

## Question Paper Terminology

What we say...	What it means...
Estimate	Round numbers to 1 s.f., and use these to obtain an answer. Find the mean of a grouped frequency table. Average speed.
Explain	Use words to explain an answer.
You must show your working	Working must be shown. You will be penalised if you do not.
Simplify	Collect terms together
Simplify fully	Collect terms together and factorise the answer.
Show that	Use words, numbers or algebra to show an answer.
Prove	A rigid algebraic, or geometric, proof is required.
Work out	Normally means a calculation is involved but candidates may it be possible to do it mentally.
Calculate	Will need a calculation that requires a calculator or a formal (such as column) method.
Measure	Use a ruler or a protractor to measure a length or an angle.
Hence	Use the previous answer to proceed.
Hence, or otherwise	Use of the previous answer is expected another method will be accepted.
Describe fully In transformations	Reflection – define mirror line. Translations – state vector Rotations – state centre, angle and direction Enlargement – state scale factor and centre.
Factorise	Take out the common factor or factorise into two brackets if a quadratic.
Factorise fully	Usually means that there is more than one common factor. i.e. indicates that there are at least two stages in the factorisation.
Use the graph	Do not calculate, read from the graph. Always worth putting lines on the graph to show where the answer came from.
Give an exact value	Give answer as a square root (non-calculator)
Give your answer in terms of $\pi$ / in surd form	Give answer in terms of $\pi$ / in surd form (non-calculator).
Give answer to a sensible degree of accuracy	Normally no more accurate than the values in the question. If question has values to 2 s.f. then give answer to 2 s.f. or 1 s.f. Trigonometrical answers acceptable to 3 s.f.
Give answer to (2 d.p.)	Give answer to required accuracy. You will lose marks if you do not.

<b>What we say...</b>	<b>What it means...</b>
Not drawn accurately	Next to a diagram to discourage measuring of lengths or angles.
Not to scale	Next to diagrams to discourage measuring of lengths
Do an accurate drawing	Use compasses to draw lengths, protractors to measure angles (and a sharp pencil).
Use an algebraic method	Do not use trial and improvement. Working will be expected.
Do not use trial and improvement	An algebraic method is expected. Any sign of trial and improvement will be penalised.
Expand	Multiply out using distributive law
Multiply out	Multiply out using distributive law
Expand and simplify	Multiply out using distributive law and then collect terms.
Multiply out and simplify	Multiply out using distributive law and then collect terms.
Give a counter-example	Give a numerical, or geometrical, example that disproves a statement.
Solve	Find the value(s) of $x$ that makes the equation true
Make $(x)$ the subject	Rearrange a formula.
Express, in terms of	Use given information to write an expression using only the letter(s) given
Write down	Working out is not needed to get an answer
Use a ruler and compasses	A ruler may be needed to measure but more often than not we mean use a straight edge and compasses. Used in constructions and loci problems.