

Bloom's Taxonomy of MEASURABLE VERBS

Benjamin Bloom created a system of measurable verbs to help describe and classify observable knowledge, skills, attitudes, behaviours, and abilities. It is based on a theory that there are levels of observable actions that indicate the depth of learning occurring in the brain. According to Bloom, measurable verbs fall under six categories that assess increasing complexity of knowledge. For example, students could demonstrate knowledge, comprehension, and application using verbs in those categories, while critical thinking would require verbs under the higher categories of analysis, synthesis, or evaluation. By creating learning outcomes using measurable verbs, you indicate explicitly what the student must do to demonstrate learning.

KNOWLEDGE	COMPREHENSION	APPLICATION	ANALYSIS	SYNTHESIS	EVALUATION
LIST	COMPARE	COMPLETE	ANALYZE	ARRANGE	APPRAISE
NAME	DESCRIBE	CONSTRUCT	APPRAISE	ASSEMBLE	ARGUE
RECALL	DISCUSS	DRAMATIZE	CATEGORIZE	COLLECT	ASSESS
RECORD	EXPLAIN	EMPLOY	COMPARE	COMBINE	CHOOSE
RELATE	EXPRESS	ILLUSTRATE	CONTRAST	COMPLY	CONCLUDE
REPEAT	IDENTIFY	INTERPRET	DEBATE	COMPOSE	ESTIMATE
STATE	RESTATE	OPERATE	DIAGRAM	CONSTRUCT	EVALUATE
UNDERLINE	TELL	PRACTICE	DIFFERENTIATE	CREATE	INTERPRET
	TRANSLATE	SCHEDULE	DISTINGUISH	DESIGN	JUDGE
		SKETCH	EXAMINE	DEVISE	JUSTIFY
		USE	INSPECT	FORMULATE	MEASURE
			INVENTORY	MANAGE	RATE
			QUESTION	ORGANIZE	REVISE
			TEST	PLAN	SCORE
				PREPARE	SELECT
				PROPOSE	SUPPORT
				SET UP	VALUE
DEMONSTRATION OF CRITICAL THINKING					

VERBS THAT ARE NOT MEASURABLE

In order for an outcome to give maximum structure to instruction, it should be free of vague or ambiguous words or phrases. The following lists notoriously ambiguous words or phrases which should be avoided so that the intended outcome is concise and explicit.

Demonstrate is in the stem of learning outcomes (“When you have earned credit for this course, you will have **demonstrated** the ability to:”), so we do not repeat it in the outcomes.

VERBS THAT ARE DIFFICULT TO MEASURE

APPRECIATE	HEAR	RECOGNIZE
BELIEVE	KNOW	SELF-ACTUALIZE
COMPREHEND	LISTEN	SEE
CONCEPTUALIZE	MEMORIZE	THINK
EXPERIENCE	PERCEIVE	UNDERSTAND
FEEL	REALIZE	

WORDS/PHRASES TO AVOID

ABOUT	CAPACITY	INTERESTED IN
ACQUAINTED WITH	COGNIZANT OF	KNOWLEDGE OF
ADJUSTED TO	COMPREHENSION OF	KNOWLEDGEABLE
APPRECIATION FOR	CONSCIOUS OF	TO BECOME
AWARENESS OF	ENJOYMENT OF	UNDERSTANDING OF
CAPABLE OF	FAMILIAR WITH	

Bloom's Levels of EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES

Accurate and Observable Action Words

Spady's Fundamental Performance Roles	KNOWLEDGE	COMPREHENSION	APPLICATION	ANALYSIS	SYNTHESIS	EVALUATION
USERS & PERFORMERS	Use Recognize Outline Label Name	Handle Reproduce Locate Summarize Identify	Act Perform Calculate Execute Operate Role play	Differentiate Examine Relate Infer	Adapt Combine Emulate Revise	Anticipate Justify Critique
PROBLEM FINDERS & SOLVERS	Find Identify	Inquire Survey Locate	Solve Choose Determine Conclude	Examine Investigate Verify	Anticipate Derive Predict Solve	Argue Critique Evaluate Prioritize Determine
CREATORS & PRODUCERS	List Recite Identify Reproduce	Locate Interpret Generalize	Construct Develop Make Produce Compose Design Modify	Diagram Prioritize Aggregate Integrate Organize Propose Revise Solve	Create Formulate Invent Propose Integrate Design Build Estimate	Initiate Devise Interpret Justify Validate
LEARNERS & THINKERS	Define Describe Match Select	Assemble Categorize Classify Explain	Assess Compare Contrast Differentiate	Summarize Characterize Classify Deduce Decipher Diagnose	Extend Infer Conceptualize Formulate	Prioritize Critique Predict Recommend Test
LISTENERS & COMMUNICATORS	Convey Recount Show State List Name	Explain Discuss Describe Illustrate Summarize	Correspond Exhibit Express Respond Present Engage	Relate Clarify Translate Address	Paraphrase Persuade Compose Consolidate Summarize Hypothesize	Argue Critique Confirm Adapt
LEADERS & ORGANIZERS	Arrange Identify Observe Record	Compile Decide Reorganize Prioritize	Lead Establish Coordinate Enlist Facilitate Intervene	Structure Organize Verify Validate	Facilitate Implement Manage Systematize Preserve Manage	Anticipate Initiate Formulate Harmonize Supervise
TEAM MEMBERS & PARTNERS	Connect Follow Allow Offer	Contribute Cooperate Interact	Assist Collaborate Incorporate Resolve Participate	Accommodate Debrief Verify	Adapt Facilitate Integrate Resolve Recruit	Approve Decide Defend Reflect Persuade Support