



Ozarka College

Student Success

Teaching Toolbox 30

Eating an Elephant



One Bite at a Time

Summative Assessment Part II

Bloom's™ Taxonomy of Higher Level Thinking Skills is one schema for formulating questions that incorporate more than simple recall of memorized facts.

Fuhrmann and Grasha have adapted Bloom's taxonomy for test development. Here is a condensation of their list:

To measure *knowledge* (common terms, facts, principles, procedures), ask these kinds of questions: Define, Describe, Identify, Label, List, Match, Name, Outline, Reproduce, Select, State.

To measure *comprehension* (understanding of facts and principles, interpretation of material), ask these kinds of questions: Convert, Defend, Distinguish, Estimate, Explain, Extend, Generalize, Give examples, Infer, Predict, Summarize.

To measure *application* (solving problems, applying concepts and principles to new situations), ask these kinds of questions: Demonstrate, Modify, Operate, Prepare, Produce, Relate, Show, Solve, Use.

To measure *analysis* (recognition of unstated assumptions or logical fallacies, ability to distinguish between facts and inferences), ask these kinds of questions: Diagram, Differentiate, Distinguish, Illustrate, Infer, Point out, Relate, Select, Separate, Subdivide.

To measure *synthesis* (integrate learning from different areas or solve problems by creative thinking), ask these kinds of questions: Categorize, Combine, Compile, Devise, Design, Explain, Generate, Organize, Plan, Rearrange, Reconstruct, Revise, Tell.

To measure *evaluation* (judging and assessing), ask these kinds of questions: Appraise, Compare, Conclude, Contrast, Criticize, Describe, Discriminate, Explain, Justify, Interpret, Support.

Even though students, and to a lesser extent, instructors do not look upon testing as a favorite activity, it serves a very important purpose. Summative evaluation's purpose is to sum up a student's progress in achieving the objectives of the course. Well thought out and well written tests are worth the effort that is expended to perfect them.

If you have time and don't want to wait for the next bite, you can find the rest of the toolbox in myOzarka under the "Ozarka Resources" tab.

Or you can follow this link:

<http://www.ozarka.edu/files/resources/teachingtoolbox.doc>

I will be posting each section in the Student Success Center Blog. So if you are interested in checking out "back bites," you can find them there.

Or you can follow this link:

<http://www.ozarka.edu/blogs/success/index.cfm/Weekly-Postings-for-Faculty->

Hope you enjoyed it.

Posted By : Richard Williams
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