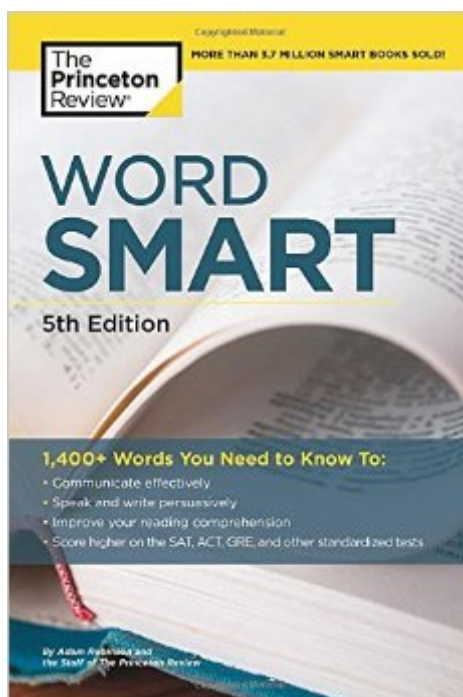


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# Word Smart, 5th Edition (Smart Guides)



## Synopsis

Let your vocabulary speak for itself. Knowing which words to use and how to use them is key to communicating accurately and effectively. That's why more than one million people have used Word Smart to improve their vocabularies! This updated 5th edition defines and explains more than 1,400 need-to-know vocabulary words. To create this book, the Princeton Review analyzed newspapers from the New York Times to the Wall Street Journal, magazines from Time to Scientific American, and books from current bestsellers to classics. We also combed through the SAT and other standardized tests to determine which words are tested most frequently. We sifted out the words that most people know, and focused on words that most people misunderstand or misuse. This updated edition of Word Smart gives you the most important words you need to know to get better grades, score higher on tests, and communicate more confidently at work. WORD SMART, 5th EDITION include more than 1,400 words covering:

- Common usage errors
- The most frequently tested words on standardized tests
- Foreign phrases and abbreviations
- Terms you need to know to understand finance, science, and the arts

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I really thought that the authors of this book compiled a list of 1,505 formidable looking words that I would certainly never see again in my life. I was very wrong. All (yes, all, not almost all) of these words appear at some point in our daily lives, even if it's rare to hear some of the words in this book

used in everyday speech. When I was an AP English student in high school, I noticed that the words in this book frequently appear in the writings of Mark Twain, Emily Dickinson, William Faulkner, and Charles Dickens - and even in contemporary writings, such as those of J.K. Rowling. These words commonly appear in major newspapers and magazines such as Sports Illustrated, The New York Times, and The Wall Street Journal, and these words are bound to appear in any professional writing or documents. I sincerely believe that if you go through these words in the book, you will very seldom find the need to refer to your dictionary to look up an unfamiliar word. While these words prove beneficial to our daily lives, Word Smart is an ideal choice for those who are still attending high school or college. If your mind is set on memorizing these words (especially helpful for those preparing to take the SAT or other standardized tests), I strongly recommend that you read Harry Lorayne's Page-a-Minute Memory Book, which is actually recommended by the authors of this book in Chapter 1. Not only will it help you memorize the 1,505 words in this book, but it will also prove exceptionally helpful, inside and outside of your academic career. I hope my review of this book is helpful.

I am a very forgetful person and have always struggled with vocabulary. I am an international student and my vocab is extremely limited, and it is a great pain to see words that I don't know every once in a while. Whenever I memorized words, I was never able to remember those in just one day, because I used to memorize words by words--only the definition of the words and not understand how to use them in context. And then I got this book! It has great example sentences and/or additional explanation through which I can easily understand the usage of the words, and also clarifies the actual meaning of commonly misused words by many people. Since I understand the words themselves, instead of simply memorizing their literal definitions, I can not only remember the words longer but also know exactly how to use them in the actual conversation! It has been like a week or two since I opened this book, but I still remember the words I memorized the first day. (Well, if it sounds like nothing, to me it is a miracle. I used to ask my friend the meaning of a word for more than ten times, and still forget it!) The book also explains subtle differences between words that are often confused by many. If you have a plenty of time, it would be a good idea to memorize just 1~3 sets per day and try to use them in your general conversation. It's not a lot, probably 10 to 25 words, but it's better to do a little bit at a time for your own benefit in the future. Also make sure you really know the correct usage and the nuance of the words. Sadly I can't do this because I don't have much time left that I can spend for this book. I memorize five sets per day and review previous ones once in a while.

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