

# Analyzing Test Questions Using Bloom's

One of the best ways to tailor your studying to the needs of your courses is to analyze your graded exams or even practice exams and figure out what adjustments you may need to make in the future.

- 1) Read through the "Levels of Learning: Bloom's Taxonomy in Action" handout (stairs-side first). If you have any questions about this material before you start, be sure to ask. (5 minutes)
- 2) Select up to three questions from a graded exam for which you lost points or three questions from a practice exam that you had difficulty answering. Share which questions you chose with your partner so that you choose different questions (if possible). Maybe one of you can start from the first page and the other could start from the last page, so that you do not duplicate questions. (2 minutes)
- 3) Using what you know about Bloom's Taxonomy as well as identification phrases listed on the "Bloom's Taxonomy: Model Questions and Key Words" handout, work together to determine whether the questions you selected are Knowledge, Comprehension, Application, Analysis, Synthesis, or Evaluation questions. Then discuss the following (13 minutes):
  - a. Did you have any trouble categorizing questions? If so, which one(s)? Be sure to ask for assistance if you and your partner cannot figure one out.
  - b. Are you currently studying at the level required by the questions you are being asked? If not, with which type(s) of questions are you having difficulty?
  - c. Brainstorm some ways to adjust your study behavior so that your studying more closely matches what is expected of you in course (see the "Studying Using Bloom's" handout and raise your hand for assistance).

Homework Assignment: Go through the rest of the exam on your own or with your partner and refine your answers to questions b) and c) when you are finished.