

controlling mosquitoes with toxic pesticides clearly outweigh the cons because of the deadly
clearly outweigh the cons because of new evidence which links these pesticides with tumors

8. Supportive paragraphs need topic sentences as well and must contain concrete facts as support--dates, names, concepts, numbers, quotes, book or story titles, etc. Also try to incorporate specific terms used in the course.
9. Leave space between your answers for any additions, which may occur to you while answering other questions or while reviewing your answers. Use an * to insert the material in its proper place in your essay.

Words in Questions of Information

- Define:** Give the exact meaning of the topic. How is it different from everything else of its type?
- Describe,**
Discuss: Tell what happened or what the topic is. Concentrate only on primary or most important features.
- Explain:** Tell the main reasons why the topic happened or happens.
- Illustrate:** Give one or more examples of the topic, relating each to the topic.
- Relate:** Show how the topic had an effect on something else; in other words, show the connection(s) between two things.
- Trace:** Give a series of important steps in the development of an historical event or a process or any sequence of happenings.

Words in Questions of Comparison/Contrast

- Compare:** Show how two things are both alike and different.
- Contrast:** Show only the differences between two things.

Key Words in Questions of Argument and Interpretation

Agree or

Disagree: **Give your opinion about the topic. You must express either a positive or a negative opinion or a clear reasonable discussion of how you might agree in some ways and disagree in other ways.**

Disagree: **Support your opinion from appropriate sources.**

Analyze: **Break down the topic into its parts and explain how the parts relate to each other and to the whole topic.**

Critique,

Criticize: **Break the topic into its parts (analyze); explain the meaning (interpret); and give your opinion (evaluate).**

Evaluate: **Give your opinion about a topic. You may make both positive and negative points, but you must come to some conclusion about the relative weight of good and bad points.**

Interpret: **Explain the meaning of the topic. Give facts to support your point of view.**

Justify,

Prove: **Give reasons to show why the topic or assertion is true. Use examples.**

Sample Essay Questions

1. What is feedback and how does it relate to effective communication?
2. "Acid rain" is a phenomenon we have become aware of in the last twenty-five years. What are the effects of acid rain on the environment?
3. In what ways does an alcoholic's drinking behavior differ from that of a nonalcoholic?
4. From what you know of American history, do former generals make good presidents?
5. "All I did was return the car late to the used car lot," said Ms. DeWall. "Now they're charging me with embezzlement." She had taken a used car out on a test drive at 4 p.m. and when she returned, the car lot was closed. She then drove the car 300 miles into a neighboring state and returned the car to the lot early the next morning. Was this embezzlement? Explain by defining embezzlement, apply

