

Key words of Academic Assignments.

Examine your Assignment or Essay title for any of the key words below:

Account for: Give reasons for; explain;

Analyse: Break up into parts; investigate;

Apply: Analyse one idea in terms of another; connect two ideas;

Collate: Bring together; compare critically;

Compare: Look for similarities and differences between; perhaps conclude which

item is preferable;

Consider: Take into account; weigh up advantages/disadvantages;

Contextualise: Put in context;

Contrast: Bring out the differences between;

Critique: Criticise; give your judgement on the good or bad points, backing up

your views with evidence and explanation;

Define: Give the precise meaning of; explain in detail;

Demonstrate: Prove with examples; show;

Describe: Give a detailed account;

Develop: Explain in detail; elaborate on;

Discuss: Consider an issue in writing, weighing up points for and against;

Evaluate: Weigh up and judge the merits, giving evidence;

Examine: Look closely into;

Explain: Make clear; interpret; give reasons for;

Explore: Consider thoroughly from a variety of viewpoints;

Identify: Point out and describe;

Illustrate: Give examples which make the point clear;

Interpret: Explain in your own words; give your own understanding of;

Investigate: Examine in detail;

Justify: Give reasons to support an idea or action;

Learning Development

Outline: Give the main features or general principles of a subject, emphasising

structure and arrangement;

Reflect on: Think about; evaluate;

Relate: Show the connections between;

Review: Make a survey of, examining the subject carefully;

State: Express in words; present in a brief, clear form;

Summarise: Give a brief account of the main points, omitting details and examples;

Synthesise: Bring elements together to make a complex whole; draw together or

integrate issues;

Trace: Follow the development of.