

Directive Verbs

(aka Bossy Verbs)

These "bossy" verbs show exactly how to tackle ACT/SAT (and life!) questions like a pro. They start with basic skills—like spotting key info (“identify”)—and level up to more complex tasks, like figuring out meaning (“suggest”) or backing up an argument (“support”).

Think of them as cheat codes: each verb hints at the mental move needed to get the right answer.

To keep things simple, all examples come from the first chapter of *The Hustle Files*—the part everyone reads before the story branches.

It’s the training level.

Learn the moves here to get ready for whatever twists the test—or this book—throws next.

Whether a question asks for a breakdown (“analyze”), a detail (“identify”), or proof (“support”), these verbs are the key. Know what they’re asking, and you’ll know how to win.

How to Use This Guide

Learn the Verbs – Get familiar with what each verb means and what kind of answer it calls for.

See Them in Action – Review examples pulled from *The Hustle Files* to see how each verb works in real reading.

Practice Answering – Use the sample prompts and responses to learn how to write strong, test-ready answers.

Master these bossy verbs, and every question becomes less of a mystery—and more of a win.

