

BLOOM'S TAXONOMY OF THINKING PROCESSES

When preparing for an exam, ask yourself questions on every level of difficulty, starting with the easiest (knowledge) and working toward the most challenging (evaluation). Then you will be better prepared for any question the instructor might ask.

Level	Definition	What the Learner Does	Verbs Useful in Studying
Knowledge	Recall or location of specific bits of information	responds absorbs remembers recognizes	tell, list, define, name, recall, identify, state, know, remember, repeat, recognize, label, match
Comprehension (understanding)	Understanding of communicated material or information	explains translates demonstrates interprets	transform, change, restate, describe, explain, review, paraphrase, relate, generalize, summarize
Application (using)	Use of rules, concepts, principles, and theories in new situations	solves novel problems demonstrates uses knowledge constructs	apply, practice, employ, use, demonstrate, illustrate, show, modify, predict, solve
Analysis (taking apart)	Breaking down information into parts	discusses uncovers lists dissects	diagram, identify, analyze, distinguish, compare, contrast, survey, separate, categorize, classify
Synthesis (creating)	Putting together of ideas into a new or unique product or plan	discusses generalizes relates contrasts	create, invent, compose, construct, design, revise, imagine, produce, modify, summarize, what if . . .
Evaluation (judging)	Judging the value of materials or ideas on the basis of set standards or criteria	judges disputes forms opinions debates	critique, justify, explain, evaluate, verify, assess, recommend, decide, judge,