that depended on its secrecy to work.
45	coup	a brilliantly executed plan	It was quite a coup when I talked the salesperson into selling me this valuable cuckoo clock for five dollars.
46	disingenuous	not straightforward; crafty	Mr. Gelman was rather disingenuous; although he seemed to be simply asking about your health, he was really trying to figure out why you'd been absent.
47	ruse	a crafty trick	The offer of a free cruise was merely a ruse to get people to listen to their sales pitch.
48	stratagem	a clever trick used to deceive or outwit	Planting microphones in the gangster's home was a clever, but illegal, stratagem.

Week 9

49	surreptitiously	done by secretive means	Matt drank the cough syrup surreptitiously because he didn't want anyone to know that he was sick.
50	wary	on guard	My father becomes wary whenever a salesman calls him on the phone; he knows that many crooks use the phone so that they can't be charged with mail fraud.
51	wily	cunning	In the children's cartoon "Roadrunner," Wily Coyote is a very wily character; he devises all sorts of clever traps to catch the Roadrunner.
52	ambiguous	open to more than one interpretation	His eyes were an ambiguous color: Some thought they were brown, and some thought they were green.
53	ambivalent	simultaneously having opposing feelings; uncertain	She had ambivalent feelings about her dance class: On one hand, she enjoyed the exercise, but on the other hand, she thought the choice of dances could be more interesting.
54	apathetic	feeling or showing little emotion	When the defendant was found guilty on all charges, her face remained expressionless and she appeared to be entirely apathetic.
55	arbitrary	determined by impulse rather than reason	The principal made the arbitrary decision that students could not wear hats in school without offering any logical reason for the rule.
56	capricious	impulsive and unpredictable	The referee's capricious behavior angered the players because he was inconsistent with his calls; he would call foul for minor contact, but ignore elbowing and kicking.

Week 10

57	equivocate	to avoid making a definite statement	On critical reading questions, I choose answers that equivocate; they use words such as could or may that make them difficult to disprove.
58	indifferent	not caring one way or the other	The old fisherman was completely indifferent to the pain and hunger he felt; his only concern was catching the enormous marlin he had hooked.
59	spontaneous	unplanned, naturally occurring	Dave is such a good musician that he can create a song spontaneously, without having to stop and think about it.
60	whimsical	subject to erratic behavior; unpredictable	Egbert rarely behaved as expected; indeed, he was a whimsical soul whose every decision was anybody's guess.
61	inconsequential	unimportant	The cost of the meal was inconsequential to Quentin because he wasn't paying for it.
62	superficial	concerned only with what is on the surface or obvious; shallow	The wound on his leg was only superficial, even though it looked like a deep cut.
63	tenuous	having little substance or strength; shaky; unsure, weak	Her grasp on reality is tenuous at best; she's not even sure what year it is.
64	trivial	of little importance or significance	Alex says he doesn't like trivia games because the knowledge they test is trivial; he prefers to spend his time learning more important things.

Week 11 (Review)

Week 12 (Test 2)

Week 13

65	assiduous	hard-working	Spending hours in the hot sun digging out every tiny weed, Sidney tended her garden with assiduous attention.
66	compelling	forceful; urgently demanding attention	By ignoring the problems in the city, the mayor gave people a very compelling reason to vote him out of office.
67	diligent	marked by painstaking effort; hard- working	With a lot of diligent effort, they were able to finish the model airplane in record time.
68	dogged	stubbornly persevering	Her first attempts resulted in failure, but her dogged efforts ultimately ended in success.
69	endure	to put up with; to survive a hardship	It was difficult to endure the incredibly boring lecture given in class the other day.
70	intrepid	courageous; fearless	The intrepid young soldier scaled the wall and attacked the enemy forces despite being outnumbered 50 to 1.
71	maverick	one who is independent and resists adherence to a group	In the movie Top Gun, Tom Cruise was a maverick; he often broke the rules and did things his own way.
72	obdurate	stubborn; inflexible	Leanna was so obdurate that she was unable to change her way of thinking on even the most minor issues.

Week 14

73	obstinate	stubbornly adhering to an opinion or a course of action	Even though he begged them constantly, Jerry's parents were obstinate in their refusal to buy him a Nintendo.
74	proliferate	to grow or increase rapidly	Because the number of fax machines, pagers, and cell phones has proliferated in recent years, many new area codes have been created to handle the demand for phone numbers.
75	tenacity	persistence	With his overwhelming tenacity, Clark was finally able to interview Brad Pitt for the school newspaper.
76	vitality	energy; power to survive	After a few days of rest, the exhausted mountain climber regained his usual vitality.
77	assimilation	to absorb; to make similar	The unique blend of Mexican culture was formed by the assimilation of the cultures of the Native Americans and the Spanish.
78	consensus	general agreement	After much debate, the committee came to a consensus, although they differed on minor points.
79	context	circumstances of a situation; environment	The senator complained that his statements had been taken out of context and were therefore misleading; he said that if the newspaper had printed the rest of his speech, it would have explained the statements in question.
80	derived	copied or adapted from a source	Many AP English Language and Composition questions are derived from older questions—the details may have been changed, but the same basic concept is being tested.

Week 15

81	incumbent	imposed as a duty; obligatory	Since you are the host it is incumbent upon you to see that everyone is having fun.
82	malleable	easily shaped or formed; easily influenced	Gold is malleable; it is easy to work with and can be hammered into very thin sheets.
83	subdue	to restrain; to hold back	It took four officers to subdue the fugitive because he fought like a madman.
84	acquire	developed or learned; not naturally occurring	A love of opera is an acquired taste; almost nobody likes it the first time he or she hears it.
85	conception	the ability to form or understand an idea.	Most people have no conception of the enormous amount of genetic information present in a single living cell.
86	conviction	a fixed strong belief.	Although he privately held onto his convictions; threats by the church caused Galileo to publicly denounce his theory that the Earth orbited the sun.
87	dogmatic	stubbornly adhering to unproved beliefs	Doug was dogmatic in his belief that exercising frequently boosts one's immune system.
88	enlightening	informative; contributing to one's awareness	The Rosetta Stone was enlightening because it allowed linguists to begin to translate Egyptian hieroglyphs, which had previously been a mystery.

Week 16

89	impression	a feeling or understanding resulting from an experience	It was my impression that I was supposed to throw a curve ball, but I must have been wrong because the catcher didn't expect it.
90	intuition	the power of knowing things without thinking; sharp insight	It is said that some people have intuition about future events that allows them to predict the future.
91	misconception	an incorrect understanding or interpretation	His belief that storks bring babies was just one of his many misconceptions.
92	perception	awareness; insight	The detective's perception of people's hidden feelings makes it easy for him to catch liars.
93	perspective	point of view	People from the North and South viewed the Civil War from different perspectives—each side's circumstances made it difficult for them to understand the other side.
94	profound	having a great depth or seriousness	There was a profound silence during the ceremony in honor of those who died during World War II.
95	inherent	inborn; built-in	One of the inherent weaknesses of the AP English Language and Composition exam is that a multiple-choice test, by definition, cannot allow students to be creative in their answers.
96	innate	possessed from birth; inborn	Cats have an innate ability to see well in the dark; they are born with this skill and do not need to develop it.

Week 17 (Review)

Week 18 (Test 3)

Week 19

97	inveterate	long established; deep-rooted; habitual	Stan has always had trouble telling the truth; in fact, he's an inveterate liar.
98	omnipotent	all-powerful	He liked to think that he was an omnipotent manager, but he really had very little control over anything.
99	proximity	closeness	I try to sit far away from Roxy—I don't like sitting in proximity to her because she wears too much perfume.
100	elusive	difficult to capture, as in something actually fleeting	The girl's expression was elusive; the painter had a hard time recreating it on the canvas.
101	emigrate / immigrate	to leave one's country or region and settle in another	Many Jews left Russia and immigrated to Israel after it was founded in 1948.
102	transient	passing away with time; passing from one place to another	Jack Dawson enjoyed his transient lifestyle; with nothing but the clothes on his back and the air in his lungs, he was free to travel wherever he wanted.
103	transitory	short-lived or temporary	The sadness she felt was only transitory; the next day her mood improved.
104	affable	easy-going; friendly	We enjoyed spending time with Mr. Lee because he was such a pleasant, affable man.

Week 20

105	amenable	responsive; agreeable	Since we had been working hard all day, the group seemed amenable to my suggestion that we all go home early.
106	camaraderie	good will between friends	There was great camaraderie among the members of the team; they were friends both on and off the field.
107	cordial	friendly; sincere	Upon my arrival at camp, I received a warm and cordial greeting from the counselors.
108	facetious	playfully humorous	Although the teacher pretended to be insulting his favorite student, he was just being facetious.
109	impinge	hinder; interfere with	By not allowing the students to publish a newspaper, the school was impinging upon their right to free speech.
110	lament	express grief for; mourn	After Beowulf was killed by the dragon, the Geats wept and lamented his fate.
111	melancholy	sadness; depression	Joy fell into a state of melancholy when her Coldplay CD got scratched.
112	sanction	an economic or military measure put in place to punish another country	In 1962, the United States imposed economic sanctions on Cuba to protest Fidel Castro's dictatorship; travel and trade between the countries are severely restricted to this day.

Week 21

113	truncated	shortened; cut off	The file Chris downloaded from the Internet was truncated; the end of it was missing.
114	aesthetic	having to do with the appreciation of beauty.	The arrangement of paintings in the museum was due to aesthetic considerations; as long as the paintings looked good together, it didn't matter who painted them or when they were painted.
115	anthology	a collection of literary pieces	This anthology contains all of William Shakespeare's sonnets, but none of his plays.
116	contemporary	current, modern; from the same time	Contemporary music is very different from the music of the 1920s. Pocahontas and William Shakespeare were contemporaries; they lived during the same time, though not in the same place.
117	dilettante	one with an amateurish or superficial understanding of a field of knowledge	You can't trust Betsy's opinion because she's just a dilettante who doesn't understand the subtleties of the painting.
118	eclectic	made up of a variety of sources or styles	Lou's taste in music is eclectic; he listens to everything from rap to polka.
119	excerpt	a selected part of a passage or scene	We read an excerpt from Romeo and Juliet in which Juliet says, "Romeo, Romeo, wherefore art thou Romeo?"
120	genre	describing a category of artistic endeavor	Gene enjoyed only science-fiction movies; in fact, he never went to see anything that was not in that genre.

Week 22

121	medley	an assortment or a mixture, especially of musical pieces	At the concert, the band played a medley of songs from its first album, cutting an hour's worth of music down to five minutes.
122	mural	a large painting applied directly to a wall or ceiling surface	The mural on the wall of the library showed the signing of the Declaration of Independence.
123	narrative	(adj.) characterized by the telling of a story, (n.) a story	Tony gave us a running narrative of the game, since he was the only one who could see over the fence.
124	parody	an artistic work that imitates the style of another work for comic effect	The Onion is a satirical publication that is a parody of other, nonsatirical newspapers that give real, true news.
125	realism	artistic representation that aims for visual accuracy	His photographs have a stark realism that conveys the true horror of the war.
126	virtuoso	a tremendously skilled artist	Some people say that Jason Loewenstein is a guitar virtuoso because of his amazing work in Sebadoh—others say that his music is just noise.
127	decorous	proper; marked by good taste	The class was well-behaved and the substitute was grateful for their decorous conduct.
128	equanimity	the quality of being calm and even-tempered; composure	She shows great equanimity; she did not panic even in the face of catastrophe.

Week 23 (Review)

Week 24 (Test 4)

Week 25

129	modest	quiet or humble in manner or appearance	Although Mr. Phillips is well-off financially, he lives in a modest, simple home.
130	propriety	appropriateness of behavior	Anyone who blows his nose on the tablecloth has no sense of propriety.
131	prudent	exercising good judgment or common sense	It wouldn't be prudent to act until you've considered every possible outcome.
132	serene	calm	The quiet seaside resort provided a much-needed vacation in a serene locale.
133	staid	unemotional; serious	Mr. Carver had such a staid demeanor that he remained calm while everyone else celebrated the team's amazing victory.
134	stoic	indifferent to pleasure or pain; impassive	Not one to complain, Jason was stoic in accepting his punishment.
135	condemn	to express strong disapproval of; denounce	Homer Simpson condemned Mayor Quimby for allowing the schoolchildren to drink spoiled milk; he was outraged and let the mayor know it.
136	discredit	to cause to be doubted	The claim that pi is exactly equal to 3 can be discredited simply by careful measurement.

Week 26

137	disparage	to speak of in a slighting way or negatively; to belittle	Glen disparaged Wanda's work as being careless and unoriginal.
138	pejorative	describing words or phrases that belittle or speak negatively of someone	Teachers should refrain from using such pejorative terms as numbskull when dealing with students who need encouragement.
139	plagiarism	the act of passing off the ideas of writing of another as one's own.	The author was accused of plagiarism when an older manuscript was discovered that contained passages that she had used, word for word, in her own book.
140	vilify	to make vicious statements about	Chad issued a series of pamphlets that did nothing but vilify his opponent, but his cruel accusations were not enough to win him the election.
141	brusque	rudely abrupt	Mr. Weird was a brusque teacher who didn't take time to talk to or listen to his students.
142	caustic	bitingly sarcastic or witty	He had a very caustic wit, and he seldom told a joke without offending someone.
143	fractious	quarrelsome; unruly	Leonard was a fractious child who disagreed with everything and refused to listen.
144	incorrigible	unable to be reformed	She is absolutely incorrigible; no matter how many times you punish her, she goes right ahead and misbehaves.

Week 27

145	ingrate	an ungrateful person	It is a true ingrate who can accept favor after favor and never offer any thanks.
146	insolent	insulting in manner or speech	It was extremely insolent of him to stick his tongue out at the principal.
147	notorious	known widely and usually unfavorably; infamous	Al Capone was a notorious gangster in the 1930s; he was feared throughout America.
148	pugnacious	combative; belligerent	Lorenzo was a pugnacious child who settled his differences by fighting with people.
149	reprehensible	worthy of blame	It was reprehensible of the girls to spit their gum in their teacher's water bottle; they had detention for a week.
150	brittle	easily broken when subjected to pressure	That antique vase is so brittle that it may break at any moment.
151	deleterious	having a harmful effect; injurious	Although it may seem unlikely, taking too many vitamins can actually have a deleterious effect on your health.
152	enmity	mutual hatred or ill-will	There was a great enmity between the opposing generals, and each wanted to destroy the other.

Week 28

153	heinous	hatefully evil; abominable	To murder someone in cold blood is a heinous crime.
154	malfeasance	wrongdoing, misconduct	The senator was accused of malfeasance after he was caught sneaking out of a local brothel.
155	malice	extreme ill-will or spite	It was clear that he was acting with malice when he disconnected the brakes in his business partner's car.
156	putrid	rotten	He threw his lunch in the bottom of his locker every day and it was a putrid mess by the end of the year—rotten bananas, moldy sandwiches, and curdled milk were some of the more disgusting ingredients.
157	rancorous	hateful; marked by deep-seated ill-will	They had such a rancorous relationship that no one could believe that they had ever gotten along.
158	toxic	poisonous	Since many chemicals are toxic, drinking from random flasks in the chemistry lab could be hazardous to your health.
159	archaic	characteristic of an earlier period; old- fashioned.	"How dost thou?" is an archaic way of saying, "How are you?"
160	hackneyed	worn out through overuse; trite	All my mom could offer in the way of advice were these hackneyed old phrases that I'd heard a hundred times before.

Week 29 (Review)

Week 30 (Test 5)

Week 31

161	medieval	referring to the Middle Ages, old-fashioned	His ideas about fashion were positively medieval; he thought that a man should always wear a coat and tie and a woman should always wear a dress.
162	obsolete	no longer in use; old-fashioned	Eight-track tape players are obsolete because music isn't recorded in that format anymore.
163	austere	without decoration; strict	The gray walls and bare floors provided a very austere setting.
164	mediocrity	the state or quality of being average; of moderate to low quality	Salieri said that he was the patron saint of mediocrity because his work could never measure up to Mozart's.
165	mundane	commonplace; ordinary	We hated going to class every day because it was so mundane; we never did anything interesting.
166	ponderous	extremely dull	The 700-page book on the anatomy of the flea was so ponderous that I could not read more than one paragraph.
167	prosaic	unimaginative; dull	Rebecca made a prosaic mosaic—it consisted of only one tile.
168	sedentary	not migratory; settled	Galatea led a sedentary existence; she never even left her home unless she had to.

Week 32

169	apprehension	anxiety or fear about the future	My grandmother felt apprehension about nuclear war in the 1960s, so my grandfather built a bomb shelter in the backyard to calm her fears.
170	harbinger	something that indicates what is to come; a forerunner	When it is going to rain, insects fly lower, so cows lie down to get away from the insects; therefore, the sight of cows lying down is a harbinger of rain.
171	ominous	menacing; threatening	The rattling under the hood sounded ominous because we were miles from the nearest town and would have been stranded if the car had broken down.
172	premonition	a feeling about the future.	Luckily, my premonition that I would break my neck skiing was unfounded; unluckily, I broke my leg.
173	timorous	timid; fearful about the future.	Tiny Tim was timorous; he was afraid that one day he would be crushed by a giant.
174	trepidation	uncertainty; apprehension	We approached Mrs. Fielding with trepidation because we didn't know how she would react our request for a field trip.
175	innovative	introducing something new	The shop on the corner has become known for its innovative use of fruit on its pizzas.
176	naïve	lacking sophistication	It was naïve of him to think that he could write a novel in one afternoon.

Week 33

177	nascent	coming into existence; emerging	If you study Nirvana's first album, you can see their nascent abilities that were brought to maturity by their second album.
178	novel	strikingly new or unusual	Sharon's novel approach to the problem stunned the scientific community; no one had ever thought to apply game theory to genetics.
179	novice	a beginner	Having only played chess a couple of times, Barry was a novice compared with the contestants who had been playing all their lives.
180	candor	sincerity; openness	It's refreshing to hear Lora's honesty and candor—when asked about her English teacher, she says, "I can't stand her!"
181	frank	open and sincere in expression; straightforward	When Jim lost my calculator, he was frank with me; he admitted to losing it without trying to make p some excuse.
182	arid	describing a dry, rainless climate	Since they receive little rain, deserts are known for their arid climates.
183	conflagration	a widespread fire	The protesters burned flags, accidentally starting a fire that developed into a conflagration that raged out of control.
184	nocturnal	of or occurring in the night	Owls are nocturnal animals because they sleep during the day and hunt at night.

Week 34

185	sonorous	producing a deep or full sound	My father's sonorous snoring keeps me up all night unless I close my door and wear earplugs.
186	ample	describing a large amount of something	Because no one else wanted to try the new soda, Andy was able have an ample sample.
187	comprehensive	large in scope or content	The final exam was comprehensive, covering everything that we had learned that year.
188	copious	plentiful; having a large quantity	She had taken copious notes during class, using up five large notebooks.
189	permeated	spread or flowing throughout	After Kathryn had her hair professionally curled, the scent of chemicals permeated the air.
190	pervasive	dispersed throughout	In this part of town, graffiti is pervasive—it's everywhere.
191	prodigious	enormous	The shattered vase required a prodigious amount of glue to repair.
192	replete	abundantly supplied; filled to capacity	After a successful night of trick-or-treating, Dee's bag was replete with Halloween candy.

Week 35 (Review)

Week 36 (Test 6)