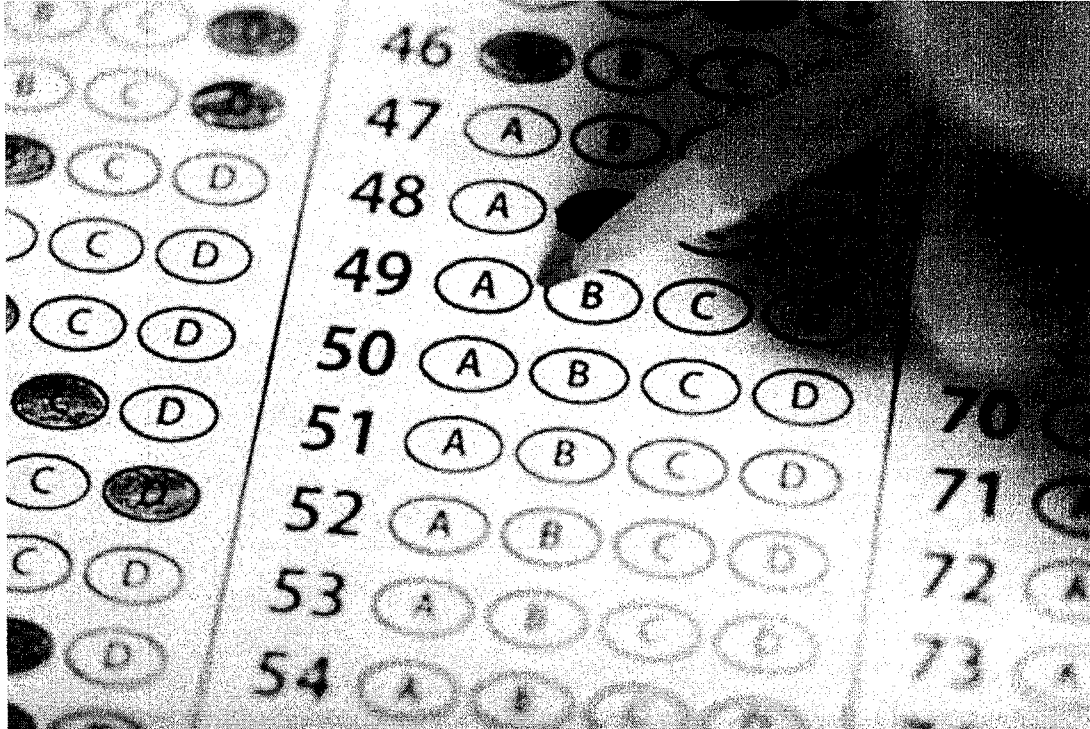


ENGLISH 3AP VOCABULARY



MARKING QUARTER 1

Quiz Date	Vocabulary List #	Confusable Words
September 13 th	1 arable - zealous	its/it's; could have/ would have/ should have; their/there/they're
September 25 th	2 brigand - vestige	different from (not than); your/you're
October 11 th	3 abstemious - vacillate	already/all ready; altogether/all together
October 25 th	4 apocryphal - sybaritic	unique/unusual; continual/continuous

List 1

- 1. arable (adj):** suitable for cultivation of land
Death Valley and the Badlands are both characterized by their lack of *arable* soil.
syn: fecund; fertile *ant:* barren; infertile
- 2. camaraderie (n):** rapport and goodwill
The coach attributed the team's success to the *camaraderie* among the players.
syn: friendship; amity *ant:* enmity; hostility
- 3. desiccate (v):** to dry out; to remove moisture
Janet *desiccates* flowers and then uses them to make wreaths.
syn: dehydrate *ant:* moisten; dampen
- 4. equanimity (n):** composure; calmness
Oddly enough, the plaintiff recounted the story of her attack with perfect *equanimity*.
syn: poise *ant:* anxiety; agitation
- 5. fragile (adj):** fragile; easy to break
Mom seldom used the *fragible*, antique dishes in the china cabinet.
syn: delicate; breakable *ant:* sturdy; strong
- 6. interminable (adj):** tiresome and long; seemingly endless
The last few hours of school before a holiday vacation always seem *interminable*.
syn: tedious *ant:* fleeting; limited
- 7. litany (n):** any long, repetitive, or dull recital
The dissatisfied customer read a *litany* of complaints to the company representative.
- 8. lugubrious (adj):** mournful; gloomy
The *lugubrious* funeral scene temporarily interrupted the comic tone of the play.
syn: somber; depressing *ant:* joyful
- 9. moratorium (n):** a suspension of activity; an authorized delay
The warring factions declared a *moratorium* on combat during the peace talks.
syn: postponement; cessation *ant:* rush; continuation
- 10. replete (adj):** full; abundant
The anglers were happy to find their stream *replete* with trout.
syn: abounding; rife *ant:* lacking; empty
- 11. truncate (v):** to shorten
The candidate *truncated* his campaign because of a family illness.
syn: abridge; abbreviate *ant:* lengthen; increase
- 12. ubiquitous (adj):** occurring or seeming to occur everywhere; omnipresent
The camping trip was horrible; the mosquitoes were *ubiquitous* and hungry.
syn: universal *ant:* nonexistent
- 13. vernacular (n):** everyday language
Using slang or *vernacular* in a formal term paper is inappropriate.
- 14. wrenching (adj):** causing mental or physical pain
The *wrenching* photographs of the starving children prompted Mike to send a donation.
syn: distressing; agonizing *ant:* pleasant; comforting
- 15. zealous (adj):** fervent; fanatical
The *zealous* gardener planted so many flowers that a number of them did not have the necessary space to grow.
syn: passionate; enthusiastic *ant:* uninterested; indifferent

Quiz 1: Confusable Words

Its and It's

Its is possessive and indicates ownership (a good rule of thumb: If you can replace "it" with "his" or "her," then there is no apostrophe in "its.")

The dog chased *its* tail.
The lion licked *its* paws.

It's is a contraction of *it is* or *it has*.

It's my bedtime (*It is* my bedtime).
It's been five years since I saw you! (*It has* been five years since I saw you!)

Should (Could, Would) of and Should (Could, Would) Have

Should, *could*, and, *would* are helping verbs and must be followed by the verb itself. This error arises from the similarity in sound between *of* and *have* as it's often pronounced: should've.

***Should of, could of, and would of are NEVER correct.**

They *should have* told us where they were going.
I *couldn't have* made myself clearer.
I *could have* completed my homework before dinner.
I *would have* given you a pencil if you had asked for one.

There, Their, and They're

There is used to refer to a *place* or a *location*.

I live *there*.
(In this sentence, *there* is used to refer to the place where I live. This could be New York City, for example.)

My car is over *there*.
(In this sentence, *there* is used to refer to the location of my car. This could be in the parking lot, for example.)

Their is used to show *ownership*. *Their* replaces a plural noun.

This is *their* apartment.
(In this sentence, *their* is used to refer to an apartment that is owned. This could be the apartment owned by the Roberts family, for example.)

The ball is *theirs*.
(In this sentence, *theirs* is used to refer to a ball that is owned. This could be a soccer ball owned by a group of kids who are playing soccer, for example.)

They're is a contraction of the words *they* and *are*.

They're my friends.
(*They are* my friends.)

List 2

- 1. brigand (n):** a robber or bandit
The stagecoach driver kept a nervous watch for *brigands* while transporting the heavy cashbox.
syn: highwayman; outlaw
- 2. carte blanche (n):** boundless authority; unlimited power to act
The secret agent had *carte blanche* to complete the extremely vital mission.
syn: license; sanction; free rein *ant:* restriction
- 3. contemptuous (adj):** haughty; scornful
The *contemptuous* bank loan officer was rude to the poorly dressed applicants.
syn: arrogant; derisive *ant:* humble; polite
- 4. cosmopolitan (adj):** worldly; sophisticated
Brett longed to have the *cosmopolitan* lifestyle of an international investor.
syn: cultured *ant:* provincial
- 5. donnybrook (n):** a fight; an uproar
During the last minute of the close championship game, a referee's foolish decision caused a *donnybrook* among the fans of both teams.
syn: brawl; quarrel *ant:* agreement
- 6. incantation (n):** a chant; a recited magical spell
The sorceress uttered a long *incantation* as she mixed the magic potion.
- 7. interlocutor (n):** someone who participates in a conversation
The delusional man wandered down the street, conversing with some invisible *interlocutor*.
- 8. metamorphosis (n):** a transformation or dramatic change
The butterfly will experience a physical *metamorphosis* as it passes from the pupa stage to the adult stage.
syn: mutation *ant:* stasis
- 9. nomenclature (n):** technical names or naming system in an art or science
Students often spend hours memorizing the *nomenclature* for chemistry class.
syn: terminology
- 10. nonchalant (adj):** unconcerned; indifferent
The *nonchalant* banker looked at the million-dollar check as though he saw one every day.
syn: detached; relaxed *ant:* excited; concerned; alarmed
- 11. procrustean (adj):** strictly disregarding individual differences or circumstances
The *procrustean* teacher warned the class that he would not accept excuses for tardiness.
syn: ruthless; indiscriminating *ant:* sympathetic; compassionate
- 12. rife (adj):** abundant; prevalent
Be careful while shopping, because that part of the city is *rife* with crime.
syn: overflowing; rampant *ant:* lacking; limited
- 13. sophistry (n):** a deliberately deceptive or misleading argument
The TV talk-show host's convincing *sophistry* made his guests look foolish for disagreeing with him.
syn: ruse *ant:* truth
- 14. stygian (adj):** dark and forbidding
The *stygian* house, empty for decades, was often the source of unexplained phenomena.
syn: shadowy *ant:* bright; illuminated
- 15. vestige (n):** a trace or evidence of something that once existed
The rich vein of coal is a *vestige* of Earth's lush, prehistoric forests.
syn: remnant; hint

Quiz 2: Confusable Words

Different From Not Different Than

Than is a subordinating conjunction that introduces a clause of comparison. When *than* follows an adjective, that adjective has to be a comparative: "Stronger than your big brother is." Since *different* is not a comparative, use the preposition *from* after it.

Natalie's opinion is *different from* most people's, but she still deserves to be heard.

Your and You're

Your is possessive, showing something that belongs to the person you are speaking to.
Can I borrow *your* pencil?

You're is a contraction of the words *you are*. The apostrophe shows that the letter 'a' is missing.

You're supposed to take the garbage out.

List 3

- 1. abstemious (*adj.*):** using or consuming sparingly
Bill, who wants to lose weight, is *abstemious* in eating foods high in fat.
syn: frugal; moderate *ant:* gluttonous; greedy
- 2. archaic (*adj.*):** no longer current or applicable; antiquated
Some states still have *archaic* laws that regulate horse-and-buggy traffic.
syn: obsolete; outmoded *ant:* current; modern
- 3. atelier (*n.*):** an artist's or a designer's workshop
The painter converted his garage into an *atelier* to work on his creative masterpieces.
- 4. axiom (*n.*):** a universal truth; an established rule
According to some people, the most important *axiom* of all is, "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."
syn: fundamental; theorem *ant:* absurdity
- 5. dulcet (*adj.*):** melodious; pleasing to the ear
The opera singer's *dulcet* voice earned her a prominent place in the upcoming production.
syn: harmonic; melodic *ant:* cacophonous; dissonant
- 6. expurgate (*v.*):** to remove vulgar or objectionable material
Censors sometimes feel that it is necessary to *expurgate* offensive scenes from movies.
syn: censor
- 7. iniquity (*n.*):** an evil or wicked act
He heartily repented his *iniquity*, but only after he faced a lifelong prison sentence.
syn: abomination; injustice; sin
- 8. patronizing (*adj.*):** treating with condescension; acting superior
Despite his *patronizing* treatment of the employees, the foreman was still well-liked.
syn: lofty; arrogant *ant:* humble; friendly
- 9. pellucid (*adj.*):** transparent; clear
Eliminate extraneous words if you want your paper to have a *pellucid* message.
syn: limpid *ant:* obscure; opaque
- 10. peremptory (*adj.*):** not allowing refusal or delay; imperative
The guard issued a *peremptory* warning to step away from the fence or be fired upon.
syn: authoritative *ant:* passive
- 11. perspicacious (*adj.*):** keen; mentally sharp
The *perspicacious* gambler knew that he would need to make a hasty exit after winning most of the cowboy's money.
syn: shrewd; keen; clever *ant:* dull; stupid
- 12. scapegoat (*n.*):** one who bears the blame for others
Andy was frequently absent, so other workers made him the *scapegoat* for their own mistakes.
syn: patsy; sucker
- 13. talisman (*n.*):** a magic charm or superstitious object used for protection or luck
The wizard claimed that no harm would come to anyone holding the *talisman*.
- 14. usurp (*v.*):** to take over; to seize power
The evil heir planned to *usurp* the throne while the king was ill.
syn: commandeer; seize; co-opt *ant:* abdicate; relinquish
- 15. vacillate (*v.*):** to waver; to sway indecisively
For years Bobby *vacillated* between liking one band and then another.
syn: fluctuate; swing; waffle *ant:* decide

Quiz 3: Confusable Words

All ready and Already

All ready is an adjective phrase that means *ready without exception* or *entirely ready*. It can modify either a singular or plural noun or pronoun.

When the conductor raises his hands, it signals that the musicians are *all ready* to play.

After the mechanic had replaced the engine, the car was *all ready* to go.

Already is an adverb meaning *by that time*.

By nine o'clock in the morning, the temperature was *already* eighty degrees.

All together and Altogether

All together is an adverb phrase used when a number of entities are acting in unison or simultaneously.

The last time we were *all together* in the same room was in elementary school!

Altogether is an adverb of emphasis that means *entirely, absolutely*.

There is *altogether* too much importance attached to getting into Ivy League colleges.

List 4

- 1. apocryphal (*adj*):** of questionable authenticity, but widely believed
Modern historians dismiss the *apocryphal* story that George Washington cut down a cherry tree.
syn: dubious; equivocal; spurious *ant*: genuine; authentic
- 2. catharsis (*n*):** a release of emotional tension
The movie lacked *catharsis* because the villain received no punishment.
syn: purgation
- 3. crepuscular (*adj*):** pertaining to twilight
That species of trout has *crepuscular* feeding habits, so you'll catch the most at daybreak or sunset.
- 4. efficacious (*adj*):** effective; producing the desired outcome
The shot of adrenaline was *efficacious* in restarting the victim's heart.
syn: productive; useful *ant*: ineffective
- 5. estrangle (*v*):** to alienate
Jill's overbearing mother-in-law *estranged* Jill from her husband.
syn: disaffect, antagonize *ant*: unite; endear
- 6. internecine (*adj*):** mutually destructive
The *internecine* battle resulted in thousands of casualties, but neither side gained new land.
ant: constructive; beneficial
- 7. intrinsic (*adj*):** of or relating to a thing's basic nature; inherent
Humans have an *intrinsic* desire to be loved.
syn: basic, elemental *ant*: extrinsic
- 8. inundate (*v*):** to overwhelm; to fill beyond capacity
Callers *inundated* the radio station with requests for the popular new song.
syn: flood; overwhelm
- 9. kudos (*n*):** acclaim or praise
The director of the successful new musical won *kudos* from most critics.
syn: honor; distinction *ant*: disapproval; rejection
**kudos always takes a singular verb*
- 10. maxim (*n*):** an established principle; a truth or rule of conduct
The coach frequently spoke the *maxim*, "A chain is only as strong as its weakest link."
syn: axiom, proverb
- 11. putrid (*adj*):** rotten and foul smelling
We rolled up the car windows to escape to *putrid* smell of a dead skunk on the road.
syn: fetid; rancid; malodorous *ant*: aromatic; fragrant
- 12. revere (*v*):** to regard with respect, awe, or adoration
Alexander the Great's soldiers *revered* their leader because he led the troops into every battle.
syn: venerate; respect; honor *ant*: revile
- 13. risible (*adj*):** relating to laughter; laughable
The *risible* statement made by the gentleman in the front row was completely ridiculous, but it was amusing.
syn: comical; jocular; jocund *ant*: grave; solemn
- 14. servile (*adj*):** submissive; slavish
The *servile* dog cowered before its intimidating master.
syn: subservient; ignoble *ant*: haughty; domineering
- 15. sybaritic (*adj*):** marked by luxury or pleasure
Ice sculptures, massive chandeliers, and live entertainment were commonplace at Gatsby's *sybaritic* parties.
syn: luxurious, ostentatious; grandiose *ant*: modest; simple

Quiz 4: Confusable Words

Unique and Unusual

The adjective *unique* means *one of a kind, incomparable* while the adjective *unusual* means *rare, uncommon*. *Only unusual can be found in comparative or superlative forms: so unusual that, more unusual, very unusual, most unusual. *There are no degrees of uniqueness.*

My custom-made Vans are *unique*, since only I have these particular sneakers.

Venice is *unusual* among cities for having canals instead of streets.

Continual and Continuous

Both adjectives are derived from the verb *to continue*, but *continual* means *repeated often* while *continuous* means *without stopping*.

Josh *continually* forgets to bring his novel to English class.

The dog has been barking *continuously* for about half an hour.