



Sir John Talbot's school

Exam command word booklet

The harder you work for something, the greater
you'll feel when you achieve it.

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Command word:	Meaning	Example exam question
Analyse (definition for History)	For paper 2: “pick apart” the key events of a historical period. You must explain how each event links to each other When analysing sources: You must consider how useful the content, nature of the source, origin and purpose is. You must make inferences from this source based on that criteria.	<u>History:</u> Write a narrative account analysing the key events of 1519–21 that led to the Aztec surrender (8 marks)
Analyse (definition for most subjects)	Look closely at the detail; give reasons why or how something is done and the effect of this – use P.E.E/ P.E.A paragraphs which help you to back up your points with evidence and explain your thoughts.	<u>English Language:</u> How does the writer make these lines exciting and dramatic? [10]
Assess	Consider several options or arguments and weigh them up so as to come to a conclusion about their effectiveness or validity.	
Calculate	Work out.../ Marks are usually awarded for both the process and outcome.	<u>Chemistry:</u> Calculate the percentage by mass of oxygen in carbon dioxide (CO ₂). [3 marks]
Compare	Looking closely at two or more things which have something in common in order to see how they are the same and how they are different. This is looking for an analytical response – P.E.A paragraphs could be used.	<u>English Literature:</u> Now compare Considering the Snail by Thom Gunn and A Gull by Edwin Morgan. [25 marks] <u>Music:</u> ‘Compare Mozart and Haydn’s approach to harmony in this section.’
Describe	Tell the examiner in your own words what/ how/ or why something happens; must use words precisely (in scientific subjects this means using scientific terms).	<u>Food:</u> Describe the of pasteurisation used for milk [4 marks] <u>PE:</u> The heart is responsible for pumping blood around the body. Describe how the double circulatory system performs this function.
Determine	Use given data or information to obtain and answer.	<u>Physics:</u> Determine the increase in strength of magnetic field when the number of turns on the coil is changed from 12 to 18 [2 marks]
Discuss	Also known as ‘examine’ and ‘consider’ – give the main reasons ‘for’ and ‘against’ and come to a conclusion.	<u>Food:</u> Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using genetically modified food [6 marks]
Estimate	Guess/ calculate approximately/ give a rough idea with evidence.	<u>Maths:</u> A tube has a height of 9.50 cm and a radius of 0.98cm. Give an estimate for the volume of the tube in cm ³ . Leave your answer in terms of π . [2 marks]
Evaluate for Business and Technology:	Requires you to explain and analyse and weigh up the effectiveness of a project. You must come to a supported judgement.	<u>Business:</u> Evaluate whether Boohoo should continue to use social media when promoting its products.[7 marks]
Evaluate for English	Form an opinion on a statement and provide evidence for your answers.	<u>English Language:</u> To answer this question, you need to read lines 56-70 and also consider the passage as a whole. “The writer uses the walk to Wreck Island to show a change in both Emma and

		Robbie." How far do you agree with this view? [10 marks]
Evaluate for History	Weigh up both sides of a historical argument and clearly explain a criteria for your judgement. It's not enough to give both sides, you have to weigh up how far you agree with the argument provided."	<u>History</u> : The Discovery of penicillin was a turning point in the treatment." How far do you agree? Explain your answer. [16 marks]
Evaluate for RE	This must have arguments in support of the statement and arguments which disagree with the statement plus a final justification paragraph (which is the strongest argument in your opinion and why)	<u>RE</u> : 'War is never right.' Evaluate this statement. [12 marks]
Evaluate: standard definition	Make a judgement about how good or bad/ successful or unsuccessful something is, usually against a specific criterion. This is an opinion based response but it may require you to provide evidence for your points and clear explanations as to why you think the way you do.	<u>Chemistry</u> : Evaluate the use of the fuels. Use in the information in Table 3 and your knowledge. [6 marks]
Explain	Give reasons for how or why something happens; you need to give examples. They are questions which normally carry a lot of marks and they require you to treat the subject analytically – often using a P.E.E. paragraph will help in certain subjects.	<u>Drama</u> : Explain how these two techniques help the actor prepare for the role in performance. [4 marks] <u>OCR Sport Studies</u> : Explain how national governing bodies can help and advise sports clubs with funding and raising money [8 marks]
Factorise	To find factors and put brackets in.	<u>Maths</u> : Factorise fully $9ab^2 + 24b^3a^4$ [3 marks]
Give	Provide an example	<u>Food</u> : Give one symptom of food poisoning [1 mark]
Identify	You need to find a value or the answer.	<u>English Language</u> : Identify 5 things you learn about.... [5 marks]
List	You need to find the information and bullet point it quickly	<u>English Language</u> : Read lines 1-9. List 5 things you learn about Emma in these lines [5 marks]
Name	Only a short answer is required, not an explanation or a description. Often it can be answered with a single word, phrase or sentence.	<u>Biology</u> : Name the hormone released when the blood glucose concentration is too low. [1 mark]
Produce	You need to create something	
Plot	Mark on a graph using data given.	<u>Chemistry</u> : Plot the data from Table 5 on Figure 5. Draw a line of best fit. [3 marks]
Simplify	Collect like terms together	<u>Maths</u> : Simplify $(t^3)^2$ [1 mark]
Sketch	An accurate drawing is not needed- freehand will do!	<u>Chemistry</u> : Sketch a graph on Figure 4 to show how the pH of the hydrochloric acid would change. [3 marks]
Solve	Find the values of the variable in the question.	<u>Maths</u> : Solve the following linear equation: $5x+7 = 42$ [2 marks]
Suggest	This term is used in questions where students need to apply their knowledge and understanding to a new situation.	<u>Biology</u> : Suggest one reason why the fall armyworms are spreading so rapidly in Africa. [1 mark]
Summarise	Read the information given and explain it in simpler terms in relation to the question. For English it may sometimes say to do this in your own words so quotations are not needed.	<u>English Language</u> : Using information from both texts, explain briefly in your own words what happened as a result of the volcanoes erupting in Anjer and in Iceland. [4]