Examine

Prep–Year 6 cognitive verb toolkit

What is examining?

To examine is to investigate to find out more information. Examining requires recognising where further investigation is needed, then formulating questions that will assist in uncovering more information. For example, when making a decision regarding a product, service or environment, you would examine design and technology factors including sustainability.

A process of examining may include:

- determining the idea to examine

- developing questions for the examination

- discussing findings from the examination to clarify ideas.

Examine as a cognition

Cognitive verbs are categorised using Marzano & Kendall's four elements of the cognitive system: retrieval, comprehension, analysis and knowledge utilisation (2007).

The cognitive verb examine is part of the analysis element of cognitive process. This element involves the 'generation of new information not already possessed by the individual' (p. 44).

Examine in the Australian Curriculum Version 9.0

The cognitive verb examine appears in various achievement standards (AS) and/or content descriptions (CD) in the Australian Curriculum. The following table shows the use of examine across the Australian Curriculum in Prep–Year 6.

ACiQ|v9.0

	Examine in the Prep–Year 6 Australian Curriculum AS and CD							
						Technologies		
	English	Health and Physical Education	P–6 HASS	Mathematics	Science	Technologies	Design and Technologies	Digital Technologies
Prep								
Year 1								
Year 2								
Year 3		AS CD			CD		CD	
Year 4	CD	AS CD			CD		CD	
Year 5	CD				CD			CD
Year 6	CD				CD			CD

Learning area/subject examples include, but are not limited to:

Year/s	Learning area/subject	AS	CD
Years 3–4	Health and Physical Education	Students **examine** factors that influence participation and propose strategies to incorporate regular physical activity into their own and others' lives.	participate in physical activities in natural and outdoor settings to **examine** factors that can influence their own and others' participation AC9HP4M05
Year 4	English		**examine** the use of literary devices and deliberate word play in literary texts, including poetry, to shape meaning AC9E4LE04
Year 5	Science		**examine** how particular structural features and behaviours of living things enable their survival in specific habitats AC9S5U01
Years 5–6	Technologies: Digital Technologies		**examine** how digital systems form networks to transmit data AC9TDI6K02

References

Marzano, R & Kendall, J 2007, *The New Taxonomy of Educational Objectives*, Corwin Press, Thousand Oaks, CA.

More information

This information sheet is part of a suite of resources to support teachers in the explicit teaching and assessment of students' thinking. The suite of resources includes categories of common cognitive verbs, cognitive verb overviews and a cognitive verb toolkit with information sheets, posters and graphic organisers.

If you would like more information, please visit the QCAA website www.qcaa.qld.edu.au and search for 'cognitive verbs'. Alternatively, the suite of resources can be found here: www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/p-10/aciq/version-9/cognitive-verbs-in-version-9.0.