Rutgers Learning Centers At Camden Campus

ESSAY EXAMS - KEY WORDS

KEY WORDS	EXAMPLE	INFORMATION TO INCLUDE
DISCUSS	Discuss test-taking skills	Consider important characteristics and main points
ILLUSTRATE	State Boyle's law and illustrate its use	Explain using examples to clarify point
COMPARE	Compare Catholicism and Judaism	Show similarities AND differences; include examples
DEFINE	Define thermal pollution and include several examples	Give meaning of the term with detail to show you understand it
EXPLAIN	Explain why African-Americans are primarily city dwellers	Give facts and details that make idea or concept clear and understandable
TRACE	Trace the history of legalized prostitution in Nevada	Describe the events in a logical or chronological order
EVALUATE	Evaluate the strategies our society has used to treat mental illness	Discuss merits, strengths, weakness, advantages, or limitations of the topic; present your own conclusion
SUMMARIZE	Summarize the presidency of Nixon	Cover major points in brief form; use a sentence and paragraph form
DESCRIBE	Describe the parts and function of a cell	Tell how something looks or happens, including how, who, where and why
JUSTIFY	Justify former President Carter's attempt to rescue the hostages in Iran	Give reasons that support an action, event, or policy
CRITICIZE	Criticize the current environmental controls to combat air pollution	Make judgments about quality, worth; state positive and negative aspects
PROVE	Prove that ice is a better cooling agent than water when both are at the same temperature	Demonstrate or establish that concept or theory is correct, logical, or valid

For more information, visit or call your nearest Rutgers Learning Center, or visit our website:http://rlc.rutgers.edu

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