



Action Verbs for Creating Measurable Learning Outcomes

The table below lists measurable action verbs for each cognitive process in Bloom's Revised Taxonomy and identifies language to avoid to ensure outcomes are clearly stated and measurable.

Cognitive Process	Definition	Measurable Action Verbs
Remembering	Recall facts and basic concepts	Choose, Define, Identify, Label, List, Match, Name, Recite, Recognize, Recall, Repeat
Understanding	Explain ideas or concepts	Classify, Describe, Discuss, Explain, Identify, Locate, Recognize, Report, Select, Summarize, Translate
Applying	Use information in new situations	Apply, Demonstrate, Dramatize, Employ, Illustrate, Interpret, Operate, Schedule, Sketch, Solve, Use, Organize
Analyzing	Draw connections among ideas	Analyze, Debate, Categorize, Compare, Contrast, Differentiate, Distinguish, Examine, Solve, Question, Test
Evaluating	Justify a stand or decision	Appraise, Argue, Critique, Defend, Evaluate, Assess, Justify, Select, Support, Value
Creating	Produce new or original work	Assemble, Construct, Create, Design, Develop, Formulate, Modify, Invent, Plan, Produce, Write

Example Verbs to Avoid

Understand

Realize

Comprehend

Learn

Feel

Know

Appreciate

Think

Example Phrases to Avoid

Demonstrate an understanding of...

Be familiar with...

Be exposed to...

Have an awareness of...

Cover topics in...

Know how to...

Increase interest in...

Develop an appreciation for...