Writing Actionable Learning Objectives



Job Aid Derived from Bloom's Taxonomy

Cognitive Process Dimension						
Step 1: Determine what the learner is expected to do after the training, then match that behavior with a dimension on the right.	Remember: retrieve relevant knowledge from long term memory	Understand: determine the meaning of instructional messages	Apply: carry out or use a procedure in a given situation	Analyze: break material into its constituent parts and detect how the parts relate to one another and to an overall structure or purpose	Evaluate: make judgments based on criteria and standards	Create: put elements together to form a novel, coherent whole or make an original product
Action Verbs						
Step 2: Write the learning objective using an action verb from the appropriate dimension. Ex. Remember: List three major symptoms related to too much stress.	Characterize Define Describe Identify Indicate Label	Classify Compare Compute Contrast Convert Defend	Apply Calculate Change Choose Classify Complete	Analyze Collect Combine Conclude Construct Contract	Appraise Assess Conclude Decide Estimate Evaluate	Alter Combine Compose Conduct Design Develop
Understand: Explain the four basic principles of interpersonal communication.	List Match Name	Derive Differentiate Distinguish	Demonstrate Discover Examine	Detect Determine Diagram	Grade Judge Justify	Document Draw Formulate
Apply: Demonstrate how to add a contact to your Outlook Address Book.	Outline Point Read	Explain Find Generate	Modify Operate Order	Distinguish Experiment Inspect	Measure Rank Rate	Generalize Plan Propose
Analyze: Distinguish between a primary and a secondary source.	Recall Recite Recognize	Illustrate Interpret Locate	Practice Prepare Produce	Integrate Organize Question	Recommend Revise Score	Rearrange Signify Synthesize
Evaluate: Evaluate a project request submission and determine whether to accept or deny the request.	Record Reproduce Select State	Paraphrase Predict Report Review	Schedule Show Sketch Solve	Regroup Relate Separate Specify	Support Test	Systematize
Create: Develop guidelines for effective employee coaching.	Write	Translate	Use Utilize	Summarize		
		Measural	ble Assessment			
Step 3: Write an assessment question that measures the objective. See the next two pages for examples of measurable assessment questions.						

