

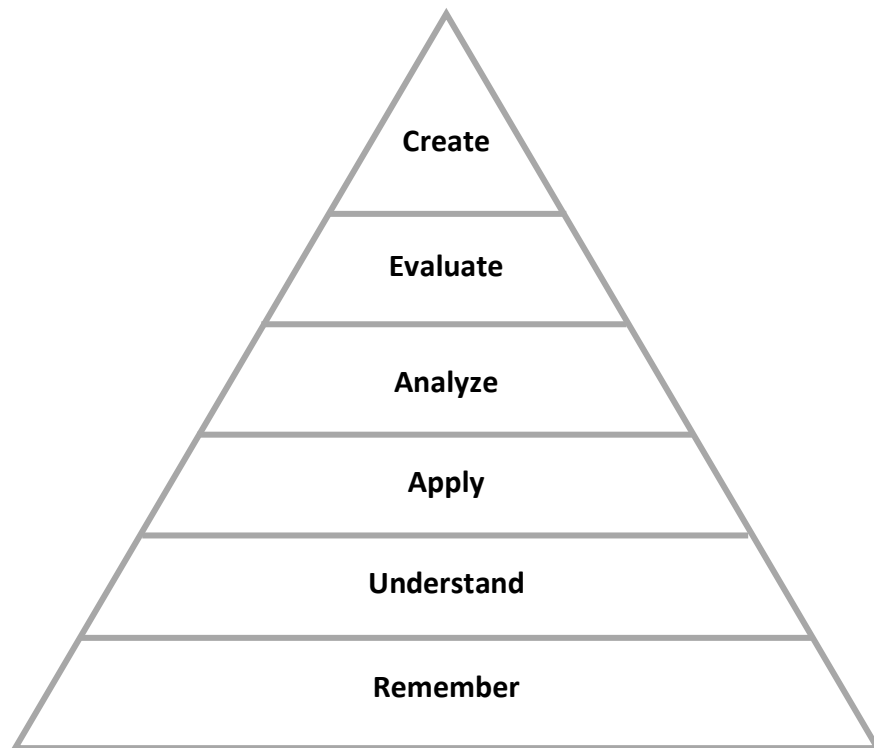
Revised Bloom's Taxonomy^{1, 2}

Background

Benjamin Bloom created the Taxonomy of Educational Objectives in 1956 as a means of expressing qualitatively different kinds of thinking. Bloom's Taxonomy has since been adapted for classroom use as a planning tool and continues to be one of the most universally applied models across all levels of schooling and in all areas of study.

The Revised Bloom's Taxonomy

During the 1990s, Lorin Anderson (a former student of Benjamin Bloom) led a team of cognitive psychologists in revisiting the taxonomy to examine the relevance of the taxonomy as we enter the 21st century. As a result of the investigation, a number of significant improvements were made to the existing structure.



¹ Bloom, Benjamin S. & David R. Krathwohl. (1956). Taxonomy of educational objectives: The classification of educational goals, by a committee of college and university examiners. Handbook 1: Cognitive domain. New York, Longmans.

² Schultz, Lynn. Old Dominion University. http://www.odu.edu/educ/lischult/blooms_taxonomy.htm

Revised Bloom's Taxonomy – Categories (from less to more complex)

REMEMBER

Recognize, list, describe, identify retrieve, name, ...

Can the student RECALL information?

Recognize

Locate knowledge in memory that is consistent with presented material.

Synonyms: Identify, ...

Recall

Retrieve relevant knowledge from long-term memory.

Synonyms: Retrieve, name, ...

UNDERSTAND

Interpret, exemplify, summarize, infer, paraphrase, ...

Can the student EXPLAIN ideas or concepts?

Interpret

Change from one form of representation to another

Synonyms: Paraphrase, translate, represent, clarify, ...

Exemplify

Find a specific example or illustration of a concept or principle

Synonyms: Instantiate, illustrate, ...

Classify

Determine that something belongs to a category (e.g., concept or principle).

Synonyms: Categorize, subsume, ...

Summarize

Draw a logical conclusion from presented information.

Synonyms: Abstract, generalize, ...

Infer

Abstract a general theme or major point

Synonyms: Extrapolate, interpolate, predict, conclude, ...

Compare

Detect correspondences between two ideas, objects, etc

Synonyms: Contrast, match, map, ...

Explain

Construct a cause-and-effect model of a system.

Synonyms: Construct models, ...

APPLY

Implement, carry out, use, ...

Can the student USE the new knowledge in another familiar situation?

Execute

Apply knowledge (often procedural) to a routine task.

Synonyms: Carry out, ...

Implement

Apply knowledge (often procedural) to a non-routine task.

Synonyms: Use, ...

ANALYZE

Compare, attribute, organize, deconstruct, ...

Can the student DIFFERENTIATE between constituent parts?

Differentiate

Distinguish relevant from irrelevant parts or important from unimportant parts of presented material.

Synonyms: Discriminate, select, focus, distinguish, ...

Organize

Determine how elements fit or function within a structure.

Synonyms: Outline, structure, integrate, find coherence

Attribute

Determine the point of view, bias, values, or intent underlying presented material.

Synonyms: deconstruct, ...

EVALUATE

Check, critique, judge, hypothesize, ...

Can the student JUSTIFY a decision or course of action?

Check

Detect inconsistencies or fallacies within a process or product. Determine whether a process or product has internal consistency.

Synonyms: Test, detect, monitor, ...

Critique

Detect the appropriateness of a procedure for a given task or problem.

Synonyms: Judge, ...

CREATE

Design, construct, plan, produce, ...

Can the student GENERATE new products, ideas or ways of viewing things?

Generate

Come up with alternatives or hypotheses based on criteria

Synonyms: Hypothesize

Plan

Devise a procedure for accomplishing some task.

Synonyms: Design, ...

Produce

Invent a product.

Synonyms: Construct, ...