

These command terms indicate the depth of treatment required for a given assessment statement. These command terms will be used in examination questions, so it is important that students are familiar with the following definitions.

Objective 1

1. Define - Give the precise meaning of a word, phrase or physical quantity.
2. Draw - Represent by means of pencil lines.
3. Label - Add labels to a diagram.
4. List - Give a sequence of names or other brief answers with no explanation.
5. Measure - Find a value for a quantity.
6. State - Give a specific name, value or other brief answer without explanation or calculation.

Objective 2

1. Annotate - Add brief notes to a diagram or graph.
2. Apply - Use an idea, equation, principle, theory or law in a new situation.
3. Calculate - Find a numerical answer showing the relevant stages in the working
4. Describe - Give a detailed account.
5. Distinguish - Give the differences between two or more different items.
6. Estimate - Find an approximate value for an unknown quantity.
7. Identify - Find an answer from a given number of possibilities.
8. Outline - Give a brief account or summary.

Objective 3

1. Analyze - Interpret data to reach conclusions.
2. Comment - Give a judgment based on a given statement or result of a calculation.
3. Compare - Give an account of similarities and differences between two (or more) items, referring to both (all) of them throughout.
4. Construct - Represent or develop in graphical form.
5. Deduce - Reach a conclusion from the information given.
6. Derive - Manipulate a mathematical relationship(s) to give a new equation or relationship.
7. Design - Produce a plan, simulation or model.
8. Determine - Find the only possible answer.
9. Discuss - Give an account including, where possible, a range of arguments for and against the relative importance of various factors, or comparisons of alternative hypotheses.
10. Evaluate - Assess the implications and limitations.
11. Explain - Give a detailed account of causes, reasons or mechanisms.
12. Predict - Give an expected result.
13. Show - Give the steps in a calculation or derivation.
14. Sketch - Represent by means of a graph showing a line and labelled but unscaled axes but with important features (for example, intercept) clearly indicated.
15. Solve - Obtain an answer using algebraic and/or numerical methods.
16. Suggest - Propose a hypothesis or other possible answer.