

Bloom's Taxonomy

Bloom created a taxonomy of learning that arranges knowledge from the lowest level to the level of expert. This has been modified to show the actions that reflect levels of learning. The action verbs used in learning objectives are useful ways of determining the level of learning. The NBME is moving its tests away from the lower levels and into the level of applying and analyzing.

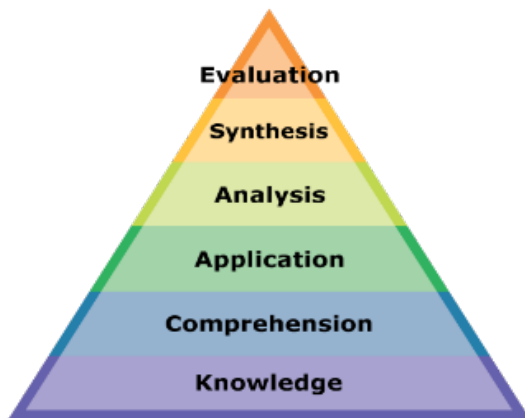


Figure 1: Original Bloom's Taxonomy

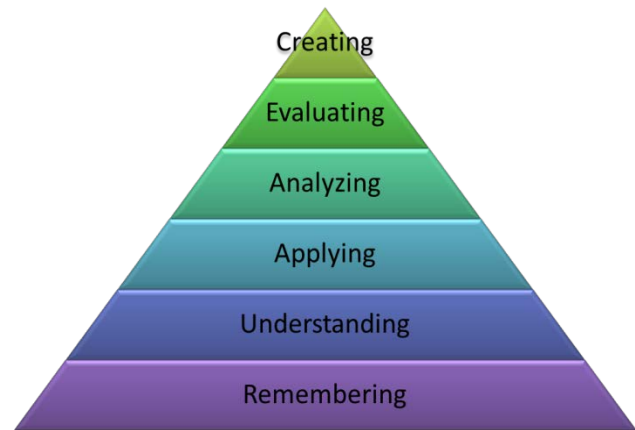


Figure 2: Bloom's Taxonomy as Actions

Category	Remembering	Understanding	Applying	Analyzing	Evaluating	Creating
Bloom's Definition	Exhibit memory of previously learned material by recalling facts, terms, basic concepts, and answers.	Demonstrate understanding of facts and ideas by organizing, comparing, translating, interpreting, giving descriptions, and stating main ideas.	Solve problems to new situations by applying acquired knowledge, facts, techniques and rules in a different way.	Examine and break information into parts by identifying motives or causes. Make inferences and find evidence to support generalizations.	Present and defend opinions by making judgments about information, validity of ideas, or quality of work based on a set of criteria.	Compile information together in a different way by combining elements in a new pattern or proposing alternative solutions.
Verbs	Choose Define Find How Label List Match Name Omit Recall Relate Select Show Spell	Classify Compare Contrast Demonstrate Explain Extend Illustrate Infer Interpret Outline Relate Rephrase Show Summarize	Apply Build Choose Construct Develop Experiment with Identify Interview Make use of Model Organize Plan Select	Analyze Assume Categorize Classify Compare Conclusion Contrast Discover Dissect Distinguish Divide Examine Function Inference	Agree Appraise Assess Award Choose Compare Conclude Criteria Criticize Decide Deduct Defend Determine Disprove	Adapt Build Change Choose Combine Compile Compose Construct Create Delete Design Develop Discuss Elaborate

Category	Remembering	Understanding	Applying	Analyzing	Evaluating	Creating
	Tell What When Where Which Who Why	Translate	Solve Utilize	Inspect List Motive Relationships Simplify Survey Take part in Test for Theme	Estimate Evaluate Explain Importance Influence Interpret Judge Justify Mark Measure Opinion Perceive Prioritize Prove Rate Recommend Rule on Select Support Value	Estimate Formulate Happen Imagine Improve Invent Make up Maximize Minimize Modify Original Originate Plan Predict Propose Solution Solve Suppose Test Theory Maximize Minimize

Anderson, L. W., & Krathwohl, D. R. (2001). A taxonomy for learning, teaching, and assessing, Abridged Edition. Boston, MA: Allyn and Bacon.