



# Examinations - Key vocabulary



## Analyse

To consider something in detail in order to discover essential features or meaning.

## Argue

To defend a position verbally or in writing and provide reasons in support of your position.

## Comment

To discuss, criticise, or explain meaning as completely as possible.

## Compare

To examine (two or more objects, amounts etc.) in order to note similarities and differences.

**Prefix: com** - together, with

## Contrast

To compare by showing the differences.

**Prefix: co / con** - together, with

## Define

To describe the exact nature of something; to give a memorised definition.

**Prefix: de** - away, down, reverse

**Root Word: fin** - end, limit, boundary

## Describe

To give a detailed account in written or spoken words; to draw a picture of a shape.

**Prefix: de** - away, down, reverse

**Root Word: scribe** - write

## Discuss

Talk or write about a subject in detail, showing different sides of the issue.

## Demonstrate

To show something clearly by giving proof or evidence.

## Evaluate

To judge the value or worth of something.

**Suffix: ate** - to make into, become

**Root Word: value**



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## Examine

To discuss in detail.

## Explain

To make something plain or clear, by giving details or reasons.

**Prefix:** **ex** - out, outside

**Root Word:** plain

## Identify

To find out, recognise or show the characteristics of something or someone.

**Suffix:** **fy** - to make into, become

**Root Word:** identity

## Illustrate

To explain or make clear by giving examples and making comparisons, especially using diagrams.

## Interpret

To explain or understand the meaning of information, actions etc.

## Outline

A general summary; to give a general summary of a main idea or plan.

## Justify

To support a claim or explanation with evidence.

**Suffix:** **fy** - to make into, become

**Root Word:** just

## List

Bullet point the main points from the text (do not write in essay form).

## Review

To give a survey or summary in which the important parts are discussed and criticised if necessary.

## Summarise

To give a brief statement of the main points.

**Suffix:** **ise** - to make into, become

**Root Word:** summary