

Cambridge IGCSE – Command Words

What each command word asks you to do · 命令词: 每个词要求你做什么

State / Give / Name / Write down

说出

a short answer, no reason needed. One or two words is often enough. Do not explain – you get no extra marks for it and you lose time.

Describe

描述

say WHAT happens, in order. No reasons. For a graph, say the shape and where it changes.

Suggest

建议

give a sensible answer for a situation you have not studied. Use what you know and say why it would work.

Compare

比较

write about both things in the same sentence: ‘A is bigger than B’. Writing a paragraph on A and then one on B usually loses half the marks.

Draw / Sketch

画图

draw with a sharp pencil and a ruler. Label everything the question mentions. A sketch does not need scale, but the shape must be right.

Identify

识别

pick out the answer from what is given – in a diagram, a table or a passage.

Define

定义

say exactly what a word means. Learn the syllabus wording; a rough version usually misses the mark.

Explain

解释

say WHY it happens. Your answer must contain the word because, so, or therefore. If it does not, you have probably described instead.

Calculate

计算

work out a number. Write the formula, put the numbers in, then the answer with its unit.

Complete

完成

fill in the table, the diagram or the sentence. Check you have filled EVERY box – an empty box is a lost mark, always.

Predict

预测

say what will happen next, using the pattern in the data.