Linking Assessment Methods with Learning Outcomes using Bloom’s Taxonomy

In any learning context, it is important that the method of assessment effectively measures or evaluates whether or not the learning outcomes have been demonstrated. In this resource, using Bloom’s revised Taxonomy as a framework—particularly his work in the cognitive domain of learning (see Anderson and Krathwohl 2001)—we have compiled a list of ‘thinking processes’, competences and skills that are commonly assessed in higher education.

For each level within the Taxonomy, you will find:
- (a) a list of related “action verbs” that may be used to articulate an appropriate learning outcome
- (b) a series of assessment approaches that are typically used to assess the achievement of learning outcome at this level.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning outcome linked to:</th>
<th>Related verbs</th>
<th>Assessment approaches typically used to assess the achievement of this learning outcome type</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>REMEMBER:</strong> Remembering previously learned information</td>
<td>Recognise, Recall, State, Outline, Identify, Describe, Match, Order, Name, Label, Reproduce</td>
<td>Test/Quiz; Essay; Presentation; Visual artefact; Oral examination</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>UNDERSTAND:</strong> Demonstrating understanding and comprehension</td>
<td>Interpret, Exemplify, Clarify, Classify, Paraphrase, Summarise, Infer, Compare, Explain, Represent, Translate, Illustrate, Categorise</td>
<td>Presentation; Annotated bibliography; Oral examination; Essay; Visual artefact; ePortfolio; Discussion boards; Reflective blog; Reflective journal; Wiki; Literature review; Performance; Debate; Open-book assessment</td>
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Developing links between learning outcomes and assessment can be challenging. In many cases, one assessment type may not satisfy all learning outcomes and it may be necessary to choose a number of different assessment types.
### APPLY:

**Applying knowledge in a given situation**

- Apply, Implement, Demonstrate, Illustrate, Interpret, Execute

| Lab assessment | Performance | Open-book assessment |

### ANALYSE:

**Analysing, classifying, hypothesis testing & evidencing**

- Analyse, Differentiate, Organise, Attribute, Appraise, Critique

| Essay | Lab assessment | Presentation | Test/Quiz | Visual artefact | ePortfolio | Annotated bibliography | Discussion boards | Reflective blog | Reflective journal | Wiki | Oral examination | Literature review | Performance | Debate | Open-book assessment |

### EVALUATE:

**Evaluating, evidencing & defending judgment or analysis**

- Evaluate, Critique, Appraise, Argue, Justify, Explain, Predict, Support, Defend


### CREATE:

**Creating, integrating or synthesising ideas, concepts or practices coherently**

- Create, Generate, Plan, Produce, Design, Modify, Develop, Invent, Write

| Visual artefact | ePortfolio | Essay | Presentation | Annotated bibliography | Discussion boards | Reflective blog | Reflective journal | Wiki | Literature review | Performance | Debate | Open-book assessment |

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### References

- Anderson and Krathwohl (2001) *A Taxonomy for Learning, Teaching and Assessing: A Revision of Bloom’s Taxonomy of Educational Objectives*: Anderson and Krathwohl present a revision of Bloom’s Taxonomy pointing towards a more dynamic framework where they use ‘action words’ to describe the cognitive processes by which we encounter and engage with knowledge.

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