

# Assignment Terms and Definitions

## Command Word Definitions

Within your assignment you will find a range of command terms used to support you with completing your coursework and evidence. Below are just some of them.

Identify	Bullet point, list, flow chart, spider diagram, highlight. Create a list of relevant points.
Describe	Short account with examples, the facts with nothing else, picture in words. Tell me exactly what you see – do not give me any other information.
Define	Give the meaning of, dictionary definition. Make it clear that you understand what the word or phrase means. If it is a word with several different meanings make sure the person you are talking to understands which meaning to give to the word.
Discuss	Compare and talk about a topic. Write down the strengths and weaknesses of each item you are looking at. In some cases you will need to decide which one is more appropriate but use your information to explain your decision.
Explain	Comparing but also looking at why things are the way they are, advantage/disadvantages. Tell me what you see, but help me understand it better add some extra comments to make it clearer for me.
Compare	Differences and similarities. Write down the strengths and weaknesses of each term you are looking at.
Evaluate	Making judgements against a criteria, but clear logic and opinions and argument backed up with evidence. Tell me what is 'good' and not so 'good' about the topic.
Analyse	Examine the whole, breakdown into component parts and examine individual parts in detail. Comment on each part, explaining how each part works, and then how well it works when all the bits are joined back together. Expect some kind of data e.g. perfect model and draw conclusions from this.
Critically Analyse	Similar to analyse except, that when you are looking at the individual parts, compare it with other things you have also taken apart. Comment on which part was better and make suggestions how you could improve the area if you were designing a new one. Look at strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT analysis)
Critically Evaluate	Tell me what is 'good' and not so 'good' about the topic and then explain how you arrived at your decision of what is 'good' and not so 'good'. Use additional evidence that you have found to back up your ideas.