

Name _____

Formal Upgrade Answer Key

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|-----------------|----------------|--|
| 1. demonstrates | 7. allocate | 13. minimize |
| 2. indicates | 8. complex | 14. indicates
(acceptable:
demonstrates if
justified) |
| 3. obtain | 9. consequence | 15. sustain |
| 4. clarify | 10. emphasize | |
| 5. analyze | 11. contrast | |
| 6. significant | 12. plausible | |

Teacher's Guide

- **Goal:** Help Grade 10 students practice replacing vague language with **precise academic vocabulary** to strengthen essays, lab reports, and constructed responses.
- **How to use:** Model one item by thinking aloud about tone and meaning, then show how a stronger verb changes the sentence's clarity.
- **Differentiation:**
 - Support: Limit choices by highlighting 6 to 8 Word Bank terms and providing sentence frames for rewrites.
 - On-level: Require students to keep the original meaning while improving formality and precision.
 - Challenge: Ask students to add a second academic change, such as combining sentences or adding a transition.
- **Engagement:** Run a quick "upgrade contest" where pairs vote on the most improved rewrite and explain why it is stronger.
- **Extension ideas:**
 - Have students revise a paragraph from a recent assignment by underlining vague words and replacing them with academic equivalents.
 - Create a personal "precision bank" where students record new academic synonyms they used correctly this week.