

Directive Terms: (always know what the question is asking and answer it)

1. **Analyze:** determine the nature and relationship of the component parts of; explain the importance of; break down.
2. **Assess:** judge the value or character of something; appraise; evaluate.
3. **Compare:** examine for the purpose of noting similarities and differences, focusing more on similarities.
4. **Contrast:** compare to show unlikeness or points of difference.
5. **Criticize:** make judgments as to merits and faults; criticism may approve or disapprove, or both.
6. **Define:** give the meaning (a word, phrase, concept); determine or fix the boundaries or extent.
7. **Describe:** give an account; tell about; give a word picture.
8. **Discuss or examine:** talk over; write about; consider by argument or from various points of view; debate; present the different sides.
9. **Enumerate or list:** mention or itemize separately; name one after another.
10. **Evaluate:** give the good points and the bad; appraise; give an opinion regarding the value of; discuss the advantages and disadvantages.
11. **Explain:** make clear or plain; make known in detail; tell the meaning of; make clear the cause or reason.
12. **Illustrate:** make clear or intelligible as by examples.
13. **Interpret:** explain the meaning; make plain; present your thinking about.
14. **Justify:** show good reasons; present your evidence; offer facts to support your position.
15. **Prove:** establish the truth of something by giving factual evidence or logical reasons.
16. **Relate:** show how things are connected with each other or how one causes another.
17. **Summarize:** state or express in concise form; give the main points briefly.
18. **Trace:** follow the course

For most of these examples, you can use Positive and/or negative effects