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# **Sun-Kissed (Smart Novels: An SAT Vocabulary Novel: The Painless Way To Learn SAT Vocabulary)**



## **Synopsis**

Smart Novels® are compelling, full-length novels with edgy and mature themes that will appeal to teens. Each book showcases more than 1,000 vocabulary words frequently included on the SAT. Brief definitions appear on the same page so that readers can quickly access and digest the meanings as they read along.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

i loved this book. The setup was organized and fun. The protagonist was so easy to relate to. I especially loved the description of the kisses, i know it sounds corny. This is great for girls who love romance. The book really feels real, like it could actually happen. Though I didnt really pay attention to the vocab the first time because i really wanted to finish the book and find out what happens. But this is definely a book you can read numerous times. Maybe next time I'll use the vocab:)SPOILER ALERT!!!The novel is about Kristen Carmichael. She's popular, but really doesnt like to hang out with her friends. She prefers surfing because its like the only place where all her problems go away. Such as her parents divorce, her favorite uncle moving away, etc. Her friends finally get her to go to a party where she is almost raped. Nobody believes her and everyone turns on her. The next monday rumors are circulating around the school. she turns alittle crazy and has to go to group therapy with the school 'freaks'. She soon becomes good friends with them, including the schools pregnant girl. Not to mention Nate, who only wears black and is mysteriosly sexy. He soon takes intrest in her and a relationship blossums.

Purchased for my niece to help her prepare for SAT. She said story was interesting and definitely helped with vocabulary.

Most of these SAT vocabulary books are seriously lacking in plot and feel like your studying. In this book you can actually get lost in the story. Like most books written to appeal to teenagers today, that means some pretty heavy emotional stuff. Honestly without it the main character would be an empty shell and it would be just another book that fails miserably to teach vocabulary. This book is about the ever popular Kristen Carmichael who seems at first to be just another popular girl. It deals with the cruel reality of high school social circles. I actually found myself devouring the book. So if it's got a decent plot, why did I give it 4 stars? Well compared to other books in this genre, it fails miserably to teach vocabulary. It is geared towards students who are below average on vocabulary, and fails to deliver on the challenging words that one would expect from such a book. The average SAT student will probably learn some new words, but those with an intensive vocabulary will see almost no benefit to the book other than having a new book to read. Overall if you've got a kid that likes reading "girly books" doesn't avoid reading and doesn't have one of the best vocabularies in the entire school, and your not upset about a rape scene that is handled in an age appropriate manner, then this is probably a good buy.

I read this book in september '04 to help prepare for the last SAT year that was scored up to 1600. One problem with reading these books to strengthen vocabulary is that they can be boring, but this one was quite good. I probably remembered the storyline more than any of the words though. I don't think any of the vocab words were on the actual SATs I took. You would probably need to read several of these books to make you significantly score better on the SAT, but atleast they can be read in about a day, especially if the story line is good. Sun-Kissed is adventurous and a book a teenager, even a guy like me would identify with and enjoy. The vocab words flowed nicely, not awkward like some other books.

If I could I would give this book 3.5 stars. It is about a teenage girl facing many problems. Her parents just recently divorced and she's switching back and forth between them, her friends don't understand her and she gets to the point where she becomes pretty depressed. She also has this nasty teacher that gets her into trouble as well. I felt like this story wove the words in better than other SAT books I've read. It was interesting and kept me engaged. I read the second half of the

book straight through. Although this book is interesting and helpful, I didn't feel like I could connect with her issues. Yes, I know, this book is meant for vocab but I think that it may not appeal to some people who don't like hearing about other people's problems. I agree with the fact that sometimes we don't need to know about what's going on in the bedroom, but it's a minor part of the book and not a very big deal. 12 year olds should not be reading this but high schoolers are just fine.

Do not use these books to improve the vocab of younger kids, even those who might be taking the SAT for "talented student" search programs in 7th grade, unless you are OK with your kids reading in great detail about cute guys sticking their hands "down the pants" of girls who "claim not to be virgins." I don't think "virgin" is an SAT word, but I might be wrong. Apparently, one must write cliched scenes about virgins to intrigue high schoolers? Adults in these "SAT vocabulary novels" also "need a beer" from time to time. I'm not a prude, but I think the books should disclose their content accurately so I could choose what to present as educational material to my kids. That all being said, the books do use a lot of good vocab words. Playboy might, as well, but I am not having my 12 year old read it.

This book was awesome it had a great combination of love and drama it so kept me wanting to read more and on top of reading a great book I crammed in some SAT words i would definitely recommend this book

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