

Illustrative Verbs

These verbs can be used in writing competence statements and performance objectives or student proficiencies.

Illustrative verbs for stating general instructional objectives

Analyze	Apply	Appreciate	Comprehend
Computer	Create	Demonstrate	Evaluate
Interpret	Know	Locate	Perform
Recognize	Translate	Understand	Use
Write			

Illustrative verbs for stating specific learning outcomes

Creative behaviors

Change	Design	Generalize	Modify	Paraphrase
Predict	Question	Rearrange	Recombine	Reconstruct
Regroup	Rename	Reorganize	Reorder	Rephrase
Restate	Restructure	Retell	Revise	Rewrite
Simplify	Synthesize	Systematize	Vary	

Complex, logical, judgmental behaviors

Analyze	Appraise	Combine	Compare	Conclude
Contrast	Criticize	Decide	Deduce	Defend
Evaluate	Explain	Formulate	Generate	Induce
Infer	Plan	Structure	Substitute	

General discriminative behaviors

Choose	Collect	Devine	Describe	Detect
Differentiate	Discriminate	Distinguish	Identify	Indicate
Isolate	List	Match	Omit	Order
Pick	Place	Point	Select	Separate

Social behaviors

Aid	Allow	Answer	Argue	Communicate
Contribute	Cooperate	Disagree	Discuss	Greet
Help	Interact	Invite	Join	Participate
Permit	React	Talk		

Language behaviors

Abbreviate	Accent	Alphabetize	Articulate	Call
Capitalize	Edit	Hyphenate	Indent	Outline

Print	Pronounce	Punctuate	Read	Recite
Say	Sign	Speak	Spell	Summarize
Syllabify	Tell	Translate	Verbalize	Write

Study behaviors

Arrange	Categorize	Chart	Cite	Compile
Copy	Diagram	Find	Follow	Itemize
Label	Locate	Look	Map	Mark
Name	Note	Organize	Quote	Record
Reproduce	Search	Sort	Underline	

Mathematical behaviors

Add	Bisect	Calculate	Check	Compute
Derive	Divide	Estimate	Extrapolate	Extract
Graph	Group	Integrate	Interpolate	Measure
Multiply	Number	Plot	Prove	Reduce
Solve	Square	Subtract	Tabulate	Tally
Verify				

Laboratory science behaviors

Apply	Calibrate	Conduct	Connect	Convert
Decrease	Demonstrate	Dissect	Feed	Grow
Increase	Insert	Keep	Lengthen	Limit
Manipulate	Operate	Plant	Prepare	Remove
Replace	Report	Reset	Set	Specify
Straighten	Time	Transfer	Weigh	

Functional Verbs

(Grouped by "idea packages")

Administrative action

Advise	Administer	Appoint	Authorize	Control
Coordinate	Consult	Decide	Delegate	Determine
Direct	Enforce	Establish	Execute	Initiate
Manage	Order	Organize	Plan	Reject
Require	Review	Supervise	Train	

Push along verbs

Activate	Encourage	Expedite	Further	Implement
Maintain	Motivate			

Stops

Check	Delete	Prevent	Return	Stop
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Helpers

Advise	Aid	Cooperate	Counsel	Explain
Guide	Instruct	Participate	Protect	Serve
Show	Suggest			

Get and give

Accept	Accumulate	Acquire	Arrange for	Buy
Collect	Compile	Deliver	Distribute	Exchange
Forward	Furnish	Gather	Get	Give
Inform	Inquire	Issue	Keep	Mail
Make available	Notify	Obtain	Pick up	Procure
Provide	Pull	Purchase	Recall	Receive
Recruit	Render	Request	Report	Secure
Sell	Send	Solicit	Submit	Supply
Take	Transfer	Withdraw		

Creative

Create	Design	Devise	Develop	Establish
Estimate	Forecast	Formulate	Initiate	Install
Originate	Plan	Project	Schedule	

Study or appraise

Appraise	Analyze	Ascertain	Check	Compare
Consider	Criticize	Develop	Evaluate	Examine
Forecast	Identify	Inspect	Interpret	Interview
Investigate	Measure	Plan	Rate	Read
Research	Resolve	Review	Solve	Study
Summarize	Survey	Test	Weigh	

Control

Audit	Check	Conserve	Control	Edit
Enforce	Ensure	Guarantee	Inspect	Regulate
Restrict	Review	Verify		

Verbs Organized by Bloom's Taxonomy

Knowledge (Level I) Knowledge involves the recalling of previously learned specific items of information. Knowledge is the lowest level of learning outcomes in the cognitive domain.

define	list	name	recall	record
relate	repeat	underline	remember	reproduce
tell	describe	find	match	quote
locate	outline	identify	select	state
cite	omit	label		

Comprehension (Level II) Comprehension involves more than knowledge. It involves the ability to grasp the meaning of materials.

describe	discuss	explain	express	identify
locate	recognize	report	restate	review
tell	translate	distinguish	summarize	categorize
diagram	rephrase	convert	interpret	classify
chart	generalize	paraphrase	describe	sort
map	rewrite	isolate	report	arrange
discriminate				

Application (Level III) The person can use this thought process can do everything in the knowledge and comprehension categories. This person can also demonstrate the ability to take information of an abstract nature and use it in concrete situations. It is this ability to apply information to new problems that makes the process unique.

apply	demonstrate	dramatize	employ	illustrate
interpret	operate	practice	schedule	show
sketch	use	calculate	construct	work out
discover	organize	modify	define	solve
give examples	predict	operate	transfer	produce
change	prepare	develop	design	compute

Analysis (Level IV) The essential ingredients of analysis include the breaking down of a communication into constituent parts and revealing the relationships of those parts. It involves an understanding of both the constant and structural form of the materials.

analyze	calculate	categorize	compare	contrast
criticize	debate	diagram	distinguish	examine

experiment	inspect	inventory	question	relate
solve	test	separate	detect	take apart
recognize	inspect	infer	interrelate	break down
differentiate	discriminate	subdivide		

Synthesis (Level V) Synthesis is a word used to describe the process of pulling together many separate elements of parts to form a unique whole. It is the arranging, combining, and relating parts into new patterns or structures that make this process unique.

arrange	assemble	collect	compose	construct
create	design	formulate	manage	organize
plan	prepare	propose	set up	Originate
synthesize	combine	compile	summarize	restructure
devise	explain	redesign	generate	modify
rearrange	reconstruct			

Evaluate (Level VI) Evaluation requires judgments which are statements about the worth or value of materials or procedures. These statements involve choice (good, better, best) or prescription (should, ought). These judgments are based on definite criteria (logical and/or empirical).

appraise	assess	choose	estimate	evaluate
judge	measure	rate	revise	select
score	contrast	conclude	support	validate
criticize	compare	document	justify	