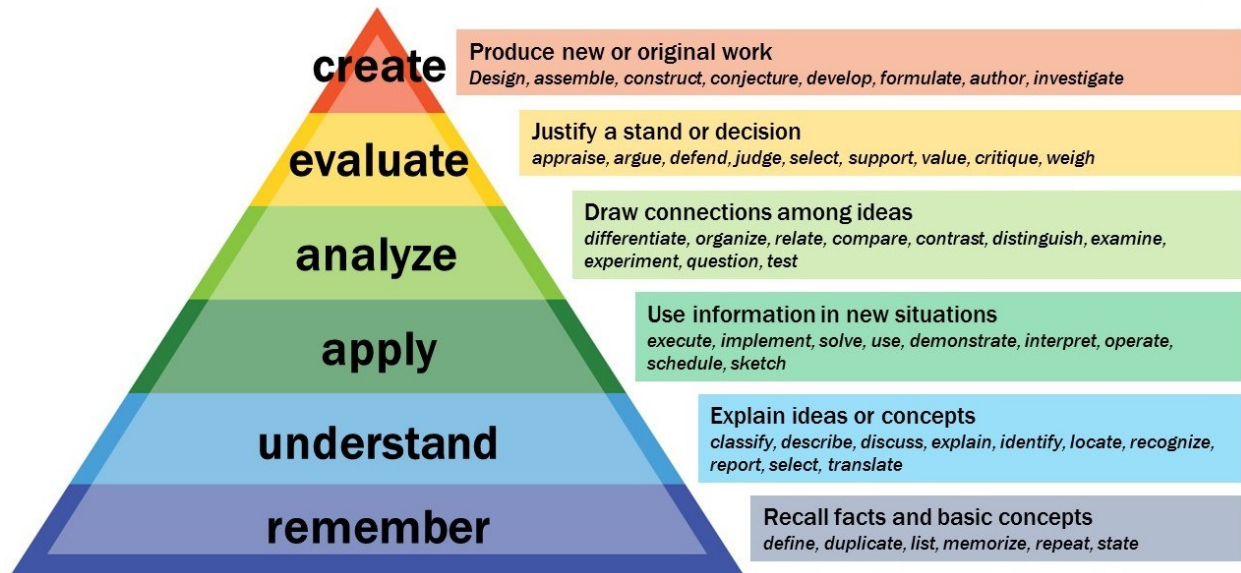


Creating Writing Assignments Using Bloom's

Bloom's Taxonomy



Remember - "Recall facts and basic concepts"

Verbs to use in assignments to have students demonstrate knowledge: define; describe; enumerate; identify; label; list; match; name; read; record; reproduce; select; state; view.

Examples of writing assignments: Ask your students to do a free-write in class, in which they **identify** three causes of the Civil War, or **define** Progressivism. Use their responses as a starting point for discussion, or have the students discuss their responses in small groups.

Understand - "Explain ideas or concepts"

Verbs to use in assignments to have students demonstrate understanding: classify; describe; discuss; explain; generalize; give examples; make sense of; paraphrase; restate (in own words); summarize; trace; understand.

Examples of writing assignments: Ask your students to **summarize** an author's argument, or a part of their lecture notes, in one paragraph. Then divide the students into pairs and ask the students to **discuss** any gaps or

discrepancies in their comprehension and to construct a new and better paragraph together.

Apply - “Use information in new situations”

Verbs to use in assignments so that students can demonstrate their ability to apply: act; articulate; assess; chart; collect; compute; construct; contribute; determine; develop; discover; establish; instruct; operationalize; participate; predict; provide; relate; report; show; solve; teach; transfer; use

Examples of writing assignments: Ask students to **relate** classroom instruction on the immigrant experience in the United States to primary sources which you provide (or which they **collect** on their own). Ask the students to **use** the primary sources to **teach** a course theme to their peers; or have them **report** their observations on a threaded discussion list.

Analyze - “Draw connections among ideas”

Verbs to use in assignments so that students can demonstrate their ability to analyze: break down; diagram; differentiate; discriminate; distinguish; focus; illustrate; infer; outline; point out; prioritize; recognize; separate

Examples of writing assignments: In short essay, students may be asked to **analyze** the reasons for European settlement in the “New World.” Beyond simply identifying the reasons, they are asked to **prioritize** the reasons in order of significance, and to **distinguish** between the reasons for settlement in New England vs. Virginia.

Evaluate - “Justify a stand or decision”

Verbs to use in assignments so that students can demonstrate their ability to analyze: appraise; compare and contrast; conclude; criticize; critique; decide; defend; interpret; judge; justify; reframe; support.

Examples of writing assignments: Have students write a five-page essay in which they **compare and contrast** two authors’ arguments on a given topic, **evaluate** their use of evidence, and **defend** one interpretation over the other.