

This list has been edited for clarity. For more information, contact the OSU Center for Teaching and Learning, Curriculum Management, or Assessment & Accreditation.

Student learning outcomes are overarching skills, knowledge and dispositions that are emphasized and reinforced throughout a course or in a specific academic program. They are measurable statements that define what students will be able to do by the end of a course, a program or upon graduation. Each outcome statement should start with a measurable action verb that indicates the level of learning, followed by a precise description of the learned skill, knowledge, or disposition. Bloom's Revised Taxonomy provides a helpful way of understanding the levels of cognitive processes (from basic to more advanced) and examples of measurable actions verbs that may be used to develop learning outcomes. These verbs must still be used in the appropriate context to achieve their intended outcomes.



Evaluating

justifying a stand or values of information

Analyzing

drawing connections among ideas or information

Higher order thinking skills, complex, and more abstract

Applying

using new information or knowledge

Lower order thinking skills, concrete, and more simple



explaining concepts, ideas, or facts

Remembering recalling facts or concepts

VERBS TO AVOID: Appreciate Realize Comprehend Understand Know Think Experience See Perceive (these are not measurable) December 15, 2023

List of Verbs for Student Learning Outcomes

Remembering	Understanding	Applying	Analyzing	Evaluating	Creating
arrange copy count define describe draw duplicate identify indicate label	associate characterize complete convert depict discuss establish explain express extend	add administer articulate apply calculate change choose classify compute conduct	analyze breakdown categorize combine* compare contrast detect diagram differentiate discriminate	appraise arbitrate argue assess award conclude criticize critique debate decide	assemble author combine* combine* compile compile compose conjecture consolidate construct create
list locate	extrapolate generalize	demonstrate diagnose	distinguish experiment	defend determine	design develop

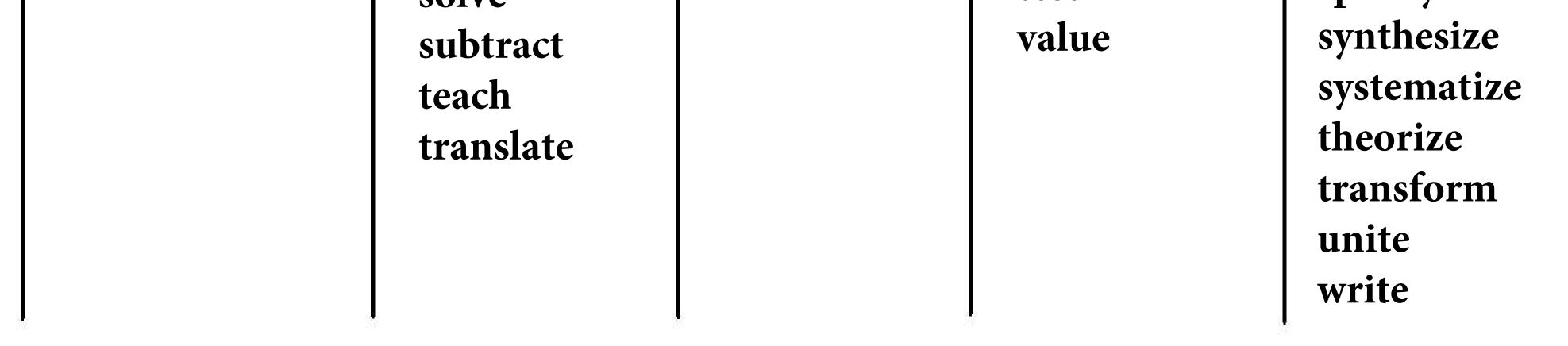
match memorize name order order point quote quote read recall recall recall recall recall recall record record repeat repeat reproduce state illustrate organize* paraphrase report sort summarize

discover divide dramatize employ execute graph group implement interpolate manipulate modify operate perform practice role play select show sketch solve

explore infer inventory investigate outline point out question relate research separate subdivide survey test*

envision estimate evaluate examine grade inspect interpret judge justify measure predict prioritize rank rate recommend referee review support test*

devise drive formulate generate hypothesize integrate invent merge organize* plan prepare prescribe produce propose reconstruct reorganize revise rewrite specify



*Depending on the context, some verbs can be used to reflect different domains of cognitive skills. For example:

- organize objects according to their sizes (understanding) vs organize an event (creating)
- combine two mathematical equations to solve a problem (analyzing) vs combine few ingredients to make a new recipe (creating)
- test the tensile strength of plastics given the varying chemical composition (analyzing) *vs* test multiple variables to validate a hypothesis (evaluating)