Direction Words

Let’s Prepare for Unit Test.
In your composition class, the instructor asks you to show how the modes of narration and description are alike and how they are different.
In your composition class, the instructor asks you to show how the modes of narration and description are alike and how they are different.

Compare
In a political science class, you are asked to give your judgment of the good points of the electoral college system while also acknowledging limitations.
In a political science class, you are asked to give your judgment of the good points of the electoral college system while also acknowledging limitations.

Criticize
Your Learning Strategies instructor would like for you to point out differences between your study habits now and your study habits at the beginning of the semester.
Your Learning Strategies instructor would like for you to point out differences between your study habits now and your study habits at the beginning of the semester.

Contrast
In an algebra class, the professor asks you to give the meaning of the term “slope.”
In an algebra class, the professor asks you to give the meaning of the term “slope.”

Define
In a literature class, the professor asks students to depict in detail the setting of the novel *The Floating Opera* by giving particular details.
In a literature class, the professor asks students to depict in detail the setting of the novel *The Floating Opera* by giving particular details.
An aerospace instructor asks students to give a detailed analysis (both pros and cons) of the reasons NASA was faced by problems during the 1980’s.
An aerospace instructor asks students to give a detailed analysis (both pros and cons) of the reasons NASA was faced by problems during the 1980’s.

Discuss
Your Learning Strategies instructor asks you to discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using the Label in the Margin system for reading textbooks.
Your Learning Strategies instructor asks you to discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using the Label in the Margin system for reading textbooks.

Evaluate
Your political science professor asks you to discuss the steps that led to the resignation of Richard Nixon and what the consequences were for the Republican party.
Your political science professor asks you to discuss the steps that led to the resignation of Richard Nixon and what the consequences were for the Republican party.

Cause and Effect
Your nursing professor asks you to give concrete illustrations of the effects of smoking on human health.
Your nursing professor asks you to give concrete illustrations of the effects of smoking on human health.

Give an Example
(Illustrate also acceptable)
Your Physical Fitness teacher would like for you to give an example to show the link between aerobic conditioning and good health.
Your Physical Fitness teacher would like for you to give an example to show the link between aerobic conditioning and good health.

Illustrate

Give an example is also acceptable
An education professor wants you to prove or give reasons why teachers should use the “whole language” method of teaching reading.
An education professor wants you to prove or give reasons why teachers should use the “whole language” method of teaching reading.

Justify
Your psychology professor wants you to demonstrate how Freud’s theories of childhood development interconnect with Jung’s theories.
Your psychology professor wants you to demonstrate how Freud’s theories of childhood development interconnect with Jung’s theories.

Relate
Your biology professor asks you to organize and bring together the main points regarding the process of photosynthesis.
Your biology professor asks you to organize and bring together the main points regarding the process of photosynthesis.

Summarize
Your history professor wants you to use facts to prove that the South was technologically unprepared to win the Civil War.
Your history professor wants you to use facts to prove that the South was technologically unprepared to win the Civil War.
Your music history professor asks you to briefly discuss the main composers of the Jazz Age from beginning to end.
Your music history professor asks you to briefly discuss the main composers of the Jazz Age from beginning to end.

Trace