

Edexcel A level Maths and A level Further Maths

Command words



Here are the most commonly used words that you might see in different questions throughout your exam.

Find

Some working will be needed to get to the final answer.

State / Write down

Provide an answer concisely, without needing to show the working or explanation.

Show that

All steps need to be shown to get the given answer, followed by a conclusion.

Determine

Use the information given in the question to work out a specific value/ expression, showing all steps and calculations.

Prove

More formal than 'show', all steps must be present. In the case of a geometrical proof, reasons must be given. The proof must end with a conclusion.

Verify

Check and confirm that a given solution or statement is correct, often by substituting values or performing calculations.

Interpret

Explain the meaning or significance of a result or concept in the context of the problem.

Comment on

Give your opinion or analysis about a specific result, often discussing its significance or implications within the context of the question.

Deduce

Using the information given in the question, the answer can be either be written down or worked out with minimal workings.

Sketch

Produce a drawing that does not have to be drawn to scale or a graph that is drawn without working out each coordinate.

Estimate

Use the information given in the question to work out the answer.

Hence

Use the result or information from a previous part of the question to help solve the current part.