

# Task Verbs Used in Free-Response Questions

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The following **task verbs** are commonly used in the free-response questions:

**Compare:** Provide a description or explanation of similarities and/or differences.

**Define:** Provide a specific meaning for a word or concept.

**Describe:** Provide the relevant characteristics of a specified topic.

**Explain:** Provide information about how or why a relationship, process, pattern, position, or outcome occurs, using evidence and/or reasoning.

**Identify:** Indicate or provide information about a specified topic, without elaboration or explanation.