Key Words Explained

**Account for** - Explain the causes of.

**Analyse** - Divide into parts and describe each part.

**Comment on** - Explain why something is important.

**Compare** - Are the things very alike (similar) or are there important differences? Which do you think is best? Why?

**Concise** - Short and brief.

**Contrast** - Look for differences.

**Criticise** - Use evidence to support your opinion on the value or merit of theories, facts or views of others.

**Define** - Give the meaning of.

**Describe** - Write in details.

**Differentiate** - Explain the difference.

**Discuss** - Write about the important aspects of the topic; are there two sides to the question? Consider the arguments for and against. Then give your opinion.

**Distinguish** - Explain the difference.

**Evaluate** - Judge the importance or success.

**Explain** - Make clear.

**Factors** - The facts or circumstances that contribute to a result

**Give an account of** - Describe.

**Illustrate** - Give examples or diagrams which make the point clear and prove your answer is correct.

**Indicate** - Show and demonstrate

**In relation to** - Refer to a specific aspect of something.

**Interpret** - Explain the meaning in your own words; for example you may be asked to interpret a graph.

**In the context of** - In a particular setting; referring to.

**Justify** - Give reasons to support an argument or action.

**Outline** - Choose the most important aspects of a topic. Ignore the minor detail.

**Relate** - Show the connection between things.

**Role** - A function of something, which part something plays and how it works.

**State** - Write briefly the main points.

**Summarise** - Bring together the main points.

**Trace** - Show how something has developed from beginning to end.