

Using Bloom's Cognitive Domain

Learning starts on the bottom step. Each step up requires a higher level of thinking. How high should your learners go? Tell them with precise verbs. Then measure their performance accordingly. COMPETENCIES are about DOING, not about KNOWING. Be sure to start all competencies with action verbs above the line.

EVALUATE

I can tell, explain, give examples, apply, take apart and examine, put together in new ways, and judge its value. I can do it with several complex ideas and choose the best one. I judge and evaluate the outcome. I pause for personal reflection on what I learned.

SYNTHESIZE

I can tell, explain, give examples, apply, take apart and examine, and put it together with other things I know to create something new of my own. I explore the impact of theories or applications. I develop and refine new ways of thinking.

ANALYZE

I can tell, explain, apply, give examples, compare, and take it apart and examine different aspects. I analyze the application. I can explain what happened and why.

APPLY

I can tell it back, explain, give examples, and DO something with it. I apply what I know and test it out in a specific situation. I bring theory into practice.

No competencies below the line!

COMPREHEND

I can tell it back to you and I can explain it. I can tell you why it works that way.

Learning objectives often start with verbs below the line

KNOW

You tell me and I can tell it back to you. I can define basic terminology.

INFORMATION SHEET

Verb List

Cognitive Domain Verbs Verbs in **boldface** appear in more than one column.

Knowledge	Comprehension	Application	Analysis	Synthesis	Evaluation
Cite	Add	Acquire	Analyze	Abstract	Appraise
Count	Approximate	Adapt	Audit	Animate	Assess
Define	Articulate	Allocate	Blueprint	Arrange	Conclude
Describe	Associate	Alphabetize	Breadboard	Assemble	Contrast
Draw	Characterize	Apply	Break down	Budget	Counsel
Enumerate	Clarify	Ascertain	Characterize	Categorize	Criticize
Identify	Classify	Assign	Classify	Code	Critique
Index	Compare	Attain	Compare	Combine	Defend
Indicate	Compute	Avoid	Confirm	Compile	Determine
Label	Contrast	Back up	Contrast	Compose	Discriminate
List	Convert	Calculate	Correlate	Construct	Estimate
Match	Defend	Capture	Detect	Cope	Evaluate
Meet	Describe	Change	Diagnose	Correspond	Explain
Name	Detail	Classify	Diagram	Create	Grade
Outline	Differentiate	Complete	Differentiate	Cultivate	Hire
Point	Discuss	Compute	Discriminate	Debug	Interpret
Quote	Distinguish	Construct	Dissect	Depict	Judge
Read	Elaborate	Customize	Distinguish	Design	Justify
Recall	Estimate	Demonstrate	Document	Develop	Measure
Recite	Example	Depreciate	Ensure	Devise	Predict
Recognize	Explain	Derive	Examine	Dictate	Prescribe
Record	Express	Determine	Explain	Enhance	Rank
Repeat	Extend	Diminish	Explore	Explain	Rate
Reproduce	Extrapolate	Discover	Figure out	Facilitate	Recommend
Review	Factor	Draw	File	Format	Release
Select	Generalize	Employ	Group	Formulate	Select
State	Give	Examine	Identify	Generalize	Summarize
Study	Infer	Exercise	Illustrate	Generate	Support
Tabulate	Interact	Explore	Infer	Handle	Test
Trace	Interpolate	Expose	Interrupt	Import	Validate
Write	Interpret	Express	Inventory	Improve	Verify
	Observe	Factor	Investigate	Incorporate	
	Paraphrase	Figure	Lay out	Integrate	
	Picture graphically	Graph	Manage	Interface	
	Predict	Handle	Maximize	Join	
	Review	Illustrate	Minimize	Lecture	
	Rewrite	Investigate	Optimize	Model	
	Subtract	Manipulate	Order	Modify	
	Summarize	Modify	Outline	Network	
	Translate	Operate	Point out	Organize	
	Visualize	Personalize	Prioritize	Outline	
		Plot	Proofread	Overhaul	
		Practice	Query	Plan	
		Predict	Relate	Portray	
		Prepare	Select	Prepare	
		Process	Separate	Prescribe	
		Produce	Size up	Produce	
		Project	Subdivide	Program	
		Protect	Summarize	Rearrange	
		Provide	Train	Reconstruct	
		Relate	Transform	Refer	
		Sequence		Relate	
		Show		Reorganize	
		Sketch		Revise	
		Solve		Rewrite	
		Subscribe		Specify	
		Tabulate		Summarize	
		Transcribe		Write	
		Translate			
		Use			