

## Question Paper Terminology

What we say...	What we mean...
Estimate	Round numbers to 1 significant figure and use these to obtain an answer.
Explain	Use words to explain an answer.
You <b>must</b> show your working	You will be penalised if you do not show your working.
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 it may 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 but another method will be accepted.
Describe fully in transformations	Reflection – define the 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; ie 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 or surd form (non calculator paper).
Give your answer in terms of $\pi$ / in surd form	Give answer in terms of $\pi$ / in surd form (non calculator paper).
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 accepted to 3 s.f.

## Question Paper Terminology

What we say...	What we mean...
Give answer to (2 d.p.)	Give answer to required accuracy. You will lose marks if you do not.
Not drawn accurately	Next to a diagram to discourage measuring of lengths or angles.
Not to scale	Next to diagram to discourage measuring of lengths.
Do an accurate drawing	Use compasses to draw lengths, protractors to measure angles (and a sharp pencil).
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. (In constructions: arcs mean marks!)
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 give an answer