



Global Vocabulary LLC

We Have a Word for That®

What Standardized Testing Words Mean

Directive Words defined and categorized according to Bloom's Taxonomy

Analyze—break down into parts/elements [Analyze]
Compare—show how things are alike; similarities [Analyze]
Contrast—show how things differ Compare/Contrast essays require BOTH [Analyze]
Criticize—state opinion on an issue based on criteria/merit/correctness [Evaluation]
Define—give meaning; place in category; set apart by characteristics [Knowledge]
Describe—give specific information; tell about something [Knowledge]
Discuss—talk about; present different points of view [Synthesis]
Evaluate—judge the value or worth [Evaluation]
Explain—clarify; tell who, what, when, where, why and how [Evaluation]
Hypothesize—make educated guess [Synthesis]
Illustrate—show, diagram, depict, chart [Comprehension]
Interpret—give meaning, translate [Comprehension]
Justify—give reasoning, support, evidence, proof [Evaluation]
Predict—foretell [Synthesis]
Prove—show truth; fact-based [Evaluation]
Summarize—brief account of main points [Comprehension]
Synthesize—put together; blend [Synthesis]
Trace—follow steps or path [Synthesis]

Bloom's Taxonomy of Thinking Skills

KNOWLEDGE [RECALL]

ask, choose, define, discover, fill in, find, label, locate, list, listen, match, name, recall, relate, research, select, show, spell, who, what, when, where, why, how [the 5W's + 1H in journalism news reporting]

COMPREHENSION [UNDERSTANDING]

classify, compare, contrast, demonstrate, differentiate, discuss, extend, explain, illustrate, infer, interpret, relate, rephrase, show, summarize, translate

APPLICATION [PROBLEM SOLVING]

apply, build, calculate, choose, construct, develop, discover, distinguish [**between** two; **among** more than two] experiment with, identify, interview, make use of, manipulate, model, organize, paint, plan, report, record, select, sketch, simulate, solve, teach, utilize

ANALYSIS [BREAKDOWN]



Global Vocabulary LLC

We Have a Word for That®

analyze, arrange, assumption, categorize, classify, conclude (conclusion) discover, dissect, distinguish, examine, function, infer (make inferences) inspect, list, motive [motif], order, relationships, separate, survey, theme

SYNTHESIS [BLEND]

adapt, combine, compile, compose, create, delete, design, develop, elaborate, estimate, formulate, generalize, hypothesize, imagine, improve, integrate, invent, make-up, modify, originate [original], plan, predict, produce, propose, rearrange, rewrite, role-play, solve, solution, substitute, suppose [what if?], test, theorize

EVALUATION [CALCULATE VALUE]

agree, assess, appraise, award, choose, conclude, criteria, criticize, debate, decide, deduct, defend, determine, disprove, dispute, editorialize, estimate, evaluate, grade, influence, importance, judge, justify, mark, measure, opinion, perceive, prioritize, prove, rank, recommend, rule on, summarize [pick important elements], support, value