



Test Ninjas

VOCABULARY STUDY SERIES

GMAT VOCABULARY

GMAT Vocabulary: Data, Quantity & Measurement

55 focused words in Data, Quantity & Measurement

55

UNIQUE WORDS

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CATEGORIES

GMAT

EXAM FOCUS



About this study guide

This vocabulary guide was prepared and published by Test Ninjas as an independent study resource. It is designed to help students build the precise word knowledge needed for demanding academic reading and reasoning.

How to use this guide

Study in short, repeated sessions. Read each definition, say the word aloud, and use the example to understand how the word functions in context. Return to unfamiliar words until you can explain them without looking at the definition.

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001 abound *verb*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

Exist in great numbers; be plentiful

Theories **abound** about the cause of the mass extinction, but few are supported by fossil evidence.

MEMORY CUE: When rabbits abound, they seem to bounce everywhere in great numbers.

002 abundant *adjective*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

Existing in large quantities; plentiful

Archaeological sites in the region are **abundant**, suggesting a thriving civilization once inhabited the valley.

MEMORY CUE: An abundant harvest fills many baskets and still leaves more.

003 acreage *noun*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

An area of land, typically measured in acres

The disputed **acreage** along the border became the flashpoint for a decades-long territorial conflict.

MEMORY CUE: Acreage measures how many acre-sized squares cover a piece of land.

004 all-encompassing *adjective*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

Including or covering everything or everyone; comprehensive to the highest degree

The historian's **all-encompassing** study of the Roman Empire spans politics, economics, religion, and daily life.

MEMORY CUE: An all-encompassing circle stretches around everything, leaving nothing outside.

005 alleviate *verb*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

To make a problem or suffering less severe; to relieve

International aid organizations rushed supplies to the region in an effort to **alleviate** the famine's worst effects.

MEMORY CUE: A lever lifting a burden makes its weight lighter: alleviate.

006 amorphous *adjective*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

Without a clearly defined shape or form; vague and unorganized

The committee's goals remained **amorphous**, lacking any concrete plan of action.

MEMORY CUE: An amorphous blob has no clearly defined shape.

007 arduous *adjective*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

Involving or requiring strenuous effort; difficult and tiring

The **arduous** trek through the mountain pass tested even the most experienced members of the expedition.

MEMORY CUE: Pushing a boulder uphill is arduous: difficult, tiring, and demanding great effort.

008 astounding *adjective*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

Surprisingly impressive or notable; shocking

The telescope revealed an **astounding** number of previously unknown galaxies in a single patch of sky.

MEMORY CUE: Astounding news makes you stop, stare, and stand stunned.

009 attainment *noun*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

The act of achieving or reaching a goal or level

Her **attainment** of fluency in four languages by age twenty opened doors in the diplomatic corps.

MEMORY CUE: Attainment is reaching up and finally touching the chosen goal.

010 augmented *verb (past participle)*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

Made greater in size, extent, or quality; supplemented

The orchestra's sound was **augmented** by a chorus of sixty voices for the finale of the symphony.

MEMORY CUE: An augmented orchestra grows greater when extra musicians join it.

011 bolster *verb*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

To support, strengthen, or reinforce

The senator cited three new studies to **bolster** her argument for increased funding in early childhood education.

MEMORY CUE: Bolster a weak wall by adding a thick supporting beam.

012 complementary *adjective*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

Combining in such a way as to enhance or improve each other; completing

The two researchers brought **complementary** skills to the project—one excelled in theory, the other in laboratory technique.

MEMORY CUE: Complementary puzzle pieces are different, but fit together to improve and complete the picture.

013 complemented *verb (past tense)*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

Added to in a way that enhances or improves

The historian's archival research was **complemented** by extensive fieldwork at the archaeological site.

MEMORY CUE: The right frame complemented the painting by enhancing what was already there.

014 consequential *adjective*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

Following as a result or effect; important, significant

The ruling was the most **consequential** Supreme Court decision on privacy rights in over a decade.

MEMORY CUE: A consequential choice sends important effects cascading into the future.

015 constrained *verb (past tense)*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

Severely restricted the scope, extent, or activity of; compelled or forced

Limited funding **constrained** the researchers to a much smaller sample size than they had originally planned.

MEMORY CUE: Constrained movement strains against tight limits that restrict its range.

016 copious *adjective*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

Abundant in supply or quantity; plentiful

The biographer drew on **copious** correspondence between the two writers to reconstruct their intellectual friendship.

MEMORY CUE: A copious supply overflows every available container.

017 curtailed *verb*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

Reduced in extent or quantity; cut short

Civil liberties were **curtailed** during the wartime emergency, a decision that historians continue to debate.

MEMORY CUE: Scissors cut a long ribbon short; its length or extent has been curtailed.

018 decisive *adjective*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

Settling an issue; producing a definite result; conclusive

The battle proved **decisive**, ending a conflict that had dragged on for nearly a decade.

MEMORY CUE: A decisive gavel quickly ends debate and produces one definite result.

019 detrimental *adjective*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

Tending to cause harm; damaging

Chronic sleep deprivation has been shown to be **detrimental** to both cognitive function and cardiovascular health.

MEMORY CUE: A detrimental chemical visibly damages the plant it touches.

020 devastating *adjective*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

Highly destructive; causing severe shock, distress, or damage

The hurricane's **devastating** impact on the coastal communities took years and billions of dollars to repair.

MEMORY CUE: A devastating blow leaves severe destruction and emotional shock behind.

021 disparate *adjective*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

Essentially different in kind; markedly distinct

The study attempted to synthesize findings from **disparate** fields, including neuroscience, linguistics, and anthropology.

MEMORY CUE: Disparate objects belong in separate boxes because they differ essentially in kind.

022 egregious *adjective*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

Outstandingly bad; shocking; remarkably terrible

The report highlighted the most **egregious** violations of environmental regulations.

MEMORY CUE: An egregious error flashes an alarm because it is shockingly bad.

023 eminent *adjective*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

Famous and respected within a particular sphere or profession; outstanding

The conference attracted **eminent** scholars from universities around the world.

MEMORY CUE: An eminent scholar stands out through respected, outstanding achievement.

024 exacerbated *verb (past participle)*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

Made a problem, bad situation, or negative feeling worse; aggravated

The housing crisis was **exacerbated** by speculative investment that drove prices far beyond what local families could afford.

MEMORY CUE: Scratching exacerbated the rash by making an already bad condition worse.

025 exacting *adjective*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

Making great demands on one's skill, attention, or resources; rigorously precise

Restoring a Renaissance fresco is an **exacting** process that demands years of specialized training.

MEMORY CUE: An exacting task demands exact attention, skill, and precision.

026 exaggeration *noun*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

A statement that represents something as better or worse than it really is

To say the discovery revolutionized the field would be an **exaggeration**, but it certainly opened promising new avenues.

MEMORY CUE: Exaggeration stretches a small fish into a legendary sea monster.

027 exceedingly *adverb*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

To a very great degree; extremely

The enzyme is **exceedingly** sensitive to temperature changes, losing its catalytic function above forty degrees.

MEMORY CUE: Exceedingly means the degree has raced far beyond ordinary limits.

028 exponentially *adverb*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

At an increasingly rapid rate; by a very large amount

Data storage costs have decreased **exponentially** over the past three decades, transforming entire industries.

MEMORY CUE: Exponential growth climbs faster each step, multiplying instead of adding.

029 impeccable *adjective*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

In accordance with the highest standards of propriety; faultless

Her **impeccable** credentials made her the obvious choice for the position.

MEMORY CUE: An impeccable surface passes inspection without a single fault mark.

030 inadequate *adjective*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

Lacking the quality or quantity required; insufficient; not good enough

The city's **inadequate** sewage system could not handle the volume of water produced by the unprecedented rainfall.

MEMORY CUE: An inadequate supply falls below the bright line marked ENOUGH.

031 incidental *adjective*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

Accompanying but not a major part of; occurring by chance in connection with something else

The composer's **incidental** music for the play became more famous than the drama it was written to accompany.

MEMORY CUE: An incidental effect appears as a small side branch of the main event.

032 innocuous *adjective*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

Not harmful or offensive; harmless

The seemingly **innocuous** email attachment contained malware that compromised the entire network.

MEMORY CUE: An innocuous object touches a flower without damaging a single petal.

033 intrinsic *adjective*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

Belonging naturally; essential; inherent

The gemstone's **intrinsic** value lies not in its size but in the rarity of its deep blue color.

MEMORY CUE: Intrinsic value is woven into the thing itself, not added outside.

034 median *noun*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

The middle value after a set of numbers has been arranged in order.

Because one executive earned exceptionally high pay, the **median** better represented the typical employee's salary.

MEMORY CUE: The median stands on the median strip, exactly in the middle of the ordered road.

035 mitigated *verb (past tense)*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

Made less severe, serious, or painful; lessened

The flood damage was **mitigated** by the levee system, though some low-lying areas were still inundated.

MEMORY CUE: Shade mitigated the heat by making its severity less intense.

036 negligible *adjective*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

So small or unimportant as to be not worth considering; insignificant

The difference in cost between the two options was **negligible**, so the committee chose the more sustainable one.

MEMORY CUE: A negligible amount shrinks into a speck too small to matter.

037 percentile *noun*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

A position indicating the percentage of observations at or below a particular value.

A store in the ninetieth **percentile** for sales performed at least as well as ninety percent of stores.

MEMORY CUE: A percentile is your step on a hundred-step ranking ladder, not your percentage correct.

038 peripheral *adjective*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

Of secondary or minor importance; marginal; on the edge

The study focused on the central nervous system, treating the **peripheral** nervous system as outside its scope.

MEMORY CUE: Peripheral items sit at the edge of the circle, outside the main center.

039 plethora *noun*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

An excess of something; a large or excessive amount

The researcher was overwhelmed by the **plethora** of data generated by the new instrument.

MEMORY CUE: A plethora is such an excessive pile that it spills beyond what is useful.

040 profound *adjective*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

Very great or intense; having or showing great knowledge or insight; going to a great depth

The discovery had a **profound** impact on the field, overturning assumptions that had stood for more than a century.

MEMORY CUE: A profound idea descends far below the surface into deep insight.

041 prolific *adjective*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

Producing a great quantity of something, especially creative work

The **prolific** author published over forty novels in a career spanning five decades.

MEMORY CUE: A prolific tree produces basket after basket of fruit.

042 prominence *noun*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

The state of being important or famous; the quality of projecting or standing out

The theory rose to **prominence** in the 1980s and has remained the dominant framework in the field ever since.

MEMORY CUE: Prominence projects outward, making something stand out in fame or importance.

043 requisite *adjective*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

Made necessary by particular circumstances or regulations; required

The applicant possessed all the **requisite** qualifications but lacked the industry connections that might have secured the position.

MEMORY CUE: A requisite is the required ticket demanded before entry.

044 rife *adjective*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

Widespread; filled with; abundant (especially of something undesirable)

The industry was **rife** with corruption, a fact that successive investigations had documented but failed to remedy.

MEMORY CUE: A garden rife with weeds is filled with them everywhere.

045 robust *adjective*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

Strong and healthy; vigorous; able to withstand adverse conditions

The economy showed **robust** growth in the third quarter, exceeding even the most optimistic forecasts.

MEMORY CUE: A robust oak stays strong and healthy through harsh weather.

046 sampling *noun*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

The process of selecting part of a population to study as a representation of the whole.

Random **sampling** reduced the chance that the survey would include only the company's most enthusiastic customers.

MEMORY CUE: Sampling tastes one careful spoonful to learn about the entire pot.

047 scant *adjective*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

Barely sufficient or adequate; meager

Scant evidence supports the popular belief that reading in dim light permanently damages eyesight.

MEMORY CUE: A scant supply barely touches the minimum line and may be inadequate.

048 scarce *adjective*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

Insufficient in quantity; in short supply

Clean drinking water is **scarce** in the region, forcing residents to walk miles to the nearest safe source.

MEMORY CUE: A scarce resource sits nearly alone on an otherwise empty shelf.

049 superfluous *adjective*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

Unnecessary; more than what is needed or wanted

The editor cut two entire chapters as **superfluous**, arguing that they repeated arguments made more effectively elsewhere.

MEMORY CUE: A superfluous piece remains after every need is already met.

050 **tenuous** *adjective*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

Very weak or slight; insubstantial; thin and fragile

The connection between the two events is **tenuous** at best, resting on coincidence rather than demonstrated causation.

MEMORY CUE: A tenuous connection hangs from one thin, fraying thread.

051 **thorny** *adjective*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

Causing difficulty or disagreement; problematic; hard to deal with

Immigration policy remains one of the **thorniest** issues in contemporary politics, defying easy solutions.

MEMORY CUE: A thorny problem pricks anyone trying to handle its difficult details.

052 **trivial** *adjective*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

Of little value or importance; commonplace

What may appear **trivial** to an outsider—a single misplaced comma—can entirely change the meaning of a legal contract.

MEMORY CUE: A trivial speck is too small in value or importance to deserve the spotlight.

053 **variance** *noun*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

A measure of how widely values in a dataset spread around their average.

Two stores had equal average sales, but greater **variance** made one store's weekly results far less predictable.

MEMORY CUE: Variance asks how far the data dots wander away from their central camp.

054 **weighted** *adjective*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

Calculated so that some values influence the result more strongly than others.

The **weighted** average gives the larger division more influence because it employs far more people.

MEMORY CUE: A weighted value carries a heavier scale weight, so it pulls the final result farther.

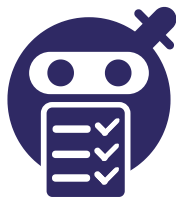
055 **zenith** *noun*

DATA, QUANTITY & MEASUREMENT

The time at which something is most powerful or successful; the highest point

The empire reached its **zenith** in the sixteenth century before beginning its long decline.

MEMORY CUE: At its zenith, a star or career reaches its highest point.



GMAT VOCABULARY

Keep building your edge.

Vocabulary grows through repeated exposure and deliberate use.
Revisit this list, write with the words, and practice recognizing their
meaning in context.

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