**VCE English/EAL Basic Vocabulary List for Essay-writing**

*A basic list of essential vocabulary for essay-writing in VCE English/EAL. Keep adding more words to the following tables as your two-year VCE English journey progresses.*

**Verbs describing authorial intent**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Positive verbs** | **Neutral verbs (the likes of “say”, suggest”)** | **Subtle verbs (the likes of “imply”, “elicit”)** | **Negative verbs** |
| Encourage | Suggest | Insinuate | Condemn |
| Endorse | Foreground | Reveal | Criticise |
| Support | Emphasise | Illuminate | Critique |
| Laud | Highlight | Hint | Attack |
| Celebrate | Illustrate | Infer | Undermine |
| Extol | Delineate | Intimate | Contest |
| Inspire | Showcase | Allude | Refute |
| Praise | Underscore | Elucidate | Provoke |
| Applaud | Explore | Evoke | Galvanise |
| Commend | Express | Engender | Vilify |
| Venerate | Assert | Invite | Disparage |
| Glorify | Demonstrate | Induce | Belittle |
| Elevate | Propose | Explicate | Scorn |
| Bolster | Announce | Interpret | Censure |
| Exalt | Declare | Clarify | Castigate |
| Glamorise | Portray | Exemplify | Reprimand |
| Reinforce | Depict | Characterise | Harangue |
|  | Convey | Resolve | Denigrate |

**Adjectives describing tone**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Happy tones** | **Sad tones** | **Angry tones** | **Humorous tones** | **Neutral tones** |
| Light-hearted | Disappointed | Accusatory | Satirical | Formal |
| Hopeful | Shameful | Condescending | Cynical | Matter-of-fact |
| Elated | Resigned | Aggressive | Taunting | Informative |
| Enthusiastic | Sympathetic | Disgusted | Facetious | Reflective |
| Optimistic | Bleak | Incredulous | Amused | Contemplative |
| Encouraging | Sombre | Demeaning | Animated | Apprehensive |

**Linking words and phrases**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Points of comparison** | **Points of difference** | **Points of casuality** |
| Also | Conflictingly | Consequently |
| Likewise | In contrast | As a result |
| Equally | Contrastingly | Because of this |
| Synonymously | Contrarily | Thus |
| Analogously | Unlike | Hence |
| Akin | Nonetheless | Therefore |
| Just as | A point of disparity | Ultimately |
| So too | Conversely | Inevitably |
| Similarly | Counter to | Accordingly |
| Furthermore | Contradictory to | Ergo |
| Moreover | Opposed to | As a consequence |
| In the same sense | Inversely | This leads to |
|  | Alternatively | In turn |
|  | However | In light of this |
|  | Although | Given that |
|  | On the other hand | Since |
|  | Despite this | This culminates |
|  | Yet | This foreshadows |
|  | Whereas | For that reason |
|  | Incongruously | This is a repercussion of |