Section 1

Definition of key terms given in Task 2 questions

In the Writing Task 2 questions, there can be a variety of different verbs used. The meaning of each of these verbs can have an impact on what you are actually being asked to do in your answer. Therefore, it is necessary to understand the definitions of some of these key words, so that you can accurately plan your answer and achieve a high score in Task Achievement. If you are planning on going to university, you may continue to encounter these words in exams or in projects. Although, some of them may only vary slightly in meaning, it will have a profound and improved effect on the quality of your answers.

Verb	Definition
1. To explain	Make (an idea or situation) clear to someone by describing it in more detail or revealing relevant facts.
2. To discuss	Talk or write about (a topic) in detail, taking into account different issues or ideas.
3. To inform	Give (someone) facts or information; tell
4. To analyse	Examine (something) methodically and in detail, typically in order to explain and interpret it.
5. To assess	Evaluate or estimate the nature, ability, or quality of.
6. To persuade	Cause (someone) to believe something, especially after a sustained effort; convince.
7. To evaluate	Form an idea of the amount, number, or value of; assess.
8. To examine	Test the knowledge or proficiency of (someone) by requiring them to answer questions or perform tasks.
9. To show	Offer, exhibit, or produce (something) for inspection/discussion.
10. To describe	Give a detailed account in words of.
11. To demonstrate	Clearly show the existence or truth of (something) by giving proof or evidence.

Note: All definitions have been taken from the Oxford English Dictionary Online. Be aware that in different contexts, the meaning of some verbs may alter.



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