THE A-LIST: Essential Academic Words

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1	Analyze break down • deconstruct • examine	break something down methodically into its parts
2	Argue claim • persuade • propose	provide reasons or evidence to support or oppose
3	Compare/Contrast delineate • differentiate • distinguish	identify similarities or differences between items
4	Describe illustrate • report • represent	report what one observes or does
5	Determine establish • identify • resolve	consider all possible options, perspectives, results
6	Develop formulate • generate • elaborate	improve the quality or substance of
7	Evaluate assess • figure out • gauge	establish value, amount, importance, or effectiveness
8	Explain clarify • demonstrate • discuss	provide reasons for what happened or for one's actions
9	Imagine anticipate • hypothesize • predict	form a picture in one's mind; speculate or predict
10	Integrate combine • incorporate • synthesize	make whole by combining the different parts into one
11	Interpret conclude • infer • translate	draw from a text or data set some meaning or significance
12	Organize arrange • classify • form	arrange or put in order
13	Summarize outline • paraphrase • report	retell the essential details of what happened
14	Support cite • justify • maintain	offer evidence or data in order to illustrate your point
15	Transform alter • change • convert	change in form, function, or nature to reveal or emphasize