

STRONG VERBS

Strong verbs provide detail and depth to your essays, making them more interesting to read by adding variation into them. Strong verbs allow for writing to be both concise yet descriptive, saving time during the exam while simultaneously elevating the quality of your writing.

42 Impactful Verbs to Elevate your Essay

Advance*	Articulate	Augment	Build	Buttress	Commence
Connote	Construct	Convey	Deliver	Denote	Depict
Develop	Display	Emphasize	Engender	Enhance	Enrich
Establish	Exemplify	Expand	Fortify	Generate	Highlight
Hint at	Ignite	Illustrate	Imply	Indicate	Initiate
Intensify	Introduce	Kindle	Launch	Present	Promote
Portray	Reveal	Show**	Signify	Substantiate	

*Advance the argument with or...

**Avoid use of this when possible

54 High Level Verbs to Fortify your Essay

Verb	Definition
Assuage	To relieve, quiet, or calm
Mitigate	Make less severe or painful
Ameliorate	Make something bad better
Mollify	Appease someone's anger or anxiety
Alleviate	Make suffering or a problem less severe
Exacerbate	Make worse
Allay	Diminish, put at rest –applied to fear, worry or suspicion
Transcend	To go beyond typical range or limits of

Expostulate	To attempt to dissuade someone from a course of action
Remonstrate	To make forceful, reproachful protest
Exhort	To strongly encourage or urge
Attribute	To regard something to be caused by
Abominate	To have an intense dislike for
Enjoin	To direct or order
Expedite	Make up for, atone
Ferment	To work into a state of great excitement or agitation
Aggrandize	To increase in wealth or to make appear greater
Repudiate	To reject, deny validity of
Resonate	To affect or appeal in an emotional way or to have particular importance for someone
Castigate	To criticize severely
Fetter	To chain, shackle or render powerless
Contrive	To plan with ingenuity; bring about from a scheme
Debase	To lower in character or value; to cause to deteriorate; corrupt; depreciate
Impugn	To call into question or attack as false
Abate	To make less in amount of degree; to nullify
Foist	To impose by fraud or to pass off as worthy or to bring about by dishonesty

Enthrall	To captivate or charm OR to imprison or enslave
Encumber	Weigh down or burden
Supersede	Take place of
Thwart	Prevent someone from accomplishing
Manifest	To display or exhibit
Inure	To toughen or harden
Mandate	Order, direct, command
Portend	To be a sign or warning of something to come
Atrophy	Gradually decline in strength
Allude	To hint at
Placate	To make someone else less hostile
Exult	To show great joy over success
Obviate	Prevent, remove a need
Extirpate	Root out, destroy completely
Perpetuate	To make something –especially a and thing –continue
Extol	Praise enthusiastically
Adulterate	To make something poorer in quality by adding something
Deploy	To bring into effective action
Validate	To prove accuracy; justify