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Essential GRE Vocabulary (flashcards) (Graduate School Test Preparation)



Synopsis

500 ESSENTIAL VOCABULARY WORDS TO HELP YOU BOOST YOUR GRE SCORE! • Words and parts of speech on the front • Definitions, contextual sentence, and synonyms on the back, so you can really understand and remember each word • Color-coded scale under the cover so you can easily track your progress • Includes 50 customizable cards for you to fill in the terms you most need to study

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I bought these to supplement my "Cracking the GRE" book because it was taking me waaaay too long to write out all of the flashcards for the "hit parade" words in the book. I assumed that since the words in the book are supposedly the most important to learn that they would be included in the flashcards, especially since it is the same publisher. Unfortunately that was not the case and I ended up using 48 out of 50 of the extra cards included in the set to make my own flashcards to make up the difference of the missing "hit parade" words (and this doesn't include the "beyond the hit parade" ones, I haven't even made it that far). So it has saved me some time, but it seems a bit silly to me that these wouldn't be complete. Also, on the "cracking" DVD, they show you how to set up flashcards to make them the most useful. They say to create a sentence with a clue and to put that clue on the front of the card to help you remember. They also said to include the pronunciation of the word. These flashcards have synonyms, and a sentence along with the definition on the back,

but not the other two tips that the folks at Princeton review had said to use when making your own flashcards... again a discrepancy. Overall, I do think these flashcards are helpful, I just think that Princeton Review should be more consistent across studying materials to make all of our lives easier. Mastering even a small percentage of all the possible GRE words is an arduous task, so anything that makes it even a little bit easier is worth it, I say.

I recommend this product to anyone preparing to take the GRE. I took the ETS practice test as a baseline before studying and received a score of 152 (490 scaled/56th percentile). When I reviewed the questions that I missed, the problem was that I couldn't understand the question because it all hinged on a word I was unfamiliar with. This is why I decided to buy vocab flash cards. I purchased this one in addition to the Barron's cards. There are only about 20 vocab words from Barron's that aren't in the Princeton Review cards. This product has far more words; however, it doesn't help with the quantitative section like Barron's does. I didn't see this as a problem, though, since I already have a grasp of those concepts. As a procrastinator, I waited until five days before my test to begin studying the vocab, which I wouldn't recommend. How I studied: 1. I went through all 500 and pulled out the ones I already explicitly knew (~100 words) 2. I divided them by letters and designated 8/9 letters per day for the first three days. 3. I read the word, the definition, synonyms, the sentence, and the word again for one letter of the alphabet at a time. If I could think of a hint for remembering the word, I wrote that on the back. 4. I went through that letter and pulled out the ones I remembered and went through the process of reading the card again and again until I remembered all the words for that specific letter. 5. On the fourth day, I went through all 500 again and studied the ones that I had forgotten. 6. On the fifth day, I took the test. I took my GRE and received a score of 161 (620 scaled/89th percentile). The questions are far easier to answer when you understand what it's asking. I did see about 20 of the words on the test but that is to be expected. Not all of them will appear, but you will be glad to know the ones that do. I was also able to integrate many of them into the writing section. The only problem I had with these cards was that some words were so obscure that I had to look up pronunciations. It would be nice if this were included on the front of the card just to save time. I suggest that anyone preparing for the GRE with this product should begin studying months in advance instead of cramming like I did. I took four days of studying for hours when I could have done twenty minutes here or there over months.

When I was looking to buy a set of flashcards, I was very torn between getting the Kaplan version and this version. I have to say that I am absolutely in love with these flashcards! They're visually

appealing, while still being basic, provide great definitions as well as sentences and synonyms. It even comes with 50 additional cards to make your own.. genius. I've only had them for 2 days, and I've already learned 50 new words! This has to be the single best GRE-study-aid that I have purchased so far.

These cards are sturdy enough, about the width of an index card. The word and part of speech are on one side, while the opposite side provides a definition, uses the word in a sentence, and gives synonym(s). There are 500 words listed alphabetically--I recognize many from sample GRE tests and word lists. The only thing that would make this more helpful would be if the "answer" side would also break the word into its roots + prefixes/suffixes.

I wish I read more reviews from people that has already taken the test. Anyhoot, I learned about 350 words in 5 days and took the GRE 3 days ago. I saw about 10-15 words which is GREAT. It brought my score up another 150 pts from last score. I enjoyed how the cards are made, it was little, simple, cute, and helpful.

I really like these cards, and would have loved to have given them 5 stars if only the actual cards were a better material. They are very flimsy, more like thick paper than index cards. I do like how the box has a percentage on the side so you can gauge how far you've come. It also comes with some blank cards for you to add your own vocabulary. It arrived fast and in good condition.

My daughter wanted these to prepare for her GRE which is required for her Nursing Graduate entrance. I helped her practice, and learned many new words. I was surprised at how well she remembered the definitions and/or the words. We practiced both flash the word and read the definitions. I am pretty much a jerk at this because I only give about 3 seconds or I buzzed her out and moved on. Surprisingly, she kept up and passed the GRE with top marks. These are not good for the Math portion though, only the verbal portion. Just an FYI.

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