## **Bloom's Taxonomy of Measurable Verbs**

Benjamin Bloom created a taxonomy of measurable verbs to help us describe and classify observable knowledge, skills, attitudes, behaviors and abilities. The theory is based upon the idea that there are levels of observable actions that indicate something is happening in the brain (cognitive activity.) By creating learning objectives using measurable verbs, you indicate explicitly what the student must do in order to demonstrate learning.

Verbs that demonstrate Critical Thinking

					EVALUATION	
				*	Appraise	
				SYNTHESIS	Argue	
				Arrange	Assess	
			ANALYSIS	Assemble	Choose	
			Analyze	Collect	Compare	
		APPLICATION	Appraise	Combine	Conclude	
		Apply	Categorize	Comply	Estimate	
	COMPREHENSION	Complete	Compare	Compose	Evaluate	
	Compare	Construct	Contrast	Construct	Interpret	
KNOWLEDGE	Describe	Demonstrate	Debate	Create	Judge	
List	Discuss	Dramatize	Diagram	Design	Justify	
Name	Explain	Employ	Differentiate	Devise	Measure	
Recall	Express	Illustrate	Distinguish	Formulate	Rate	
Record	Identify	Interpret	Examine	Manage	Revise	
Relate	Recognize	Operate	Experiment	Organize	Score	
Repeat	Restate	Practice	Inspect	Plan	Select	
State	Tell	Schedule	Inventory	Prepare	Support	
Tell	Translate	Sketch	Question	Propose	Value	
Underline		Use	Test	Setup		

## **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): To Become: 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-Confi dent in.