

Spelling list: Command Words

KS3, GCSE

describe	Describe means to use adjectives to explain something (concept or object).
explain	Explain means give reason(s) why, cause or factor affecting the concept.
complete	Complete means fill out or finish off (a table, graph, sketch or sentence).
name	Name is the identifying word for the object, chemical, person etc.
calculate	Calculate means to use a formula or mathematical sum to figure out a numerical answer.
label	Label means to add detail or names to a diagram or picture, often with a line or arrow.
analyse	Analyse means to pick out key features or trends of data to explain or argue.
compare	Compare means to find the similarities.
contrast	Contrast means to find the differences.
discuss	Discuss (verbally - to talk about/debate) or written to show both sides of an argument and conclude.
define	Define means to explain the meaning of a word.
summarise	Summarise means to describe the main features in a shortened form.
cause	Cause is a reason why something has happened (maybe long or short term).
challenge	To challenge can be 'to dispute a claim or viewpoint', or a challenge can be a problem to solve.
benefit	Benefit is a positive outcome or advantage.

characteristic A **characteristic** is a key feature or important factor.

examine **Examine** means 'to look closely' physically at an object or person, or
theoretically to look at a problem in detail.