# Active Verbs

The following verbs are helpful as a means of showing how an example or quote in a text supports an idea or interpretation.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Literary or Persuasive Essay | Report or Persuasive Essay that refers to an expert’s opinion or research studies | Report or Persuasive Essay that describes beginnings, causes, effects, etc. | Persuasive Essay that refers to the possibilities of what ideas can do, create, or assist with | Report or  Persuasive Essay that involves laws or legal proposals |
| Alludes to  Attests  Clarifies  Confirms  Conveys  Denotes  Depicts  Determines  Displays  Emphasizes  Entails  Establishes  Exemplifies  Explains  Exposes  Expounds  Highlights  Hints  Illustrates  Implies  Connotes  Indicates  Portrays  Represents  Reveals  Shows  Signifies  Substantiates  Suggests  Typifies  Underscores | Analyzes  Assumes  Concludes  Confirms  Considers Construes  Deduces  Deliberates  Demonstrates  Examines  Explores  Identifies  Imparts  Indicates  Maintains Manifests  Misconstrues  Observes  Perceives  Pinpoints  Presumes  Questions  Reasons  Refers  Remarks  Scrutinizes  Speculates  Substantiates  Supports  Supposes  Theorizes  Upholds  Validates  Verifies | Advances  Affects  Compels  Discovers  Empowers  Forces  Generates  Ignites  Impacts  Imposes  Incites  Includes  Influences  Initiates  Initiates  Commences  Instigates  Introduces  Involves  Kindles  Launches  Leads to  Presents  Pressures Promotes  Prompts  Provokes  Results in  Sparks  Stimulates  Triggers  Yields | Accomplishes  Achieves  Aids  Alleviates  Ameliorates  Assembles  Assists  Attains  Attempts  Augments  Builds  Constructs  Delivers  Develops  Discourages  Emits  Encourages  Engenders  Enhances  Enriches  Establishes  Expands  Facilitates  Grants  Improves  Increases  Manufactures  Offers  Produces  Progresses  Provides  Reaches  Supplies  Transforms | Authorizes  Allows  Permits  Sanctions  Licenses  Documents  Consents  Forbids  Prohibits  Disallows  Endorses  Bans  Secures  Guarantees  Bars  Outlaws  Inhibits  Hinders  Prevents  Precludes  Thwarts  Averts  Defends  Protects  Safeguards  Guards  Neglects |

# Analytical Verbs

A strong analytical statement requires a strong analytical verb. Your analytical statements should have one of the verbs from the list below to show what exactly your essay aims to prove. A strong analytical verb ensures that your essay does not merely indicate something that happens in a text, but further, what the author intended.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Verbs that Move Toward Analysis  Advocates  Alludes to  Articulates  Asserts  Balances  Builds  Bolsters  Catalogs  Categorizes  Characterizes  Clarifies  Classifies  Collates  Compares  Concludes  Confirms  Continues  Contrasts  Conveys  Correlates to  Creates  Critiques  Debates  Defends  Depicts  Details  Develops  Differentiates  Elevates  Elicits  Emphasizes  Employs  Establishes  Expands  Expresses  Facilitates  Frames  Gathers  Generates |  | Verbs that Move Toward Analysis  Frames  Gathers  Generates  Guides  Highlights  Identifies  Illustrates  Implements  Implies  Informs  Integrates  Moves  Perpetuates  Persuades  Portrays  Presents  Promotes  Propels  Proposes  Provoke  Raises  Recalls  Reduces  Relates  Reinforces  Represents  Responds  Reveals  Revitalizes  Shows  States  Strengthens  Substantiates  Suggests  Supports  Underlines  Validates  Verifies |

Other Useful Analytic Vocabulary

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Phrases that Show Comparison/Contrast  In contrast to…  Similarly,  While that…, this too…  This\_\_\_\_\_\_ is analogous to… |  | Phrases That Move Toward Analysis  By extension, …  Juxtaposed against…  A vehicle for… |

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Words to Describe Tone  calm or angry strident or wistful arrogant or modest detached or sentimental  sincere or ironic condescending or reverent  See additional handout on tone words |  | Concepts to Consider Irony – ironic  paradoxes and dichotomies  analogy – analogous satire – satiric contrasts/shifts |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Jargonof Analysis  imagery–progression of imagery  diction: register and level  syntax  voice  persona and/or speaker  shifts  structure  symbolism  conventional  original  figures of speech  tropes  rhetorical figures metaphor vehicle  tenor |  | Syntax (grammar/structure)  exclamatory  rhetorical  declarative  interrogative  imperative  loose or periodic sentences  parallel structure  asyndeton  polysyndeton  anaphora  anastrophe / inversion |