

# QCAA Cognitive Verbs Practice Test (Sample)

## Study Guide



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**SAMPLE**

## **Questions**

- 1. What is the process of creating a visual representation that includes general ideas and relevant features?**
  - A. Sketching**
  - B. Diagramming**
  - C. Illustrating**
  - D. Graphing**
- 2. What does it mean to "assign" in the context of cognitive tasks?**
  - A. Allocate responsibilities or roles to individuals or groups based on their skills or knowledge**
  - B. Critically assess an argument's strengths and weaknesses**
  - C. Summarize information without going into detail**
  - D. Predict future trends in a given field**
- 3. Which action involves placing items into specific categories?**
  - A. Categorise**
  - B. Assess**
  - C. Apply**
  - D. Clarify**
- 4. What is involved in the action "Formulate"?**
  - A. Create a plan or strategy based on relevant data or theories**
  - B. Summarize previously gathered information**
  - C. Discuss multiple perspectives on an issue**
  - D. Identify potential solutions to a problem**
- 5. Explain the cognitive verb "Compare".**
  - A. Identify similarities and differences between two or more elements**
  - B. Highlight the differences between two or more elements**
  - C. Provide reasons or evidence to support a conclusion or argument**
  - D. Explain the meaning or significance of collected data or information**

- 6. What process involves conducting a detailed examination to establish facts?**
- A. Infer**
  - B. Investigation**
  - C. Implement**
  - D. Extrapolate**
- 7. Which term refers to forming a plausible assumption based on known facts or occurrences?**
- A. Justify**
  - B. Judge**
  - C. Hypothesize**
  - D. Investigate**
- 8. What does "delineate" signify in analytical tasks?**
- A. Clearly outline and define the boundaries or specific characteristics of a concept**
  - B. Summarize the entire analysis in one statement**
  - C. Provide a critical evaluation of different viewpoints**
  - D. Collect quantitative data to support claims**
- 9. Which verb includes the idea of measuring the significance of conflicting points of view?**
- A. Investigate**
  - B. Assess**
  - C. Argue**
  - D. Analyse**
- 10. Which term is defined as giving an expected result of an upcoming event?**
- A. Propose**
  - B. Predict**
  - C. Reflect on**
  - D. Recall**

## **Answers**

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1. A
2. A
3. A
4. A
5. A
6. B
7. C
8. A
9. B
10. B

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## **Explanations**

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**1. What is the process of creating a visual representation that includes general ideas and relevant features?**

**A. Sketching**

**B. Diagramming**

**C. Illustrating**

**D. Graphing**

The process of creating a visual representation that encompasses general ideas and relevant features is best described as sketching. Sketching often involves producing a quick, informal drawing that captures the essential elements or concepts of a subject. It allows for flexibility and creativity while focusing on the overall representation, making it effective for brainstorming or conveying ideas without the need for intricate details. In contrast, diagramming typically pertains to creating structured representations that show relationships between concepts, often used in more formal contexts to represent systems or processes. Illustrating involves creating detailed and refined images that convey specific artistic ideas or narratives, usually with more attention to aesthetics. Graphing, on the other hand, is focused on representing quantitative data through plots and charts, which does not align with the concept of general ideas and features.

**2. What does it mean to "assign" in the context of cognitive tasks?**

**A. Allocate responsibilities or roles to individuals or groups based on their skills or knowledge**

**B. Critically assess an argument's strengths and weaknesses**

**C. Summarize information without going into detail**

**D. Predict future trends in a given field**

In the context of cognitive tasks, to "assign" means to allocate responsibilities or roles to individuals or groups based on their skills or knowledge. This action involves identifying specific tasks that are suitable for someone based on their expertise, which helps ensure that tasks are completed effectively and efficiently. For instance, if you have a team working on a project, assigning tasks allows each member to contribute in a way that plays to their strengths, ultimately enhancing the project's overall success and fostering a collaborative environment. The other options involve different cognitive processes: assessing an argument's strengths and weaknesses relates to critical thinking and evaluation, summarizing information focuses on condensing content while retaining key ideas, and predicting future trends pertains to forecasting and analysis. Each of these skills plays an important role in cognitive tasks, but they do not align with the specific act of assigning tasks or responsibilities.

### **3. Which action involves placing items into specific categories?**

**A. Categorise**

**B. Assess**

**C. Apply**

**D. Clarify**

The action that involves placing items into specific categories is categorising. This process entails sorting or organizing objects, ideas, or pieces of information based on shared characteristics or criteria. This is essential for understanding relationships among different entities and aids in comprehending complex information by simplifying it into manageable sections. In contrast, assessing involves evaluating or measuring the quality, importance, or value of something, which does not inherently involve sorting into categories. Applying entails using knowledge or skills in a practical context, while clarifying focuses on making something clear or easier to understand, rather than organizing it into groups. Therefore, categorising distinctly addresses the task of classification, making it the most appropriate answer.

### **4. What is involved in the action "Formulate"?**

**A. Create a plan or strategy based on relevant data or theories**

**B. Summarize previously gathered information**

**C. Discuss multiple perspectives on an issue**

**D. Identify potential solutions to a problem**

The action "formulate" is fundamentally about creating or developing a structured plan or strategy that integrates relevant data, theories, and concepts. This process requires critical thinking and analytical skills to gather information meaningfully and present it in a coherent format that addresses a particular problem or goal. When you formulate something, you're not just collecting data or ideas; you are synthesizing them into a comprehensive approach that lays out how to achieve a specific objective or tackle an issue. This involves understanding various elements and determining how they interact, which becomes the foundation of your formulated strategy or plan. The other options describe different cognitive actions that do not capture the essence of "formulate." While summarizing involves distilling information, discussing entails exploring perspectives, and identifying addresses potential solutions, none of these actions specifically focus on the creation of a coherent, systematic plan. Thus, "create a plan or strategy based on relevant data or theories" best encapsulates the meaning of "formulate."

**5. Explain the cognitive verb "Compare".**

- A. Identify similarities and differences between two or more elements**
- B. Highlight the differences between two or more elements**
- C. Provide reasons or evidence to support a conclusion or argument**
- D. Explain the meaning or significance of collected data or information**

The cognitive verb "Compare" involves identifying both similarities and differences between two or more elements. This action requires a nuanced approach to analysis, as it encourages a deeper understanding of how these elements relate to each other. By comparing, you can explore aspects such as function, features, characteristics, and context, which enrich the overall evaluation and understanding of the subjects in question. This is essential in various fields, including literature, history, and science, where appreciating both the commonalities and distinctions can lead to insights about trends, themes, and outcomes. Not only does this verb prompt analytical thinking, but it also facilitates critical evaluation, making it a fundamental skill in education and research.

**6. What process involves conducting a detailed examination to establish facts?**

- A. Infer**
- B. Investigation**
- C. Implement**
- D. Extrapolate**

The process that involves conducting a detailed examination to establish facts is investigation. This term generally refers to the systematic inquiry or examination of a subject, situation, or event to uncover information, verify facts, or find evidence. In many contexts, such as scientific research, criminal justice, or historical analysis, an investigation entails gathering data, analyzing it, and drawing conclusions based on the evidence collected. It encompasses various methods and approaches aimed at obtaining accurate and reliable information, which is essential for understanding a particular phenomenon or resolving questions related to it. In contrast, the other terms describe different processes. For example, to infer means to derive logical conclusions from evidence or reasoning rather than from explicit statements. Implement is related to putting a plan or decision into effect, which does not necessarily involve examining facts thoroughly. Extrapolate involves extending known information to make predictions about unknown data, which implies a different focus than the detailed examination characteristic of an investigation.

**7. Which term refers to forming a plausible assumption based on known facts or occurrences?**

**A. Justify**

**B. Judge**

**C. Hypothesize**

**D. Investigate**

The term that refers to forming a plausible assumption based on known facts or occurrences is "hypothesize." This process involves generating a possible explanation or solution that can be tested through further investigation or experimentation. By hypothesizing, one uses existing knowledge to create a theoretical statement that can lead to new insights or understanding. In the context of the other options, "justify" involves providing reasons or evidence to support a claim or argument rather than forming an initial assumption. Similarly, "judge" implies making a decision or forming an opinion about something based on criteria or evidence, which is different from the creative and exploratory nature of hypothesizing. "Investigate" focuses on the act of exploring or examining something in depth to gather more information or data, rather than the initial formulation of a theory based on pre-existing knowledge. Thus, hypothesizing is specifically about making educated assumptions that can guide research and inquiry.

**8. What does "delineate" signify in analytical tasks?**

**A. Clearly outline and define the boundaries or specific characteristics of a concept**

**B. Summarize the entire analysis in one statement**

**C. Provide a critical evaluation of different viewpoints**

**D. Collect quantitative data to support claims**

The term "delineate" in analytical tasks refers to the action of clearly outlining and defining the boundaries or specific characteristics of a concept. This involves breaking down complex ideas into more understandable parts and specifying the details that distinguish one aspect of a topic from another. By delineating, the analyst can provide a clearer understanding of how different components relate to each other, which is essential for deep analysis and critical thinking. This process is foundational in numerous fields, such as in writing, research, or any analytical discussion, where clarity and precision are crucial for engaging with the concept effectively. Overall, the ability to delineate aids in effectively communicating intricate ideas and allows for more thorough exploration and understanding of the subject matter.

**9. Which verb includes the idea of measuring the significance of conflicting points of view?**

**A. Investigate**

**B. Assess**

**C. Argue**

**D. Analyse**

The verb that includes the idea of measuring the significance of conflicting points of view is "assess." This term involves evaluating and judging the quality, value, or significance of something, which can include weighing different perspectives or arguments against one another. When assessing conflicting points of view, one critically examines the strengths and weaknesses of each side, helping to determine which is more valid or impactful based on evidence and reasoning. The other terms do not capture this specific aspect as directly. "Investigate" involves gathering information and exploring a topic in-depth, but does not inherently include the evaluative component. "Argue" focuses more on presenting a case in favor of a particular viewpoint rather than measuring conflicting perspectives. "Analyse" pertains to breaking down information into components for study and understanding, but may not necessarily involve the significance of conflicting viewpoints unless it explicitly includes an evaluative aspect.

**10. Which term is defined as giving an expected result of an upcoming event?**

**A. Propose**

**B. Predict**

**C. Reflect on**

**D. Recall**

The term that best fits the definition of giving an expected result of an upcoming event is "predict." To predict means to assert what will happen in the future based on current information or evidence. This involves analyzing existing data or trends and using that analysis to make an estimation about future outcomes. In various contexts, such as science, weather forecasting, or even everyday life, prediction relies heavily on understanding patterns and applying logical reasoning. The other terms do not align with the concept of expecting a future event. "Propose" means to suggest an idea or plan. "Reflect on" involves thinking deeply about something that has happened, rather than anticipating what will occur in the future. "Recall" refers to retrieving information from memory, which doesn't pertain to predicting future outcomes. Thus, predicting encompasses the essence of anticipating or forecasting results based on current knowledge.