

## Core Functions for College Writing Assignments

Verb	General meaning	Discipline-Specific Applications
Summarize	To condense the main ideas.	
Respond	To develop a personal reaction.	
Analyze	To break down into parts. To discuss the parts, and their relationships.	
Synthesize	To combine separate items into a new coherent whole.	
Evaluate	To judge quality or worth based on criteria shared with an audience.	
Argue	To advocate or defend a position or point of view.	

These basic functions can be combined in numerous ways.