**GCSE exam command words**

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| 1. **Identify** | Name (usually from a figure).  Example questions  Identify the river feature at grid reference 653532.  Identify **two** sources of greenhouse gases suggested by **Figure 3**. |
| 1. **Calculate** | Work out the value of something.  Example questions  Using Figure 7, calculate the difference in oil consumption between Africa and Europe.  Calculate the median value for the GNI data in **Figure 5**. |
| 1. **Suggest** | Present a possible case. Give a plausible reason/reasons  Example questions  Suggest why earthquakes and volcanic eruptions happen close to the plate margin at Y. Use **Figure 2** and your own understanding.  Using **Figure 9**, suggest how ecotourism can help in managing tropical rainforests sustainably. |
| 1. **Describe** | Set out characteristics (say **what** you see).  Example questions  Describe the distribution of cities shown in **Figure 1**.  Using **Figure 4**, describe the track of Hurricane Irma between 6 September 2017 and 12 September 2017. |
| 1. **Explain** | Set out purposes or reasons. (Give reasons/say why)  Example questions  Explain why creating green space is important for urban sustainable living. Use **Figure 2** and your own understanding.  Explain how the increasing use of fossil fuels and changes in agriculture may have contributed to global changes in temperature. |
| 1. **To what extent** | Judge the importance or success of (strategy, scheme, project, etc). Say ‘**how much**’. You must have a conclusion.  Example questions  To what extent do urban areas in lower income countries (LICs) or newly emerging economies (NEEs) provide social and economic opportunities for people?   |  | | --- | | Choose **one** of the following environments:  *Hot desert environment*  *Cold environment*  Using a case study, to what extent have opportunities for economic activity been  developed in your chosen environment. | |  | |
| 1. **Justify** | Support a case with evidence. You will often need a conclusion.  Example questions  'Transnational corporations (TNCs) only bring advantages to the host country.' Do you agree with this statement? Justify your decision.  Justify **one** primary data collection method used in your **physical** geography enquiry. |
| 1. **Assess** | Make an informed judgement (weigh up). You will often need a conclusion.  Example questions  Assess how effective your presentation technique(s) were in representing your data.  Assess the extent to which prediction is the most important factor in reducing the effects of tropical storms. |
| 1. **Evaluate** | Judge from available evidence. This is very similar to questions that say ‘to what extent’ so you will often need to say ‘how much’. You will often need a conclusion.  Example questions  Evaluate the effectiveness of an urban transport scheme(s) you have studied.  Evaluate the effectiveness of an urban planning strategy in helping to improve the quality of life for the urban poor. Use an example of a city in a lower income country (LIC) or newly emerging economy (NEE). |
| 1. **Discuss** | Present key points about different ideas or strengths and weaknesses of an idea.  Example questions  Discuss the effects of urban sprawl on people and the environment. Use Figure 3 and a case study of a major city in the UK.  ‘The physical environment provides opportunities for a range of socio-economic activities.’ Use **Figure 2** and **Figure 3** to discuss this statement. |