



Understanding Assignment Titles

ANALYZE: Describe the various parts of the topic and explain how they are connected, how they work together, or whether they work together.

COMPARE: Describe the major similarities between two or more things. Give details and examples to support your judgement.

CONTRAST: Describe the major differences between two or more things. Give details and examples to support your judgement.

COMPARE AND CONTRAST: Make a list of points to compare and contrast. For each point, discuss the similarities and differences giving details and examples to support your judgement.

DEFINE: Explain the meaning of the term(s) or topic(s).

DESCRIBE: Give a detailed account of something. Mention highlights and major aspects in order to give a clear picture.

DISCUSS: Give points for and against the subject and draw a conclusion from the points presented. Give details and examples to support each pro and con. Write about the various opinions you have been reading or studying about the subject.

ELABORATE ON: Write about the statement or quotation. Explain it in more detail and then state your point of view.

EVALUATE: To assess the worth or value of something. Decide on criteria for making a judgement of the topic. Give an opinion supported by evidence, examples and details. Give reasons for your judgement.

EXAMINE: Divide into parts and describe each part critically.

EXPLAIN: Show the causes or reasons for the topic. Write out in detail: make clearer.

ILLUSTRATE: Use a figure, a diagram or specific examples to clarify the meaning.

LIST: Present a group of items in the required order.

SUMMARIZE: Give the main points, omitting details.

