

## **Command words**

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Command words are the words and phrases used in exams and other assessment tasks that tell students how they should answer the question.

The following command words are taken from Ofqual's official list. Their meanings are relevant to this subject. We've added our own command words and their meanings to complement Ofqual's list.

### Analyse

Separate information into components and identify their characteristics.

### Apply

Put into effect in a recognised way.

### Calculate

Work out the value of something.

### Compare

Identify similarities and or differences.

### Complete

Finish a task by adding to given information.

### Consider

Review and respond to given information.

### Define

Specify meaning.

### Describe

Set out characteristics.

### Discuss

Present key points about different ideas or strengths and weaknesses of an idea.

### Draw

To produce, or add to, a diagram

### Evaluate

Judge from available evidence.

## Explain

Set out purposes or reasons.

## Give

Produce an answer from recall.

## Identify

Name or otherwise characterise.

## Illustrate

Present clarifying examples.

## Interpret

Translate information into recognisable form.

## Justify

Support a case with evidence.

## Label

Provide appropriate names on a diagram.

## Name

Identify using a recognised technical term.

## Plot

Mark on a graph.

## Outline

Set out main characteristics.

## Sketch

Draw approximately.

## Suggest

Present a possible case/solution.

## State

Express clearly and briefly.