Verbs Requiring Cognitive Outcomes

Knowledge
- define
- repeat
- record
- list
- name
- relate
- underline
- recall
- inquire
- record
- recognize
- match
- memorize
- select
- distinguish
- identify
- label

Comprehension
- translate
- restate
- discuss
- describe
- recognize
- explain
- express
- identify
- locate
- report
- review
- tell
- change
- rearrange
- give example
- illustrate
- comment
- transform
- demonstrate
- infer
- generalize
- interpret
- summarize

Application
- interpret
- apply
- employ
- use
- demonstrate
- dramatize
- practice
- illustrate
- operate
- schedule
- shop
- sketch
- organize
- reconstruct
- solve
- transfer
- generalize
- choose
- classify
- calculate

Critical Thinking
- judge
- appraise
- evaluate
- rate
- compare
- value
- revise
- score
- select
- choose
- assess
- estimate
- measure
- consider
- conclude
- weigh
- criticize
- assess

Analysis
- distinguish
- analyze
- differentiate
- appraise
- calculate
- experiment
- test
- compare
- contrast
- criticize
- diagram
- inspect
- debate
- inventory
- question
- relate
- solve
- examine
- categorize
- discriminate
- deduce
- put into list
- describe
- classify
- categorize

Synthesis
- compose
- plan +
- propose
- design +
- formulate
- arrange
- assemble
- collect
- construct
- create
- set up
- organize
- prepare
- solve +
- produce +

Evaluation

Knowledge
- To remember previously learned material.

Recall:

Comprehension: To grasp the meaning of the knowledge being learned and be able to paraphrase or explain it.

Application: The ability to use learned information and materials.

Analysis: The ability to break material down into its elements or parts so that its organizational structure may be understood.

Synthesis: The ability to combine previous experience with new material to form a structure.
Verbs Requiring Affective Outcomes

**Receiving:** Awareness, willingness to receive, and controlled attention.

**Responding:** Compliance in reacting to a suggestion, willingness to respond, and satisfaction in response.

**Valuing:** Accepting a value as a belief, indication of preference for the value, and commitment.

**Organizing:** Conceptualization of a value in abstract or symbolic terms and organization of a value system.

**Characterization of an internally consistent value system:** The individual acts consistently in accordance with the values he/she has internalized.

The diagram lists verbs under each category, such as:

- **Receiving:** accept, attend, develop, realize, receive, recognize
- **Responding:** behave, complete, comply, cooperate, enjoy, examine, obey, observe, respond, tolerate
- **Valuing:** balance, believe, defends, defend, examine, prefer, pursue, seek, value
- **Organizing:** codify, discriminate, display, favor, judge, order, organize, relate, systematize, weigh
- **Characterization:** internalize
### Perception:
Involves sensitivity to a situation object, or relationship that normally leads to action.

### Preparation:
Involves readiness to perform.

### Orientation:
Involves the discovery and/or decision of the response(s) which must be made.

### Pattern:
Involves a learned response that is habitual; presentation is smooth and the presenter has confidence in his ability.

### Performance:
Involves a complex motor action, carried out with a high degree of skill. (May be thought of as motor synthesis.)
Watch Out for Verbs that are not Measurable

In order for an objective 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.

**WORDS TO AVOID**

Believe  
Hear  
Realize  
Capacity  
Intelligence  
Recognize  
Comprehend  
Know  
See  
Conceptualize  
Listen  
Self-Actualize  
Depth  
Memorize  
Think  
Experience  
Perceive  
Understand  
Feel

**PHRASES TO AVOID**

Evidence a (n): or To Become: or To Reduce:

Appreciation for…  
Acquainted with…  
Anxiety  
Attitude of…  
Adjusted to…  
Immaturity  
Awareness of…  
Capable of…  
Insecurity  
Comprehension of…  
Cognizant of…  
Enjoyment of…  
Conscious of…  
Feeling for…  
Familiar with…  
Interest in…  
Interested in…  
Knowledge of…  
Knowledgeable about…  
Understanding of…  
Self-Confident in…