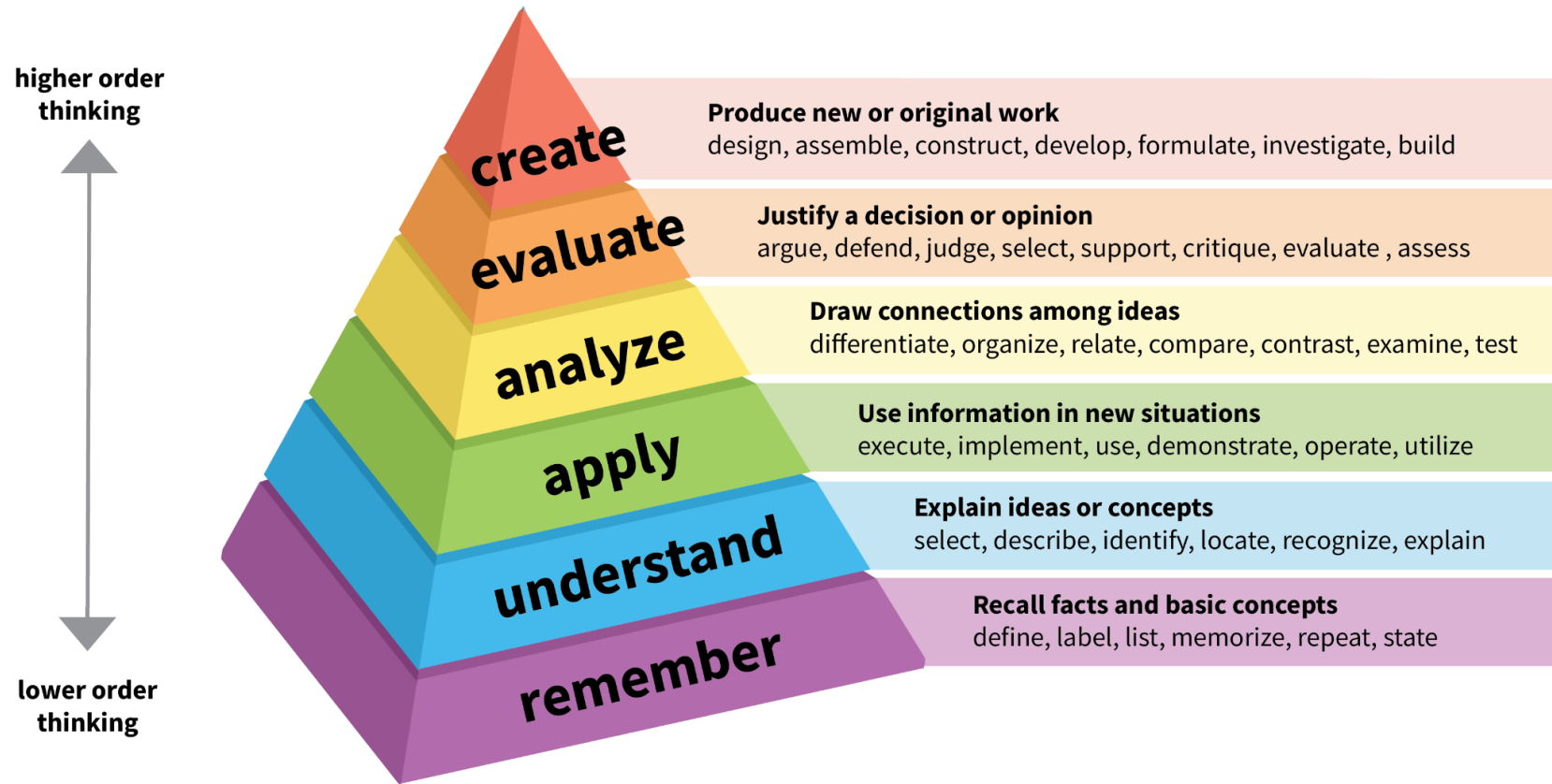# WRITING LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Bloom's taxonomy is a classification of different objectives and skills that educators can set for their students (learning objectives). The 6 levels can be used to structure the learning objectives, activities and assessments in your course.

higher order thinking

lower order thinking

create

Produce new or original work
design, assemble, construct, develop, formulate, investigate, build

evaluate

Justify a decision or opinion
argue, defend, judge, select, support, critique, evaluate , assess

analyze

Draw connections among ideas
differentiate, organize, relate, compare, contrast, examine, test

apply

Use information in new situations
execute, implement, use, demonstrate, operate, utilize

understand

Explain ideas or concepts
select, describe, identify, locate, recognize, explain

remember

Recall facts and basic concepts
define, label, list, memorize, repeat, state

The levels are hierarchical, meaning that the higher levels of learning are dependent on the lower levels of learning.

	Verbs	Objectives: Students will be able to...	Assessments
create	Design, assemble, construct, create, develop, build, modify	construct x using y. design a [something specific] Develop a plan to...	Using x, construct y. Create a recipe for... Using x, modify [object] to...
evaluate	evaluate, critique, assess, defend, argue, justify, support, grade	determine the best method to... evaluate the quality of... justify the use of...	Which [method] would be best for [situation]? Why is using x method better than y method?
analyze	compare, contrast, test, analyze, relate, classify, organize, differentiate	organize tools according to... compare x to y differentiate between x and y	Which of the following is most similar to/different from... Organize x according to [criteria]
apply	demonstrate, operate, use, utilize, implement, operate, perform, apply	operate [piece of machinery] to... perform [specific task] use x to do y	Demonstration of target skill in lab Apply knowledge to complete task Utilize proper procedure to...
understand	describe, identify, locate, recognize, explain, summarize	identify an example of... summarize the main points of... give examples of...	Multiple choice questions Which sentence best summarizes...? X is an example of _____.
remember	define, label, list, repeat, state, select, match, choose	choose the correct definition of... match the labels to the images of... name the correct...	Multiple choice questions Which of the following...? Choose the best answer... Who/what/why/when/how...?

TIPS:

- Objectives should be actionable, observable and measurable.
- Verbs to be *avoided* in learning objectives: **understand**, **learn**, **know**
- Include opportunities to practice and assess lower and higher order thinking skills.
- The Learning Objective Generator is a useful tool.