

GCSE (9–1) Statistics

Command words



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

Write down State

Give the answer without needing to show working out. This could involve reading information from a chart or diagram.



Work out Find Calculate

Perform one or more steps to get an answer.



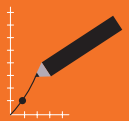
Plot

Use a pencil to mark a point on a graph using a cross.



Draw

Use a pencil (and sometimes a ruler) to complete a chart, diagram or graph.



Circle Mark

Draw a circle around the relevant word or leave a mark at the appropriate place on a chart or diagram.



Using the table, graph or diagram

Read the information given to you.



x	y
7	-3
-1	6
0	1
4	3
2	5

Tier 3 words

Appropriateness

Comment on whether it is suitable in the given circumstances.



Limitations

Mention anything that limits how useful a method is.

Justify Give reasons

Explain your thinking.

Words and phrases such as “because” or “as a result of” may be useful.



Longer answers which may include results of any calculations you do.

You can use bullet points to organise your work.



Explain Comment

Look at the data you have been given and write about what it is telling you.



Compare Interpret

Look at all the data presented and consider all sides.

Come to a conclusion for each comparison you make.



Describe

Look at all the data and write down what you think it is showing you.



Discuss

Give your opinion on what the data is showing. Consider an alternative point of view and make a final conclusion.

