What are the questions asking me to do? Command Words

Command Words Learn what the command words mean so you can successfully understand what the questions are asking (italic words are scholarship only).		Example Question
Annotate	Add descriptive explanatory labels.	Annotate the photo to explain how coastal erosion has created the wave-cut notch.
Assess	Use evidence to make an informed judgement. The evidence may be provided for you or you may need to use your geographical knowledge. Be prepared to justify your judgement.	Assess the success of an urban regeneration project you have studied.
Calculate	Work out the value of something.	Calculate the average rainfall of Plymouth.
Choose	Select carefully from a number of alternatives.	Choose the best option to complete the sentence.
Compare	Identify and write about both similarities and differences. Consider using 'whereas' or 'similarity' in your answer.	Compare the features of the two settlements on the map.
Complete	Finish a task, make whole.	Complete the bar graph below by drawing a bar to represent the 35 children who play tennis.
Define	Give an exact description of.	Define each of the following: weather, climate.
Describe	Write down the nature of. Write about what you see. This might involve shape, size, colour or where something is in relation to something else. Your answer should not use the word 'because' as you do not need to explain what you see.	Describe the waterfall shown in the photograph.
Develop	Expand upon an idea.	Develop the field sketch to show the impact that farming has on the environment.
Discuss	Write about different points of view. This may involve considering advantages and disadvantages, strengths and weaknesses, or winners and losers, for example. You should try to make your discussion balanced by giving both sides of the argument.	Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of building a by-pass around Springholm on the A75.
Elaborate	Similar to expand and illustrate .	Elaborate on the positive impact that renewable energy has on the natural environment.
Evaluate	Judge how good, useful, important (significant) or successful something is.	Evaluate the success of healthcare project in India.
Expand	Develop an argument and / or present greater detail on.	Expand the following explanation to include more geographical detail.
Explain	Write in detail how something has come into being and / or changed. Give reasons. You should try to include the word 'because' in your answer.	Explain the formation of a waterfall.
Give	Show evidence of. Recall one or more pieces of geographical information.	Give one physical factor that affects flooding.

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Identify	Find evidence of. Select, find or highlight a particular	Using the photograph, identify one
	feature.	landform created by river erosion.
Illustrate	Use examples to develop an argument or a theme.	Use a case study to illustrate your understanding of the impact of longshore drift on the coastline.
Justify	This involves supporting a viewpoint or decision with evidence. You may be asked to give a point of view which you then need to justify. To do this you need to give reasons.	Justify your choice of data presentation.
Label (Mark and name)	Show the exact location of and add the name.	Label the following country on the map: Egypt.
List	Put a number of examples in sequence.	List three stores in the water cycle.
Name	Give a precise example of.	Name a country which is located in Europe.
Outline	Provide a brief summary of the key points.	Outline the causes of air pollution.
Select	Pick out as the most suitable or best.	Select which type of climate best describes the British Isles. Circle the correct answer.
Shade and name	Fill in the area of a feature and add the name.	On the sketch map below, shade and name one are of coastal deposition.
State	Express fully and clearly in words. Write a short, factual answer.	State the grid reference of the church with a tower.
Study	Look at / or read carefully.	Study the weather forecast symbols shown below and suggest one way in which you could prepare for each predicted weather outcome.
Suggest	Give what you think is a possible reason or solution.	Use the photo to suggest reasons why traffic congestion occurs in Cambridge.
To what extent	This involves judging how successful you think a project or strategy has been. For example, you might consider it to be a 'total failure' or 'very successful'. The arguments that you give will reflect your opinion, so if you partly agree or disagree you should give evidence from both sides (benefits and losses). You need to support your point of view with evidence.	To what extent do you agree the flood defence scheme has benefited people and the environment?
Use evidence	Give examples from the resource (e.g. photo) or from your geographical knowledge to back up your evidence.	'Threats to the Amazon rainforest are increasing.' Use evidence from diagram A to support this statement.