**KAPLAN’S TOP 100 SAT WORDS**

**English Semester 1 Study Guide**

The following words will be on the semester exam. **BE CAREFUL!** You must know the word AND how to use it in a sentence, so make sure you are researching the word and able to use it in a sentence *correctly.*

1. abbreviate -- (v) to shorten, abridge

2. abstinence -- (n) the act of refraining from pleasurable activity, e.g., eating or drinking

3. adulation -- (n) high praise

4. adversity -- (n) misfortune, an unfavorable turn of events

5. aesthetic -- (adj) pertaining to beauty or the arts

6. amicable -- (adj) friendly, agreeable

7. anachronistic -- (adj) out-of-date, not attributed to the correct historical period

8. anecdote -- (n) short, usually funny account of an event

9. anonymous -- (adj) nameless, without a disclosed identity

10. antagonist -- (n) foe, opponent, adversary

11. arid -- (adj) extremely dry or deathly boring

12. assiduous -- (adj) persistent, hard-working

13. asylum -- (n) sanctuary, shelter, place of refuge

14. benevolent -- (adj) friendly and helpful

15. camaraderie -- (n) trust, sociability amongst friends

16. censure -- (v) to criticize harshly

17. circuitous -- (adj) indirect, taking the longest route

18. clairvoyant -- (adj) exceptionally insightful, able to foresee the future

19. collaborate -- (v) to cooperate, work together

20. compassion -- (n) sympathy, helpfulness or mercy

21. compromise -- (v) to settle a dispute by terms agreeable to both sides

22. condescending -- (adj) possessing an attitude of superiority, patronizing

23. conditional -- (adj) depending on a condition, e.g., in a contract

24. conformist -- (n) person who complies with accepted rules and customs

25. congregation -- (n) a crowd of people, an assembly

26. convergence -- (n) the state of separate elements joining or coming together

27. deleterious -- (adj) harmful, destructive, detrimental

28. demagogue -- (n) leader, rabble-rouser, usually appealing to emotion or prejudice

29. digression -- (n) the act of turning aside, straying from the main point, esp. in a speech

30. diligent -- (adj) careful and hard-working

31. discredit -- (v) to harm the reputation of, dishonor or disgrace

32. disdain -- (v) to regard with scorn or contempt

33. divergent -- (adj) separating, moving in different directions from a particular point

34. empathy -- (n) identification with the feelings of others

35. emulate -- (v) to imitate, follow an example

36. enervating -- (adj) weakening, tiring

37. enhance -- (v) to improve, bring to a greater level of intensity

38. ephemeral -- (adj) momentary, transient, fleeting

39. evanescent -- (adj) quickly fading, short-lived, esp. an image

40. exasperation -- (n) irritation, frustration

41. exemplary -- (adj) outstanding, an example to others

42. extenuating -- (adj) excusing, lessening the seriousness of guilt or crime, e.g., of

mitigating factors

43. florid -- (adj) red-colored, flushed; gaudy, ornate

44. fortuitous -- (adj) happening by luck, fortunate

45. frugal -- (adj) thrifty, cheap

46. hackneyed -- (adj) cliched, worn out by overuse

47. haughty -- (adj) arrogant and condescending

48. hedonist -- (n) person who pursues pleasure as a goal

49. hypothesis -- (n) assumption, theory requiring proof

50. impetuous -- (adj) rash, impulsive, acting without thinking