

DIRECTED WRITING

25-WORD VOCABULARY BANK

Memorise these. Use at least 12 in every response.

EVALUATION WORDS — Judging a Point

#	Word	Example in a Directed Writing Response
1	Compelling	<i>Rachna makes a compelling case when she argues that phones cause distraction.</i>
2	Overlooked	<i>However, Hamza has overlooked the fact that not all students can afford phones.</i>
3	Undermines	<i>This admission undermines his entire argument about responsibility.</i>
4	Credible	<i>Her use of research makes her stance considerably more credible.</i>
5	Superficial	<i>This is a somewhat superficial view of a complex issue.</i>

DEVELOPMENT WORDS — Adding to a Point

#	Word	Example in a Directed Writing Response
6	Furthermore	<i>Furthermore, this could also lead to increased screen addiction.</i>
7	Consequently	<i>Consequently, students may struggle to build genuine friendships.</i>
8	Particularly	<i>This is particularly relevant for younger students who lack self-discipline.</i>
9	Exacerbate	<i>A ban would only exacerbate the existing divide between students.</i>
10	Foster	<i>This approach would foster a sense of responsibility among learners.</i>

AGREEING / SUPPORTING — Backing a Point

#	Word	Example in a Directed Writing Response
11	Undeniably	<i>It is undeniably true that exercise improves mental wellbeing.</i>
12	Advocate	<i>I would advocate for a balanced approach rather than an outright ban.</i>
13	Merits	<i>While this idea has its merits, it fails to consider the practical reality.</i>
14	Beneficial	<i>Updating the library would prove beneficial in the long run.</i>
15	Paramount	<i>Student safety should remain paramount in any decision.</i>

DISAGREEING / COUNTERING — Challenging a Point

#	Word	Example in a Directed Writing Response
16	Albeit	<i>An interesting point, albeit a biased one given his personal circumstances.</i>
17	Nevertheless	<i>Nevertheless, the drawbacks of this proposal cannot simply be ignored.</i>
18	Misconception	<i>The belief that all students misuse phones is a common misconception.</i>

19	Neglects	<i>This argument neglects the needs of the majority of students.</i>
20	Outweigh	<i>The disadvantages far outweigh the short-term gains he describes.</i>

CONCLUSION / STANCE — Wrapping Up

#	Word	Example in a Directed Writing Response
21	Pragmatic	<i>Taking a pragmatic view, I believe a partial ban is the wisest course.</i>
22	Ultimately	<i>Ultimately, the evidence overwhelmingly supports investing in the library.</i>
23	Holistic	<i>We must take a more holistic approach that considers all stakeholders.</i>
24	Viable	<i>This is the most viable solution for our school at this stage.</i>
25	Imperative	<i>It is imperative that we consider both perspectives before deciding.</i>

HOW TO USE THIS LIST

Step 1: Memorise all 25 words and their meanings.

Step 2: In every practice response, underline the vocabulary words you used.

Step 3: Aim for at least **12 words** per response (that is 3/3 for vocabulary).

Step 4: Don't force them — the examples above show you how they fit naturally.

Remember: Using **4 fancy words** = 1 mark. Using **8+** = 2 marks. Using **12+** = 3 marks (full).



DIRECTED WRITING

10 EVALUATIVE PHRASES TO MEMORISE

Use these to evaluate points (Para 2 & 3) and texts (Para 4).

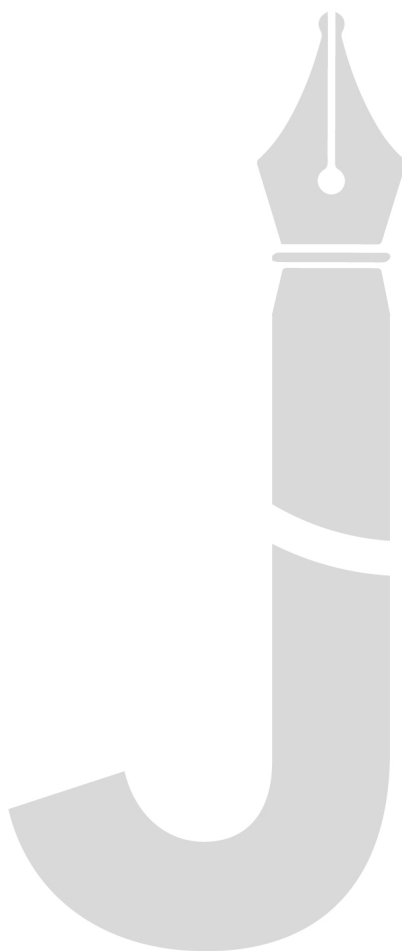
GENERAL EVALUATION — Judging Individual Points (Para 2 & 3)		
#	Phrase	Example + When to Use
1	One cannot deny that...	<i>"One cannot deny that phones offer safety benefits for students walking to school."</i> → Strong agreement — use before adding your own development.
2	This fails to consider...	<i>"This fails to consider the impact on students who cannot afford expensive devices."</i> → Clean dismissal of a weak or incomplete point.
3	It is worth noting, however, that...	<i>"It is worth noting, however, that not all students misuse their phones in class."</i> → Soft counter — shows balance without being harsh.
4	While this holds some truth...	<i>"While this holds some truth, it presents an overly optimistic picture."</i> → Acknowledge then challenge — examiners love this pattern.
5	This raises the question of whether...	<i>"This raises the question of whether banning phones entirely is realistic."</i> → Rhetorical evaluation — the MS specifically credits this.
6	On the contrary...	<i>"On the contrary, removing phones could actually harm student safety."</i> → Direct counter — flips the argument to the opposite side.
7	This alone is not sufficient to...	<i>"This alone is not sufficient to justify such a drastic measure."</i> → Says the point is valid but incomplete — demands more evidence.

TEXT-WISE EVALUATION — Judging the Speakers (Para 4 / Conclusion)		
#	Phrase	Example + Criteria It Hits
8	[Speaker]'s argument is rooted in personal experience, making it less applicable to...	<i>"Arham's argument is rooted in personal experience, making it less applicable to the average school leaver."</i> → Hits bias + individual criteria.
9	Unlike [A], [B] takes a more balanced approach by acknowledging...	<i>"Unlike Hamza, Rachna takes a more balanced approach by acknowledging that phones can be useful."</i> → Hits idealistic vs realistic criteria.
10	[Speaker]'s perspective carries greater weight as it considers the wider impact on...	<i>"Kwame's perspective carries greater weight as it considers the wider impact on the entire student body."</i> → Hits communal + long-term criteria.

HOW TO USE THESE

Para 2 & 3: Pick from phrases 1–7. Every time you reword a point from the text, follow it with one of these phrases to evaluate it. Aim for **at least 4 evaluative phrases** across both paragraphs.

Para 4 (Conclusion): Use phrases 8–10 to judge the **speakers themselves**, not just their points. Combine with the 6 criteria (bias, idealistic vs realistic, etc.) for maximum marks. Aim for **at least 2 text-wise evaluations** in your conclusion.



Directed Writing – Power Phrases

English Language 1123 – Paper 2
By Miss Jaweria

Drop these phrases into your directed writing (letters, speeches, reports, articles) to sound formal, persuasive, and confident. Use 3–4 per answer.

- 1 **"Just to reiterate,"**
Means: To repeat a key point for emphasis
e.g. Just to reiterate, safety must remain our top priority.
- 2 **"I am inclined to believe"**
Means: I tend to think / I am leaning towards the view
e.g. I am inclined to believe that the benefits outweigh the risks.
- 3 **"It is imperative that"**
Means: It is absolutely essential / critically important
e.g. It is imperative that the council addresses this issue immediately.
- 4 **"One cannot overlook"**
Means: We must not ignore / It is impossible to dismiss
e.g. One cannot overlook the impact this will have on local businesses.
- 5 **"This raises the question of"**
Means: This makes us wonder about / This brings up the issue of
e.g. This raises the question of whether we are doing enough to help.
- 6 **"I would urge you to consider"**
Means: I strongly recommend you think about
e.g. I would urge you to consider the long-term consequences of this decision.
- 7 **"It goes without saying that"**
Means: It is obvious / Everyone knows / Clearly
e.g. It goes without saying that education is the foundation of progress.
- 8 **"In light of the evidence,"**
Means: Considering the facts / Based on what we know
e.g. In light of the evidence, it is clear that change is needed.
- 9 **"Furthermore, it must be noted that"**
Means: Additionally / On top of that / Moreover
e.g. Furthermore, it must be noted that the cost has risen by 40%.
- 10 **"To conclude, I firmly believe"**
Means: In summary, I am convinced / To sum up, my view is
e.g. To conclude, I firmly believe that this proposal deserves our support.

Golden Rule: Don't memorise – PRACTISE using them in full sentences.

The examiner rewards natural, confident use – not forced phrases.

Literary Devices: Antithesis, Anaphora, Allusion, and Puns

Antithesis

Antithesis is the deliberate contrast of two opposite ideas in a balanced sentence to highlight a clear comparison or argument.

- We must learn from the past, not live in it.
- Small effort today leads to great success tomorrow.
- The plan is simple in design but complex in execution.
- He spoke with kindness but acted with cruelty.

Anaphora

Anaphora is the repetition of a word or phrase at the beginning of successive sentences or clauses to create emphasis and rhythm.

- We believe in fairness. We believe in honesty. We believe in justice.
- Every voice matters. Every choice matters. Every action matters.
- This is our duty. This is our promise. This is our future.
- They wanted change. They wanted progress. They wanted stability.

Allusion

Allusion is a brief reference to a well-known person, place, event, book, or idea that adds deeper meaning to the sentence.

- He faced the challenge like David against Goliath.
- Opening that secret could become a Pandora's box of problems.
- Her patience reminded everyone of Mother Teresa.
- The ambitious project turned into our Titanic.

Puns (Wordplay for Memorable Endings)

A pun is a play on words that uses double meanings or similar sounds to create humour, emphasis, or a memorable closing line.

- If we do not turn the page now, this chapter of mistakes will keep repeating itself.
- Our future should not be written in pencil; it must be permanent ink.
- If we keep brushing problems under the carpet, soon we will trip over the mess.
- Let us not sleep on this issue, or our dreams of progress will remain only dreams.
- If we fail to plant ideas today, we cannot expect to harvest change tomorrow.
- A society that closes its eyes to truth will eventually lose its vision.

Examples Of Allusion In Article Writing:

1. The Titanic (Historical)

- **Meaning:** A colossal, disastrous failure, especially of a project or system that was proudly declared "invincible" or "too big to fail."
- **Example in an article:** "The new mega-mall project was touted as an unsinkable success, but without proper parking infrastructure, it quickly turned into a financial Titanic."

2. A Trojan Horse (Greek Mythology/History)

- **Meaning:** Something that appears harmless, attractive, or beneficial on the outside, but contains a hidden, destructive threat inside.
- **Example in an article:** "That 'free' social media app turned out to be a Trojan horse, secretly harvesting teenagers' personal data while they were distracted by the colorful filters."

3. The Bermuda Triangle (Geography/Pop Culture)

- **Meaning:** A place or situation where things (like time, money, or resources) mysteriously disappear without a trace.
- **Example in an article:** "For many students, TikTok has become a digital Bermuda Triangle where hours of productive study time simply vanish without a trace."

4. Einstein (Historical Figure)

- **Meaning:** A universally recognized symbol of genius; often used to point out that a solution is just basic common sense (sometimes used slightly sarcastically).
- **Example in an article:** "You do not need to be an Einstein to figure out that cutting down all the shade trees in Karachi will only make the summer heatwaves more unbearable."

5. An Achilles' Heel (Greek Mythology)

- **Meaning:** A fatal weakness in spite of overall strength.

- **Example in an article:** "The city's rapid urbanization shows immense economic progress, but its lack of a proper waste management system remains its Achilles' heel."

6. Frankenstein's Monster (Literature)

- **Meaning:** A creation that turns against or ruins its creator.
- **Example in an article:** "We built social media to connect us, but with the rapid rise of cyberbullying and isolation, it seems we have created a Frankenstein's monster."

7. Kryptonite (Pop Culture/Superman)

- **Meaning:** The one ultimate weakness that drains someone's power, focus, or potential.
- **Example in an article:** "Many teenagers have all the potential in the world, but endless scrolling on social media has become their absolute Kryptonite during exam season."

8. The Midas Touch (Greek Mythology)

- **Meaning:** The ability to make everything one touches wildly successful or profitable.
- **Example in an article:** "It seems that today's teenage fashion influencers have the Midas touch, turning the simplest daily routines into highly profitable brand sponsorships."

9. The Boy Who Cried Wolf (Fable)

- **Meaning:** Someone who gives false alarms so often that people stop believing them when a real crisis happens.
- **Example in an article:** "If news channels continue to sensationalize minor political squabbles for ratings, they risk becoming the boy who cried wolf when a genuine national emergency strikes."

10. A Scrooge (Literature - A Christmas Carol)

- **Meaning:** A selfish person who hates spending money or lacks generosity.
- **Example in an article:** "You do not have to be a Scrooge to realize that spending tens of thousands of rupees on a designer outfit you will only wear once is deeply impractical."

Rule Of Three

VERBS

A

- To recognise a problem, accept it, and respond to it → *Acknowledge, accept, act*
- To aim high and move forward → *Aim, aspire, achieve*

B

- To improve something gradually → *Build, bolster, boost*
- To damage or weaken → *Break, bruise, burden*

C

- To manage something effectively → *Control, coordinate, command*
- To question rules or ideas → *Challenge, criticise, confront*

D

- To explain clearly and thoroughly → *Describe, define, demonstrate*
- To lose motivation → *Doubt, delay, drift*

E

- To make something better → *Enhance, enrich, elevate*
- To motivate or give confidence → *Encourage, empower, enable*

F

- To handle failure positively → *Fail, fix, flourish*
- To avoid responsibility → *Flee, forget, forsake*

G

- To improve or progress → *Grow, gain, graduate*
- To understand deeply → *Grasp, gauge, generalise*

H

- To conceal information → *Hide, hush, hoard*

- To help someone improve → *Help, hone, heal*

I

- To influence others → *Inspire, inform, influence*
- To cause harm → *Ignore, insult, injure*

J

- To react quickly → *Jump, judge, justify*

K

- To maintain or preserve → *Keep, conserve, continue*

L

- To gain understanding → *Learn, listen, reflect*
- To waste time → *Linger, loiter, lag*

M

- To organise and lead → *Manage, motivate, monitor*
- To increase difficulty → *Magnify, multiply, complicate*

N

- To reject or refuse → *Neglect, deny, dismiss*

O

- To put plans into action → *Organise, operate, optimise*
- To look closely → *Observe, outline, object*

P

- To get ready and perform well → *Plan, practise, perform*
- To make progress → *Push, persist, prevail*

Q

- To ask for clarity → *Question, query, qualify*

R

- To overcome difficulty → *Recover, rebuild, rise*
- To think again → *Reflect, reconsider, revise*

S

- To achieve success → *Strive, struggle, succeed*
- To organise ideas → *Select, structure, support*

T

- To gain understanding over time → *Think, test, transform*
- To communicate clearly → *Teach, train, transfer*

U

- To reveal truth → *Uncover, understand, unveil*

V

- To show evidence → *Verify, validate, value*

W

- To improve effort → *Work, widen, win*
- To hesitate → *Wait, waver, withdraw*

X

- To examine closely → *X-ray, xerox, cross-examine* (advanced / stylistic)

Y

- To desire strongly → *Yearn, yelp, yield*

Z

- To relax or lose focus → *Zone out, zigzag, zero-in* (stylistic / modern)

ADJECTIVES

A

- *Alert, aware, attentive*
- *Ambitious, adaptable, assertive*
- *Angry, anxious, agitated*

B

- *Bold, brave, balanced*
- *Busy, burdened, breathless*
- *Bright, bold, believable*

C

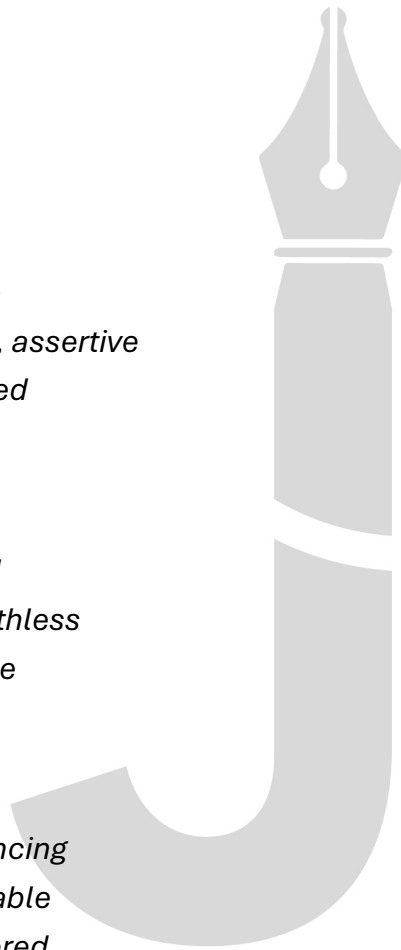
- *Clear, concise, convincing*
- *Calm, confident, capable*
- *Cold, cramped, cluttered*

D

- *Dark, damp, deserted*
- *Determined, disciplined, driven*
- *Delicate, detailed, deliberate*

E

- *Engaging, effective, efficient*



- *Energetic, enthusiastic, eager*
- *Empty, eerie, echoing*

F

- *Firm, fair, focused*
- *Fragile, frightened, frozen*
- *Fast, flexible, functional*

G

- *Gentle, generous, genuine*
- *Grim, grey, gloomy*
- *Grounded, grateful, graceful*

H

- *Harsh, heavy, humid*
- *Hopeful, honest, hardworking*
- *Hollow, hushed, hidden*

I

- *Intelligent, informed, insightful*
- *Icy, isolated, intimidating*
- *Impatient, impulsive, insecure*

J

- *Joyful, jaunty, jubilant*
- *Just, justified, judicious*

K

- *Kind, knowledgeable, keen*
- *Keen, careful, capable*

L

- *Lazy, lethargic, listless*
- *Logical, level-headed, literate*



- *Lonely, lost, lopsided*

M

- *Mature, methodical, mindful*
- *Messy, muddled, mismanaged*
- *Moody, miserable, muted*

N

- *Nervous, naïve, needy*
- *Neat, neutral, necessary*

O

- *Organised, orderly, efficient*
- *Obvious, objective, observable*
- *Old, overgrown, overlooked*

P

- *Polite, patient, professional*
- *Practical, purposeful, persuasive*
- *Pale, panicked, perspiring*

Q

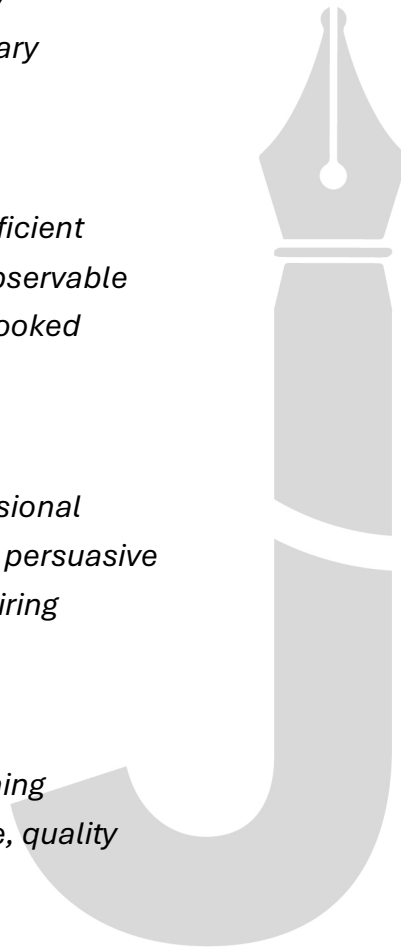
- *Quick, quiet, questioning*
- *Qualified, quantifiable, quality*

R

- *Reliable, responsible, resilient*
- *Rapid, realistic, relevant*
- *Rough, rugged, ruined*

S

- *Smart, strategic, successful*
- *Strong, steady, secure*
- *Silent, still, suffocating*



T

- *Thoughtful, thorough, truthful*
- *Tense, tired, trembling*
- *Timely, targeted, transparent*

U

- *Unclear, unfair, unrealistic*
- *Unique, useful, user-friendly*

V

- *Valid, valuable, verifiable*
- *Vivid, vibrant, visual*
- *Vulnerable, vacant, volatile*

W

- *Wise, well-informed, willing*
- *Weak, weary, worried*
- *Warm, welcoming, well-lit*

X

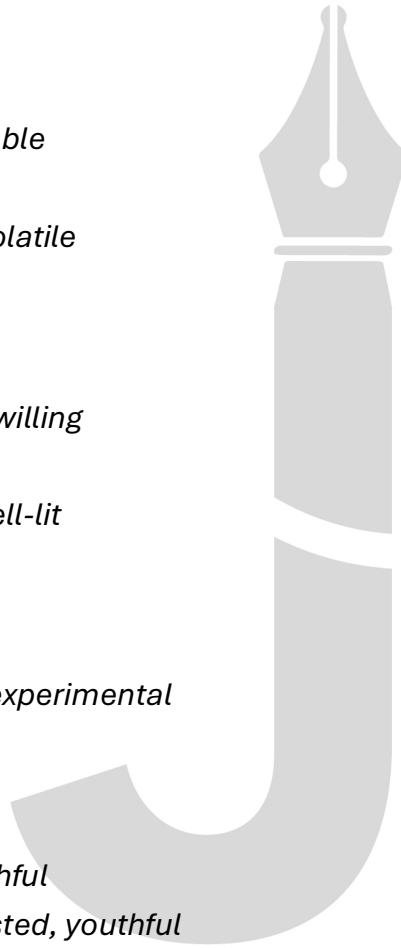
- *Xenial, x-factor-rich, experimental*

Y

- *Young, yearning, youthful*
- *Yielding, yet-to-be-tested, youthful*

Z

- *Zealous, zesty, zero-tolerance*
- *Zigzagging, zoned-out, zombie-like*



Hit the ground running

Meaning: to begin something energetically and effectively

Example: "She hit the ground running on her first day, taking charge of the entire event setup."

Your example: On my first day of the job, I hit the ground running —
determined to prove my haters wrong.

A turning point

Meaning: a moment of significant change

Example: "The new curriculum was a turning point in the school's academic progress."

Your example: The scholarship was a turning point in my professional
life.

Go the extra mile

Meaning: to make more effort than expected

Example: "He went the extra mile to make the event a success, even arranging transport for students."

Your example: He cared for her deeply and went the extra mile
in the spur of the moment without being asked.

In the heat of the moment

Meaning: acting emotionally without thinking

Example: "He quit in the heat of the moment, later regretting his rash decision."

Your example: Shouting at the boss was an abrupt decision made
in the heat of the moment.

Back against the wall

Meaning: in a difficult or pressured situation

Example: "With no help and a strict deadline, she had her back against the wall."

Your example: With the client following her every move, she had
her back against the wall.

Set the wheels in motion

Meaning: to begin a process or series of actions

Example: "Signing that agreement set the wheels in motion for major reforms."

Your example: Setting up that trust fund set the wheels in motion
for her business.

Break new ground

Meaning: to do something innovative or pioneering

Example: "The students broke new ground by launching the first eco-friendly campaign."

Your example: He broke new ground by achieving the country's
first distinction.

A blessing in disguise

Meaning: something that seems bad at first but turns out well

Example: "Failing that test was a blessing in disguise—it taught her discipline."

Caught between a rock and a hard place

Meaning: faced with two equally difficult choices

Example: "He was caught between a rock and a hard place—report the mistake or take the blame."



Your example: She was caught between a rock and a hard place: pay off her debt or lend the money to her brother.

Push the envelope

Meaning: go beyond normal limits or expectations

Example: "The tech club pushed the envelope with a device that converts noise into energy." *unreturned*



/leave no stone

Your example: The teacher pushed the envelope by holding an extra class every other day.

Raise the bar

Meaning: set a higher standard

Example: "Her excellent presentation raised the bar for the entire class."



Your example: Ben's exceptional result raised the bar for his siblings.

A double-edged sword

Meaning: something that has both positive and negative effects

Example: "Social media is a double-edged sword—it connects us but also distracts us."



= Summary

Two strand

Your example: The mobile phone is a double edged sword.

Bite the bullet

Meaning: to face a difficult situation with courage

Example: "He bit the bullet and admitted he'd been wrong all along."



Your example: He bit the bullet and stepped down as CEO.

Tip of the iceberg

Meaning: a small part of a much larger issue

Example: "The vandalism was just the tip of the iceberg—more serious problems were uncovered later." *CCX*



= Comprehension.

Your example: Failing the test was the tip of the iceberg, if he did not improve his grades, he'd be expelled from the school.

Level the playing field

Meaning: to make conditions fair for everyone

Example: "Free online classes helped level the playing field for rural students."



city urban

villages/town