

Verbs for Learning Objectives

Learning outcomes need to be measurable and as such need very clear definition at the outset. The following are some suggestions for verbs you can use, and easily assign measurement to, when defining your learning outcomes.

| | | | |
|--------------|---------------|-------------|-----------|
| Acquire | Construct | Justify | Recover |
| Adjust | Copy | Label | Relate |
| Alter | Correct | Lift | Remove |
| Amend | Defend | List | Repeat |
| Answer | Define | Locate | Reply |
| Assemble | Demonstrate | Lower | Reproduce |
| Assess | Describe | Maintain | Resolve |
| Associate | Determine | Make | Respond |
| Attain | Diagnose | Mark | Revise |
| Build | Differentiate | Modify | Run |
| Calculate | Distinguish | Name | Select |
| Carry out | Divide | Obtain | Separate |
| Categorise | Draw | Operate | Solve |
| Cause | Equate | Paste | Specify |
| Change | Estimate | Perform | Spell |
| Characterise | Evaluate | Pick | State |
| Check | Explain | Position | Tabulate |
| Choose | Extract | Prepare | Take |
| Cite | File | Process | Test |
| Clarify | Find | Produce | Total |
| Classify | Finish | Prove | Translate |
| Collaborate | Fit | Raise | Underline |
| Collate | Help | Rationalise | Use |
| Compile | Hold | Read | Verify |
| Complete | Identify | React | Weigh |
| Compute | Indicate | Readjust | Write |
| Connect | Isolate | Reassemble | |
| Convert | Join | Recognise | |

Verbs to Avoid

The following are often mistakenly used to write objectives, but should be avoided, as they are open to many interpretations and are not measurable objectives.

| | | |
|-------------|---------------|------------|
| Absorb | Disbelieve | Judge |
| Accept | Empathise | Know |
| Appreciate | Enjoy | Realize |
| Assume | Experience | Reflect |
| Be aware of | Feel | Respect |
| Believe | Grasp | Sense |
| Comprehend | Have faith in | Think |
| Consider | Identify with | Trust |
| Contemplate | Imagine | Understand |
| Deem | Internalize | Value |