

Command Words

Calculate:

Work out a numerical problem using mathematical processes or formulae using the appropriate processes in their response. Requires showing how the answer has been worked out.

Points-based mark scheme may credit use of:

- Correct formulae,
- Use of correct steps/stages of calculation (evidenced by showing workings),
- Correct outcome.

Describe:

Give an account of the main characteristics of something or the steps in a process. Statements in the response should be developed but **do not** need to include a justification or reason.

Key Points to Remember:

- Include the main characteristics
- The steps in a process
- Does not need to include a justification or reason

Give/State/Name:

All these command words are really synonyms. They generally all require recall of one or more pieces of information.

Key Points to Remember:

- Identify the key word or information that the question is asking for

Discuss:

Identify the issue/situation/problem/concept/argument within the question. Explore aspects of the issue/element/situation/ problem/concept/argument. Investigate the issue/situation etc. by reasoning or argument. Does not require a conclusion.

Key Points to Remember:

- Identify the key point within the question.
- Explore/Investigate different aspects of the key point in a balanced way.
- Does not require a conclusion

Explain:

Providing an answer and a reason or set of reasons qualifying the answer, such as reasons why something can be considered to fulfil a need, provide a purpose, communicate an intention. The answer must contain some element of reasoning/justification; may be used to support a given statement.

Key Point to Remember:

- Provide an **answer** and a reason or set of reasons to **support/justify the answer**.

Use annotated sketches to show:

Using graphical depiction with annotation, give an account of a 'process' showing the steps or stages of the process in the correct sequence/order, or give an account of 'something' showing a series of features/points/trends. The amount of points/depth of answer required will be indicated by the mark allocation.

Key Points to Remember:

- A drawing to show a process in the correct order
- A drawing to show a series of features or points
- Annotations should describe the key information

Identify:

Usually requires some key information to be selected from a given stimulus/resource

Key Points to Remember:

- Highlight key information from a given resource

Evaluate:

Measure the value or success of something and ultimately provide a substantiated judgement/conclusion. Review information and then bring it together to form a conclusion, drawing on evidence such as strengths, weaknesses, alternatives and relevant data.

Key Points to Remember:

- Provide a judgement of something's value or success using facts
- Evidence or facts including strengths, weaknesses, alternatives and other relevant data
- Review the information forming a conclusion