

## Glossary of command terms

### Command terms with definitions

Students should be familiar with the following key terms and phrases used in examination questions, which are to be understood as described below. Although these terms will be used frequently in examination questions, other terms may be used to direct students to present an argument in a specific way.

<b>Analyse</b>	Break down in order to bring out the essential elements or structure.
<b>Comment</b>	Give a judgment based on a given statement or result of a calculation.
<b>Compare</b>	Give an account of the similarities between two (or more) items or situations, referring to both (all) of them throughout.
<b>Compare and contrast</b>	Give an account of similarities and differences between two (or more) items or situations, referring to both (all) of them throughout.
<b>Contrast</b>	Give an account of the differences between two (or more) items or situations, referring to both (all) of them throughout.
<b>Discuss</b>	Offer a considered and balanced review that includes a range of arguments, factors or hypotheses. Opinions or conclusions should be presented clearly and supported by appropriate evidence.
<b>Examine</b>	Consider an argument or concept in a way that uncovers the assumptions and interrelationships of the issue.
<b>Explain</b>	Give a detailed account including reasons or causes.
<b>Explore</b>	Undertake a systematic process of discovery.
<b>Justify</b>	Give valid reasons or evidence to support an answer or conclusion.
<b>To what extent</b>	Consider the merits or otherwise of an argument or concept. Opinions and conclusions should be presented clearly and supported with appropriate evidence and sound argument.