

# SCAT Advanced Vocabulary Practice Exam (Sample)

## Study Guide



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**SAMPLE**

## **Questions**

- 1. Who is referred to as a "plagiarist"?**
  - A. A person who creates original works**
  - B. A person who edits others' work**
  - C. A person who presents someone else's work as his or her own**
  - D. A person who teaches others**
- 2. Which term describes a strong liking for something?**
  - A. Pioneer**
  - B. Negate**
  - C. Penchant**
  - D. Paradox**
- 3. What does 'leverage' refer to in a scenario involving influence?**
  - A. The act of yielding**
  - B. The act to exert power or influence**
  - C. The act of being submissive**
  - D. The act of withdrawing**
- 4. A stoic person is best described as?**
  - A. Overly preoccupied**
  - B. Someone who lives in seclusion**
  - C. Not affected by passion or feeling**
  - D. Artful, cunning, deceitful**
- 5. What is the term for a large, destructive fire?**
  - A. Inferno**
  - B. Conflagration**
  - C. Blaze**
  - D. Wildfire**
- 6. What is the definition of a "theologian"?**
  - A. A person who studies economics**
  - B. A person who studies biology**
  - C. A person who studies religion**
  - D. A person who studies geography**

- 7. Which term is defined as "a collection of wild or unusual animals for exhibition"?**
- A. Sanctuary**
  - B. Aviary**
  - C. Menagerie**
  - D. Zoo**
- 8. What does the term 'strident' describe?**
- A. Soft and soothing**
  - B. Harsh and grating**
  - C. Melodic and harmonious**
  - D. Quiet and subtle**
- 9. How is the term "ornery" best characterized?**
- A. Friendly and sociable**
  - B. Difficult and stubborn**
  - C. Easygoing and adaptable**
  - D. Friendly with a sense of humor**
- 10. What is indicated by the term "vociferous"?**
- A. Discreet**
  - B. Quiet**
  - C. Boisterous**
  - D. Timid**

## **Answers**

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1. C
2. C
3. B
4. C
5. B
6. C
7. C
8. B
9. B
10. C

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## **Explanations**

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**1. Who is referred to as a "plagiarist"?**

- A. A person who creates original works**
- B. A person who edits others' work**
- C. A person who presents someone else's work as his or her own**
- D. A person who teaches others**

The term "plagiarist" specifically describes someone who takes the ideas, writings, or creative works of another person and presents them as their own, without proper attribution or acknowledgment. This is a serious ethical violation in academic and creative fields as it undermines the original creator's work and misrepresents the plagiarist's own efforts. In contrast, the other choices do not align with this definition. A person who creates original works is celebrated for their creativity; an individual who edits others' work is typically engaged in constructive criticism or publishing; and someone who teaches others is spreading knowledge and facilitating learning. Each of these roles contributes positively to the discourse of ideas and creativity, whereas a plagiarist undermines those contributions by appropriating them improperly.

**2. Which term describes a strong liking for something?**

- A. Pioneer**
- B. Negate**
- C. Penchant**
- D. Paradox**

The term "penchant" specifically refers to a strong inclination or liking for something. It is often used to describe a person's fondness or preference for a particular activity, hobby, or type of food. For example, one might say, "She has a penchant for classical music," indicating a strong affinity toward that genre. The other terms do not convey the same meaning. "Pioneer" refers to someone who is among the first to explore or settle a new area or to develop a new field of knowledge. "Negate" means to nullify or make something ineffective, while "paradox" describes a situation that contains contradictory elements but may nonetheless be true. These definitions do not align with the concept of strong liking or affection, making "penchant" the most suitable choice.

**3. What does 'leverage' refer to in a scenario involving influence?**

- A. The act of yielding**
- B. The act to exert power or influence**
- C. The act of being submissive**
- D. The act of withdrawing**

The term 'leverage' in the context of influence refers to the ability or power to affect outcomes to one's advantage. Essentially, it embodies the idea of using one's resources or strengths effectively to sway decisions, people, or situations in favor of a desired outcome. This can manifest in various scenarios, such as negotiations, where one party may leverage their expertise or strategic position to influence the agreement's terms. The other choices do not encapsulate the concept of leveraging influence. Yielding implies giving way or conceding, which is contrary to exerting power or influence. Being submissive also suggests a lack of power or control, while withdrawing signifies retreat or disengagement rather than influencing a scenario. Thus, stating that 'leverage' pertains to the exertion of power or influence is accurate, as it captures the essence of using one's position or resources to enact change or achieve goals.

#### 4. A stoic person is best described as?

- A. Overly preoccupied
- B. Someone who lives in seclusion
- C. Not affected by passion or feeling**
- D. Artful, cunning, deceitful

A stoic person is characterized by their ability to remain calm and unperturbed regardless of external circumstances. This means that they do not allow emotions, passions, or feelings to dictate their responses or behavior. The essence of stoicism, both as a philosophical doctrine and as a personal trait, emphasizes maintaining composure and rationality in the face of adversity or emotional turmoil. Therefore, the definition of being "not affected by passion or feeling" accurately captures the core of what it means to be stoic. The other choices, while they may describe certain attributes, do not align with the fundamental definition of stoicism. Being overly preoccupied suggests a lack of focus or an excessive concern about minutiae, which contradicts stoic calmness. Living in seclusion indicates withdrawal from social interaction and does not reflect the composed presence stoics maintain in the face of challenges. Lastly, being artful, cunning, or deceitful implies manipulation and emotional engagement, which is the opposite of the stoic ideal of emotional detachment and rationality. Thus, the correct choice emphasizes the stoic virtue of emotional resilience and control.

#### 5. What is the term for a large, destructive fire?

- A. Inferno
- B. Conflagration**
- C. Blaze
- D. Wildfire

The term "conflagration" specifically refers to a large and destructive fire that can cause significant damage, often spreading rapidly and uncontrollably. It emphasizes the intensity and scale of the fire, distinguishing it from smaller fires or ignitions. While "inferno," "blaze," and "wildfire" all relate to fire, they do not convey the same level of destruction and broad implication of an out-of-control fire that "conflagration" does. "Inferno" suggests a situation of extreme heat and intensity, but it doesn't inherently denote the destructive nature or widespread impact characteristic of a conflagration. "Blaze" usually refers to a strong fire but can apply to various sizes and does not imply extensive damage. "Wildfire" pertains to uncontrolled fires in natural areas, such as forests or grasslands, but does not specifically define the size or impact as a conflagration does. Thus, "conflagration" is the most precise term for a large, destructive fire.

**6. What is the definition of a "theologian"?**

- A. A person who studies economics
- B. A person who studies biology
- C. A person who studies religion**
- D. A person who studies geography

A theologian is defined as a person who studies religion, particularly in relation to the nature of the divine, religious beliefs, practices, and the study of sacred texts. This discipline involves analyzing various religious traditions, doctrines, and the philosophical implications of faith. The focus is on understanding religious phenomena, ethical implications, and the historical context of belief systems. This is why the answer is C, as it accurately captures the essence of what a theologian does and the subject matter they engage with. Each of the other choices pertains to entirely different fields of study—economics, biology, and geography—none of which relate to the study of religion.

**7. Which term is defined as "a collection of wild or unusual animals for exhibition"?**

- A. Sanctuary
- B. Aviary
- C. Menagerie**
- D. Zoo

The term that denotes "a collection of wild or unusual animals for exhibition" is menagerie. This word specifically refers to a diverse collection of animals, often kept for public viewing, and historically has been associated with the exhibition of exotic species. Menageries are distinct from other types of animal collections because they emphasize the uniqueness or rarity of the animals displayed, often including creatures that are not typically seen in a more traditional setting, such as a zoo. In contrast, while a sanctuary is a place where animals are protected and cared for, it does not primarily focus on exhibition. An aviary, on the other hand, is specifically designed for birds, whereas a zoo encompasses a broader range of animal species and typically emphasizes education and conservation efforts. Therefore, the correct identification of "a collection of wild or unusual animals for exhibition" aligns perfectly with the definition of menagerie.

**8. What does the term 'strident' describe?**

- A. Soft and soothing
- B. Harsh and grating**
- C. Melodic and harmonious
- D. Quiet and subtle

The term 'strident' is used to describe something that is harsh, grating, or excessively loud. It often refers to sounds that are unpleasantly strong or high-pitched, causing discomfort to the listener. For example, a strident voice might be one that cuts through the air with its piercing quality, leaving little room for softer, more melodious sounds. This definition emphasizes the negative connotation associated with 'strident', making it distinct from descriptors such as 'soft and soothing', 'melodic and harmonious', or 'quiet and subtle', which suggest gentleness, harmony, or delicacy. In contrast, 'strident' captures an intensity that is jarring rather than pleasing to the auditory senses.

**9. How is the term "ornery" best characterized?**

- A. Friendly and sociable
- B. Difficult and stubborn**
- C. Easygoing and adaptable
- D. Friendly with a sense of humor

The term "ornery" is best characterized as difficult and stubborn. It conveys a sense of irritability or a tendency to be contrary, often implying that a person is not easily pleased or agreeable. This can often manifest in behavior that feels obstinate or challenging, particularly when it comes to following directions or cooperating with others. In contrast, the other options describe traits that are quite opposite to what "ornery" signifies. For instance, being friendly and sociable suggests a positive, approachable demeanor, while easygoing and adaptable implies a flexibility and willingness to go along with others' wishes. Lastly, friendly with a sense of humor indicates a warm, enjoyable interaction style, which starkly contrasts with the stubborn nature associated with being ornery. Thus, the definition aligns specifically with being difficult and stubborn, making that the accurate characterization.

**10. What is indicated by the term "vociferous"?**

- A. Discreet
- B. Quiet
- C. Boisterous**
- D. Timid

The term "vociferous" refers to someone or something that is loud, clamorous, or noisy, often expressing opinions or feelings forcefully or passionately. It connotes a sense of boisterousness, where a person may be unreserved in their speech or protest, making their presence and opinions strongly felt. Choosing the option that means boisterous is appropriate because it captures the essence of being vociferous, where energy and volume in expression are prominent. It often implies an assertive or enthusiastic way of communicating ideas or feelings, which aligns perfectly with the definition of vociferous. This concept is distinct from being discreet, quiet, or timid, which would imply a more subdued or reserved presence.