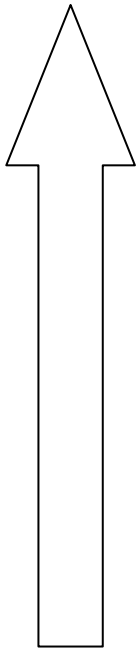# Bloom's Taxonomy

In 1956, Benjamin Bloom -- an American educational psychologist -- led a group of to develop classification of levels of intellectual behavior important in learning. During the 1990's a new group of cognitive psychologists, lead by Lorin Anderson (a former student of Bloom), updated the taxonomy to reflect relevance to 21st century work. The table below illustrates the new taxonomy and provides verbs that can be used in questioning to trigger various levels of thinking.

HOTS ↑

Taxonomy Level	Verbs to trigger thinking at this level
Creating: can the student create new product or point of view?	assemble, construct, create, design, develop, formulate, write.
Evaluating: can the student justify a stand or decision?	appraise, argue, defend, judge, select, support, value, evaluate
Analyzing: can the student distinguish between the different parts?	appraise, compare, contrast, criticize, differentiate, discriminate, distinguish, examine, experiment, question, test.
Applying: can the student use the information in a new way?	choose, demonstrate, dramatize, employ, illustrate, interpret, operate, schedule, sketch, solve, use, write.
Understanding: can the student explain ideas or concepts?	classify, describe, discuss, explain, identify, locate, recognize, report, select, translate, paraphrase
Remembering: can the student recall or remember the information?	define, duplicate, list, memorize, recall, repeat, reproduce state

LOTS

HOTS = Higher-order thinking skills / **LOTS** = Lower-order thinking skills

Adapted from http://www.odu.edu/educ/roverbau/Bloom/blooms_taxonomy.htm retrieved on June 13, 2012.