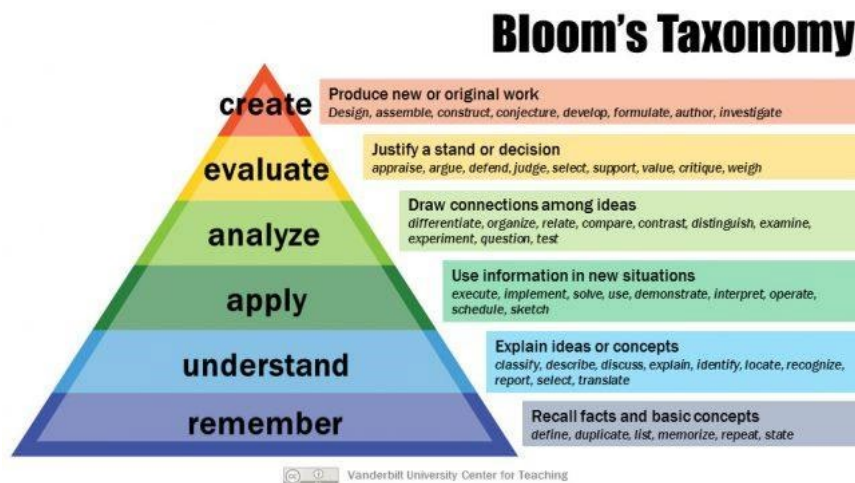


## Higher Order Thinking and Bloom's Taxonomy

### What is it?

Fenwick and Parsons (2009) describe Bloom's Taxonomy as a way of classifying levels of thinking. They explain there is a rational order to intellectual activity and this is categorized into six levels; each level builds on the prior level. At the first stage individuals remember/recall information. At the next stage individuals learn to understand what that information means. In the following stage individuals are able to apply newly learned information. In the subsequent stages learners are able to analyze and evaluate information and in the final stage learners are able to use information to create something entirely new. When instructors design classroom activities or facilitate classroom discussion they should challenge learners to think at the higher levels of Bloom's Taxonomy. Once an instructor becomes familiar with this way of classifying levels of thought it becomes easier to facilitate higher levels.



Vanderbilt University Center for Teaching - <https://cft.vanderbilt.edu/guides-sub-pages/blooms-taxonomy/>

Check out this YouTube video titled Bloom's Taxonomy: Structuring The Learning Journey from Sprouts <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ayefSTAnCR8>

### Why is it important?

Bloom's Taxonomy is a useful tool to understand a continuum of learning from remembering facts to higher order thinking that includes synthesis and creation. However, we must not imagine that this is necessarily a linear process.

### How can you use it?

Bloom's Taxonomy is very useful when writing learning objectives. Specific verbs can be selected to correspond with each level. See [blooms-taxonomy-verbs.png \(1000x750\) \(teachthought.com\)](#)

## References

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