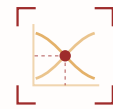


Command Words



What each verb in an FSP problem asks you to do

Every part of an FSP problem starts with a command word in bold, for example **Determine**, **Show** or **Explain**. The word tells you how much you have to write down to get the points. The table below is Appendix A of the Studienkolleg Hamburg exam, the same table that is printed at the end of the FSP and of our mock exams.

💡 Appendix A: Terms used in phrasing of problems

Verb	Task
name, state, give	A reasoning does not have to be given unless explicitly demanded.
decide	A reasoning does not have to be given unless explicitly demanded.
assess	The judgment provided needs to be explained.
describe, characterize	A description requires suitable wording and usage of technical terminology. A reasoning does not have to be provided.
explain, illustrate	The explanation provides information which allows to comprehend a graphical depiction or a mathematical procedure.
interpret, construe	An interpretation establishes a relation between e.g. a graphical depiction, a term or the result of a calculation and the provided context.
substantiate, reason, prove, show	Statements and issues are to be confirmed by logical induction. The method can be freely chosen unless stated otherwise. The chosen method needs to be explained.
evaluate, calculate, compute, verify	The computation needs to be illustrated starting from an ansatz.
determine, identify	The method can be freely chosen unless stated otherwise. The chosen method needs to be explained.
investigate	The method can be freely chosen unless stated otherwise. The chosen method needs to be explained.
graph, plot	All diagrams and plots have to be drawn accurately with care.
sketch	The sketch needs to contain all essential pieces of information.