# 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 – ironicparadoxes and dichotomiesanalogy – analogous satire – satiric contrasts/shifts |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Jargonof Analysis imagery–progression of imagerydiction: register and level syntax voice persona and/or speaker shifts structure symbolism conventional originalfigures 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   |