Learning Outcomes The Cognitive Process Dimension

| Category | Action Verbs and Cognitive Processes | Assessment Formats |
|--|--|---|
| Remember - retrieve relevant knowledge from long-term memory | Recognizing - comparing knowledge from long-term memory with presented information. | True-false; Multiple choice; Matching items from two lists |
| | Sample learning outcome verbs may include: identify, recognize, select, label, arrange, order, repeat, copy, duplicate, match, associate. | |
| | Recalling - retrieving knowledge from long-term memory when presented with a question. | Questions vary depending on the extent of providing hints and being placed within a larger context |
| | Sample learning outcome verbs may include: recall, locate, retrieve, list, name, reproduce, state, describe, cite, recite, define, quote. | |
| Understand - construct meaning from oral, written, and graphic communication | Interpreting - moving from one form of representation to another. Sample learning outcome verbs may include: represent, interpret, clarify, paraphrase, reproduce, change, modify, convert, transform, translate, restate, rewrite, quantify. | Construct or selecting given information in a different form (e.g. transforming a verbal representation of a system into a use-case diagram) |
| | Exemplifying - finding a specific example of a concept or principle. Sample learning outcome verbs may include: give example, illustrate. | Asking the student to give a constructed or selected example |
| | Classifying - placing something in category. Sample learning outcome verbs may include: group, categorize, classify. | Asking a student to pair an instance with a concept, principle, or category |
| | Summarizing - synthesizing general points. Sample learning outcome verbs may include: summarize, generalize, synthesize, assemble, combine, compile, integrate, consolidate. | Asking a student to produce a theme or summary when presented with an information |
| | Inferring - drawing a logical conclusion from the presented information. Sample learning outcome verbs may include: extrapolate, interpolate, predict, conclude, infer, deduce. | Completion tasks - complete a series; Analogy tasks - complete an analogy; Oddity tasks - determining which of several items does not belong to a list |



| Category | Action Verbs and Cognitive Processes | Assessment Formats |
|--|---|---|
| | Comparing - detecting correspondences between two or more entities. | Mapping - showing correspondence between respective parts of two entities |
| | Sample learning outcome verbs may include: compare, contrast, map, match, correlate. | |
| | Explaining - constructing a cause-and- effect model of a system. Sample learning outcome verbs may include: sequence, explain, diagnose, troubleshoot, repair, redesign, predict, prescribe. | Reasoning - offering a reason for a given event; Troubleshooting - diagnosing the problem in a malfunctioning system; Redesigning - making changes in a system to accomplish some goal; Predicting - determining what effect a change in one part of a system will have on another part of a system |
| Apply - carry out or use a procedure in a given situation | Executing (carrying out a procedure with a familiar task) - associated with the use of skills and algorithms, applies procedural knowledge. | Applying a well-known procedure to a familiar problem |
| | Sample learning outcome verbs may include: carry out, calculate, compute, operate, process, execute, follow, perform, use, utilize, practice. | |
| | Implementing (using a procedure with an unfamiliar task) - associated with the use of techniques and methods, applies conceptual knowledge. Sample learning outcome verbs may include: adapt, implement, demonstrate, determine, conduct. | Determining the procedure necessary for solving an unfamiliar problem |
| Analyze - break material into its constituent parts and determine how the parts relate to one another and to an overall structure or purpose | Differentiating - distinguishing relevant from irrelevant parts or important from unimportant parts of presented material. Sample learning outcome verbs may include: select, discriminate, distinguish, differentiate, focus on, point out. | Determining which parts in a given material are most important or relevant |
| | Organizing - determining how elements fit within a structure. Sample learning outcome verbs may include: analyze, break down, organize, outline, sketch, draw, diagram, chart, tabulate, parse, separate, subdivide. | Providing an outline, table, matrix, or hierarchical diagram |



| Category | Action Verbs and Cognitive Processes | Assessment Formats |
|--|---|---|
| | Attributing - determining a point of view, intent, purpose. Sample learning outcome verbs may include: attribute, ascribe, depict, describe, infer, deduce. | Constructing or selecting a description of the author's point of view or intentions when presented with some written or oral material |
| Evaluate - make judgments based on criteria and standards | Checking - detecting inconsistencies or fallacies within a process or product (internal inconsistency). Sample learning outcome verbs may include: detect, monitor, coordinate, test. | Detecting inconsistencies or logical flaws in presented information |
| | Critiquing - detecting inconsistencies between a product and external criteria (external inconsistency). Sample learning outcome verbs may include: grade, score, judge, reason, appraise, assess, defend, estimate, argue, rank, rate, support, review, critique, justify, recommend, prove, disprove, refute, qualify, criticize, verify, evaluate, discuss. | Evaluating a proposed solution or hypothesis; judging which of several methods provides a better solution to a problem |
| Create - put elements together to form a structure or reorganize elements into a new structure | Generating - coming up with alternative hypotheses based on criteria. Sample learning outcome verbs may include: generate, hypothesize, theorize, research, experiment, explore. Planning - devising a procedure for accomplishing some task. Sample learning outcome verbs may include: design, devise, solve, propose, formulate, plan, prepare, systematize, improve, innovate, refine. | Producing alternatives or hypotheses - generating alternative methods for achieving a particular result; Consequences tasks - listing all possible consequences of a certain event; Uses tasks - listing all possible uses for an object Developing a solution method, describing solution plans, or selecting solution plans for a given problem. |
| | Producing - inventing a product. Sample learning outcome verbs may include: write, construct, produce, compose, invent, create, program, build. | Developing a novel product that satisfies a description |

