Glossary of terms used for externally-assessed units

The following table shows the key terms that will be used consistently by Pearson in our assessments to ensure learners are rewarded for demonstrating the necessary skills. Please note: the list below will not necessarily be used in every paper/session and is provided for guidance only.

Command word	
Appraisal	A formal, professional procedure by which the welfare of animals can be assessed.
Calculate	Learners obtain a numerical answer, showing relevant working.
Compare	Looking for the similarities and differences of two (or more) things. Should not require the drawing of a conclusion. Answer must relate to both (or all) things mentioned in the question.
Complete	Give the missing information for a table/diagram so that it is complete (contains all the necessary information).
Define	Learners state or describe the nature, scope or meaning of a subject as objective facts.
Describe	Learners give a clear, objective account in their own words showing recall, and in some cases application, of the relevant features and information about a subject or process.
Discuss	• Identify the issue/situation/problem/ argument that is being assessed in the question. • Explore all aspects of an issue/ situation/problem/argument. • Investigate the issue/situation etc. by reasoning or argument. A discussion does not normally require a conclusion.
Draw	Create a graphical or visual representation of information.
Ethical issues	Issues concerning moral or professional judgements made in relation to animals.
Explain	To convey understanding by providing a point/ statement and justifying that point/ statement. The answer must contain some element of reasoning/justification
Give	Learners provide one or more piece(s) of information.

Identify	Usually requires some key information to be selected from a given stimulus/resource.
Justify	Give evidence to support (either the statement given in the question or an earlier answer).
Label	Requires the addition of labelling to a stimulus material given in the question, for example labelling a diagram or adding units to a table.
Plot	Learners insert given data on a given graph. This may be a single point or involve drawing lines of best fit/completing a line graph/bar chart.
State	Learners express the condition of or facts about something definitely or clearly.

Command word	
Plot	Insert given data on a given graph (learners will never be asked to produce their own graph).
Scenario	A given situation replicating one that might reasonably be found in the sector.
Welfare issues	Issues concerning the health and wellbeing of animals.