ELUDICATE

ROOT: LUCID (adj.)

Elucidate" traces to the **Latin term lucidus**, which means "lucid." "Lucidus" in turn descends from the verb lucēre, meaning "to shine." So "elucidating" can be thought of as the figurative equivalent of shining a light on something to make it easier to see.

Type of word: verb

4 syllables: E-LU-CI-DATE

SYNONYM:

- Clear up
- Shed light on
- Clarify
- Explain
- Reveal
- Straighten out
- Sort out
- Illuminate
- Enlighten
- Decode

ANTONYM:

- Confuse
- Obscure
- Cloud
- Complicate
- To be vague
- Ambiguous
- Mystify
- Conceal
- Hide

EXAMPLES:

In last night's debate, GOP candidates did little to **elucidate** their foreign policy.

In this note, we will **elucidate** the relation between model I and model II.

HOW I REMEMBER THE WORD

elucidate

COMMUNICATIONS

WHEN YOU ARE ASKED TO ELUCIDATE:

- EXPLAIN
- CLARIFY
- MAKE IT CLEAR
- SHINE MORE LIGHT ON
- Something **lucid** (like a lucid argument or a lucid explanation) is really clear and easy to understand.
  So,
  to **elucidate** somethin g is to make it really clear, or make it really easy to understand.

QUOTES:

*"**It is the mission of the twentieth century to elucidate the irrational."***
Maurice Merleau-Po

A few words of elucidation cleared up the confusion.
"Short Studies on Great Subjects" by James Anthony Froude