

## What is Bloom's Taxonomy really for?

IATEFL Brighton, 18 April 2024

Sebastian Lesniewski

Sebastian.Lesniewski@bil.ac.uk

SebastianLesniewski.com

#### Where I'm coming from

- → Language teacher since 2002
- → Gravitated towards EAP
- → Pre-sessional courses since 2013
- → Foundation Year programmes since 2017
- → Senior Lecturer and Academic Lead for Research since 2021
- → Coming to IATEFL conferences since 2012

**Evaluation** 

Synthesis

Analysis

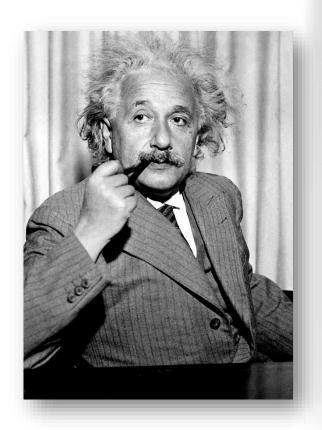
Application

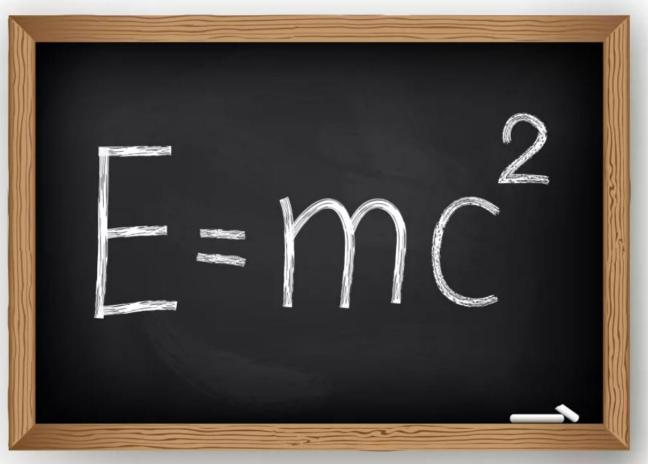
Comprehension

Knowledge

Higher order thinking

### an equation

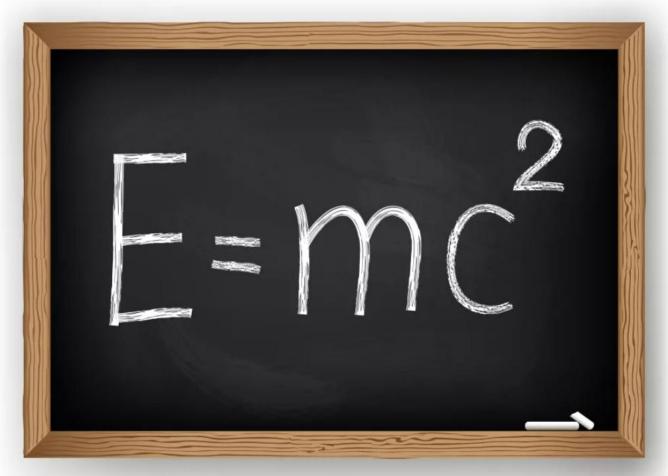




E equals m c squared.

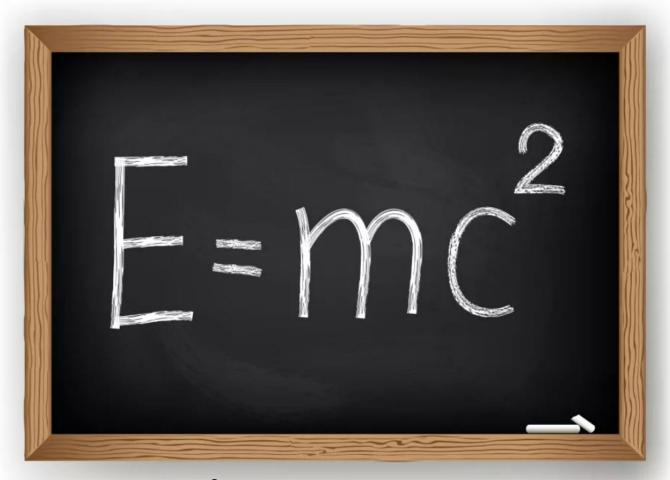


She doesn't have an original thought in her head – she just parrots anything that Sara says.



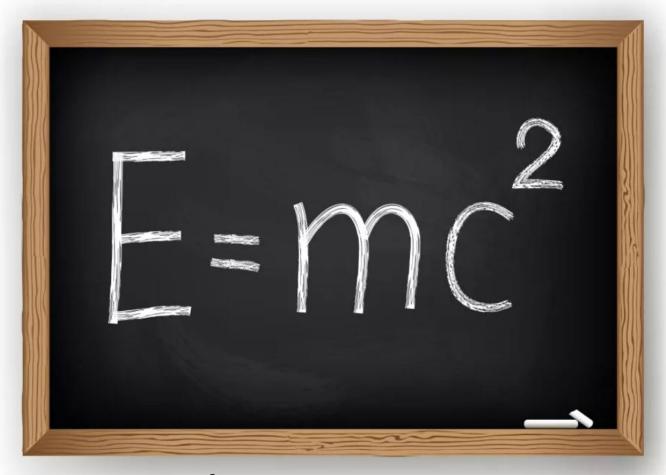
E equals m c squared.

Comprehension



E equals m c squared.

The mass of a body multiplied by the speed of light squared is equal to the kinetic energy of that body.

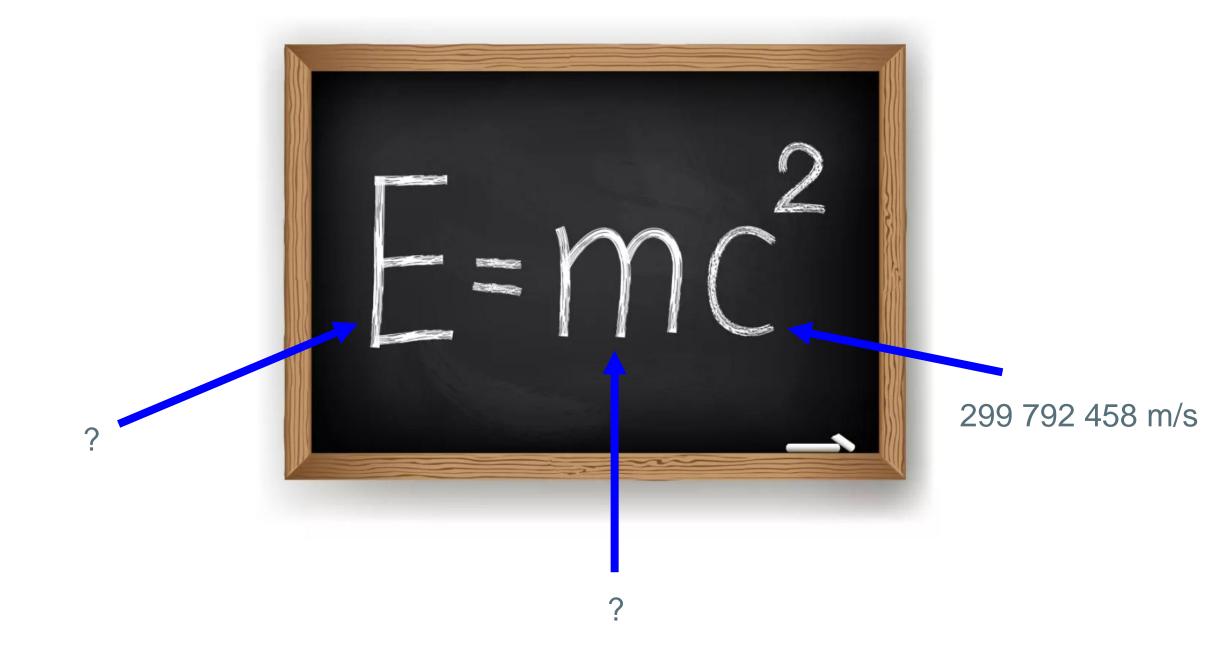


E equals m c squared.

Energy and mass are two forms of the same thing.

Application

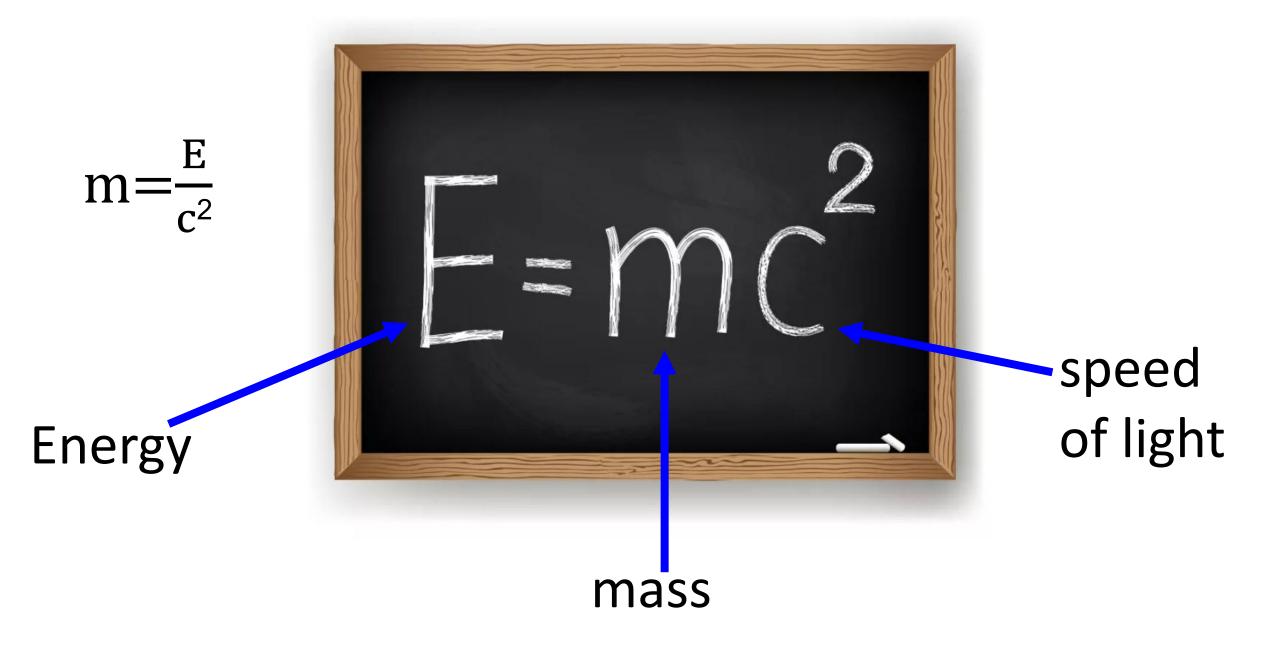
Comprehension



Analysis

Application

Comprehension

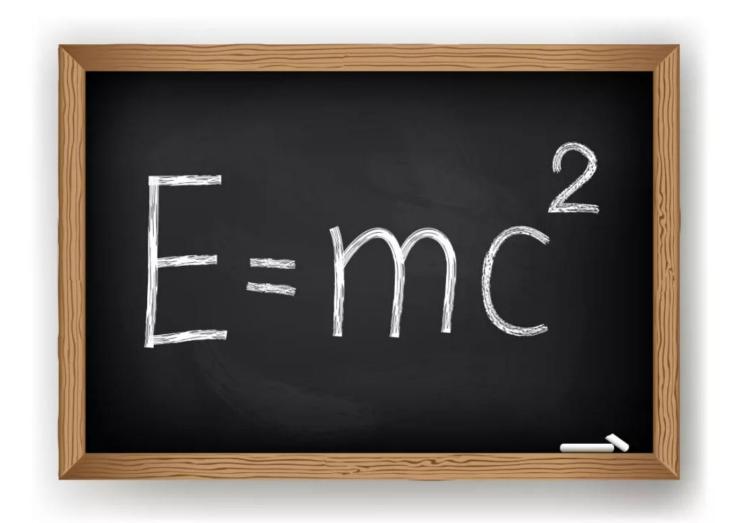


Synthesis

Analysis

**Application** 

Comprehension



$$\mathrm{d}S = \frac{\delta Q}{T}$$

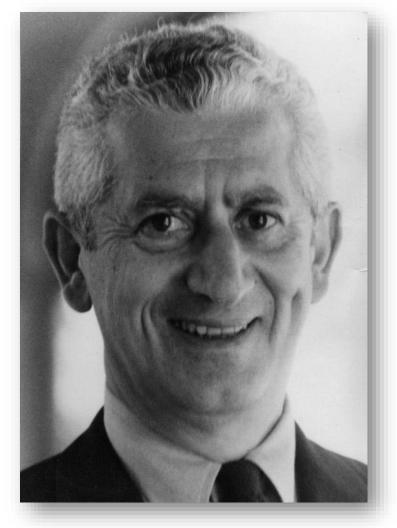
**Evaluation** 

**Synthesis** 

Analysis

Application

Comprehension



Benjamin Samuel Bloom educational psychologist (1913-1999)

List of participants who contributed to the development of the taxonomy through attending one or more of the conferences held from 1949 to 1953

Anderson, Gordon V. University of Texas

Bloom, Benjamin S. University of Chicago

Churchill, Ruth Antioch College

Cronbach, L. J. University of Illinois

Dahnke, Harold L., Jr. Michigan State University

Detchen, Lily Pennsylvania College for Women

Dressel, Paul L. Michigan State University

Dyer, Henry S. Educational Testing Service

Ebel, Robert L. University of Iowa

Engelhart, Max Chicago Public Schools

Findley, Warren Educational Testing Service

Furst, Edward J. University of Michigan Gage, N. L. University of Illinois

Harris, Chester W. University of Wisconsin

Hastings, J. Thomas University of Illinois

Heil, Louis M. Brooklyn College

Hill, Walker H. Michigan State University

Horton, Clark W. Dartmouth College

Krathwohl, David R. Michigan State University

Loree, M. Ray Louisiana State University

Mayhew, Louis B. Michigan State University

McGuire, Christine University of Chicago

McQuitty, John V. University of Florida

Morris, John B. University of Mississippi Plumlee, Lynnette Educational Testing Service

Pace, C. Robert Syracuse University

Remmers, H. H. Purdue University

Stern, George G. Syracuse University

Sutton, Robert B. Ohio State University

Thiede, Wilson University of Wisconsin

Travers, Robert M. Human Resources Research Center San Antonio, Texas

Tyler, Ralph W. Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences Stanford, California

Warrington, Willard G. Michigan State University

\*Watt, Rex University of Southern California

# TAXONOMY OF EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES

The Classification of Educational Goals

HANDBOOK I: COGNITIVE DOMAIN

by
A Committee of College
and University Examiners

BENJAMIN S. BLOOM, Editor

Max D. Engelhart

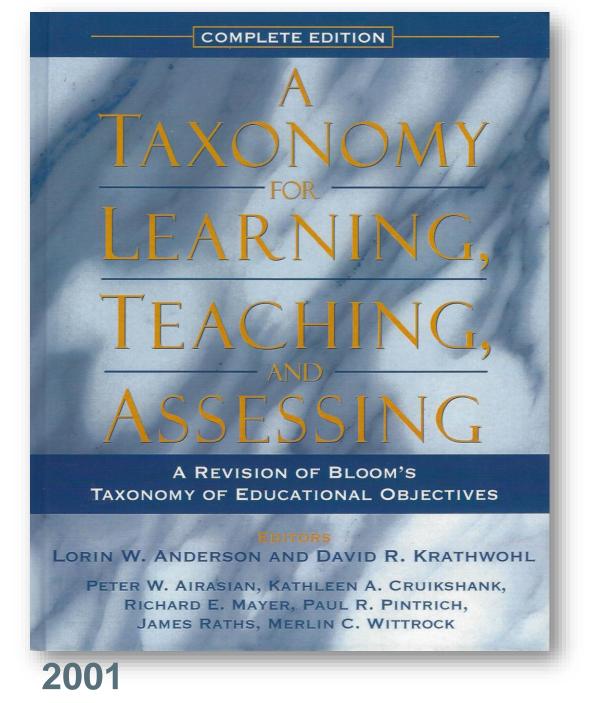
Walker H. Hill

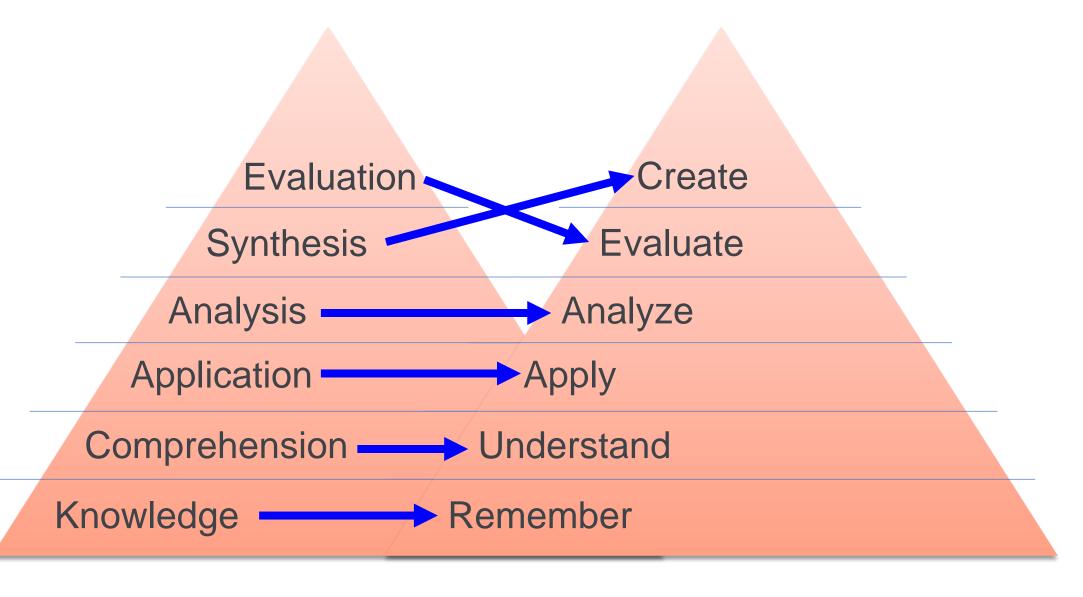
Edward J. Furst

David R. Krathwohl

DAVID McKAY COMPANY, INC.

NEW YORK





1956 2001

- 1.00 Knowledge
  - 1.10 Knowledge of specifics
  - 1.20 Knowledge of ways and means of dealing with specifics
  - 1.30 Knowledge of the universals and abstractions in a field
    - 1.31 Knowledge of principles and generalizations
    - 1.32 Knowledge of theories and structures
- 2.00 Comprehension
- 3.00 Application
- 4.00 Analysis
- 5.00 Synthesis
- 6.00 Evaluation

The	The Cognitive Process Dimension				Anderson et al., 2001	
Knowledge Dimension	1. Remember	2. Understand	3. Apply	<b>4.</b> Analyze	5. Evaluate	6. Create
A. Factual Knowledge						
B. Conceptual Knowledge						
C. Procedural Knowledge						
D. Meta- Cognitive Knowledge						

### Why Bloom's Taxonomy?

- → "to facilitate communication among examiners" (Bloom et al., 1956, p. 4)
- → "framework is intended to help teachers teach, learners learn, and assessors assess" (Anderson et al., 2001, p. 89)

#### Why Bloom's Taxonomy?

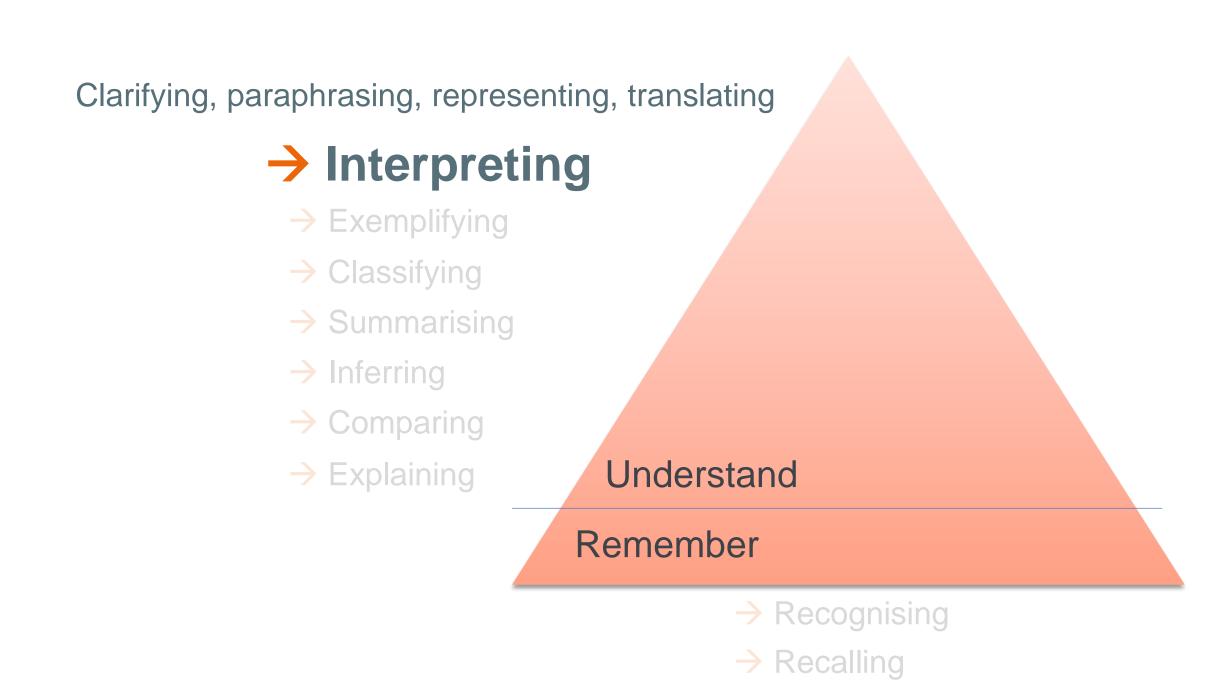
The government responded to the reduced revenue and financial challengs for bars and restaurants by introducing the scheme 'The Eat Out to Help Out' to support businesses reopening following the first COVID-19 lockdown. The Scheme aimed to help protect jobs in the hospitality sector by 15 ncouraging consumers to eat out. According to Hutto (2020) 'The scheme boosted customer demand for eating out on the Scheme days in August. However, dining-out dropped from mid-September as restrictions were re-imposed on hospitality venues. Although it is clear how Covid 19 has negatively affected bars and

- → Interpreting
- → Exemplifying
- → Classifying
- → Summarising
- → Inferring
- → Comparing
- → Explaining

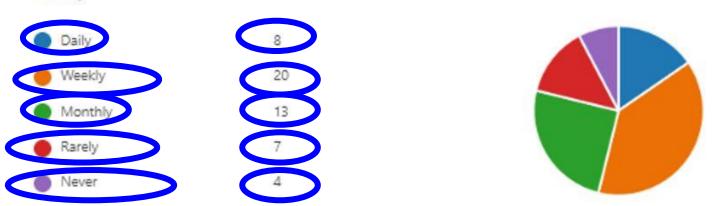
**Understand** 

Remember

- → Recognising
- → Recalling



 How often do you interact with Nestle UK's Digital platform (eg; website, mobile app, online store)



As shown in question 3, Respondents' various engagement patterns are seen in the frequency of their interactions with Nestle UK's digital platforms. The graph shows tha Eight eople out of 52 participants demonstrate a high degree of engagement on a daily basis with the organisation, highlighting the platform's regular value in their lives. Around 20 responders show their participation once a week suggesting it is a regular engagement all month long. Furthermore, 13 participants choose to connect on monthly asis, indicating a more sporadic use of Nestle UK's digital products. Interestingle, 4 respondents indicate no engagement all, indicating very little digital presence, while 7 respondents engage infrequently indicating sporadic usage. Nestle UK may use this wide range of contact frequencies to understand better how to customise and improve their digital platforms to meet the requirements and tastes of their broad user base.

- → Interpreting
- → Exemplifying
- → Classifying
- → Summarising
- → Inferring
- → Comparing
- → Explaining

**Understand** 

Remember

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- → Recalling

#### Abstracting a general theme or major points

- → Interpreting
- → Exemplifying
- → Classifying

#### Summarising

- → Inferring
- → Comparing
- → Explaining

**Understand** 

Remember

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- → Recalling

There are several ways that researchers have described organizational culture. Organizational culture is described by Schein (1984) as "a pattern of common fundamental beliefs that a group discovered as it dealt with its problems with external adjusting and internal cohesion, which has worked sufficiently effectively to be regarded valid, along with consequently, to be imparted by prospective participants as a proper way to perceive and express oneself with respect to those problems." In a similar vein, Cameron and Quinn (2011) define corporate culture as "the set of key principles, convictions, and mindsets that are held common by those in the organization and that shape the way they act and behave." Organizational culture is described by Deal and Kennedy (1982) as "the way things occur around here." These concepts emphasize how organizational culture is shared and how it affects how people behave and think inside a company.

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- → Explaining

**Understand** 

- → Recognising
- → Recalling

Contrasting, mapping, detecting correspondences between ideas/objects

- → Interpreting
- → Exemplifying
- → Classifying
- → Summarising
- → Inferring

# → Comparing

→ Explaining

**Understand** 

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**Understand** 

- → Recognising
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## Here's what's wrong with Bloom's Taxonomy (Berger, 2018)

- → False vision of learning
- → Learning is not a hierarchy or a linear process
- → Mistaken impression that these cognitive processes are discrete, that it's possible to perform one of these skills separately from others
- → "Understand is believed to be more cognitively complex than Remember, Apply is believed to be more cognitively complex than Understand, and so on" (Anderson et al., 2001, p. 5)
- → "to understand procedural knowledge is a prerequisite to being able to apply procedural knowledge" (Anderson et al., 2001, p. 77)

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- → "understanding underlying conceptual knowledge helps one to remember factual knowledge" (Anderson et al., 2001, p. 170)
- → "Analyse, Evaluate, and Create activities . . . increase students' Understanding" (Anderson et al., 2001, p. 234)

## Here's what's wrong with Bloom's Taxonomy (Berger, 2018)

- → False vision of learning
- → Learning is not a hierarchy or a linear process
- → Mistaken impression that these cognitive processes are discrete, that it's possible to perform one of these skills separately from others
- → "evaluative process will in some cases be the prelude to the acquisition of new knowledge, a new attempt at comprehension or application, or a new analysis and synthesis" (Bloom et al., 1956, p. 185)
- → "categories do not form a hierarchy" (Anderson et al., 2001, p. 309)
- → "the six categories are allowed to overlap" (Anderson et al., 2001, p. 309)



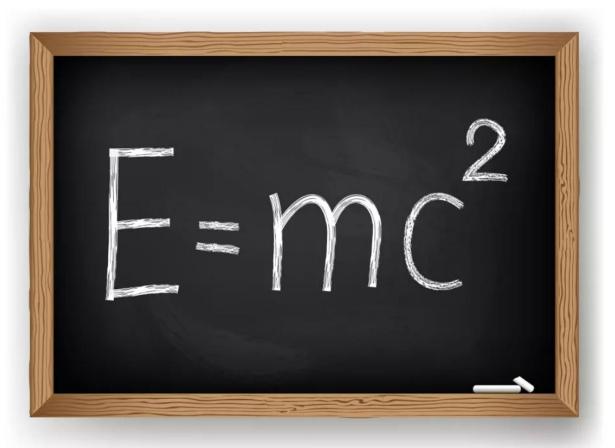
Create

Evaluate

Analyze

Apply

Understand



Create

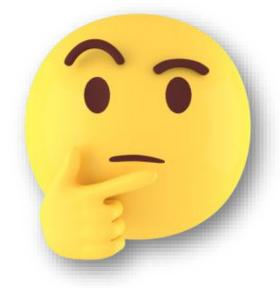
Evaluate

Analyze

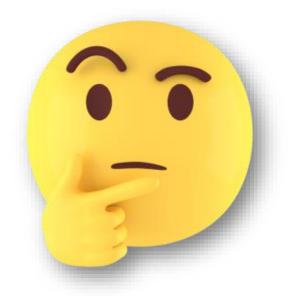
**Apply** 

**Understand** 

- → What are your experiences with Bloom's Taxonomy?
- → Should Bloom's Taxonomy be taught to students?
- → Do you have a good understanding of Bloom's Taxonomy skills?
- → Which Bloom's Taxonomy skill do you see as the most important?

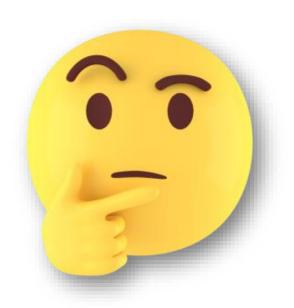


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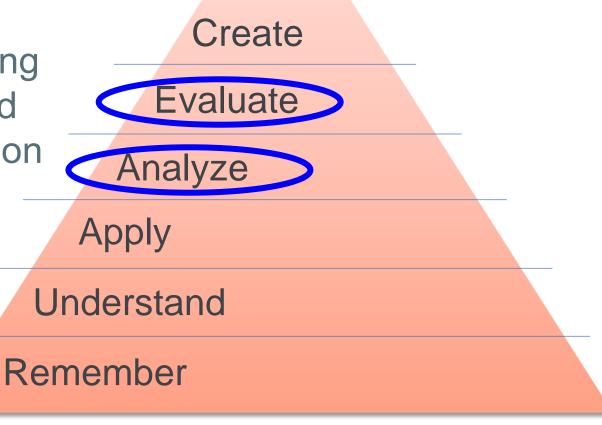


#### → Should Bloom's Taxonomy be taught to students?

- → Do you have a good understanding of Bloom's Taxonomy skills?
- → Which Bloom's Taxonomy skill do you see as the most important?
  - → Implicit vs explicit
  - → Bloom's taxonomy vs critical thinking

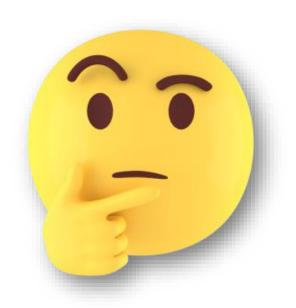


- → "problem solving and critical thinking . . . include a variety of activities that might be classified in disparate cells of the Taxonomy Table" (Anderson et al., 2001, p. 311)
- → "critical thinking and problem solving tend to cut across rows, columns, and cells of the Taxonomy Table" (Anderson et al., 2001, p. 312)
- → "critical thinking and problem solving did not seem to be prime substitutes for any single category in the framework (Anderson et al., 2001, p. 312)



#### → Should Bloom's Taxonomy be taught to students?

- → Do you have a good understanding of Bloom's Taxonomy skills?
- → Which Bloom's Taxonomy skill do you see as the most important?
  - → Implicit vs explicit
  - → Bloom's taxonomy vs critical thinking
  - → Clear expectations





Evaluate

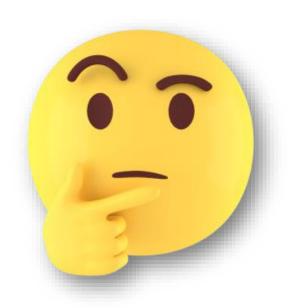
Analyze

**Apply** 

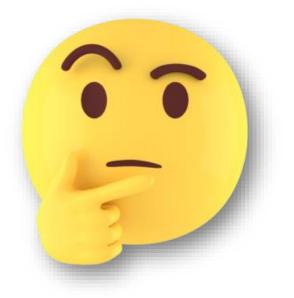
**Understand** 

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assemble previously taught material into an organized presentation (Anderson et al., 2001, p. 85)

many objectives in the *Create* category do not rely on originality

or uniqueness (Anderson et al., 2001, p. 85)

draw upon elements from many sources and put them together into a novel structure or pattern, relative to [one's] own prior knowledge (Anderson et al., 2001, p. 85)

**Evaluate** 

Create

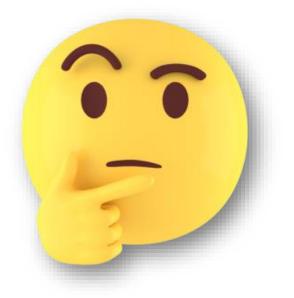
Analyze

**Apply** 

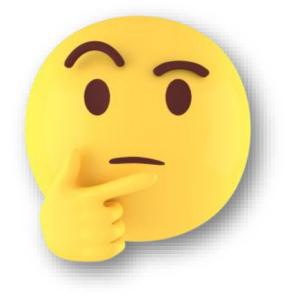
**Understand** 

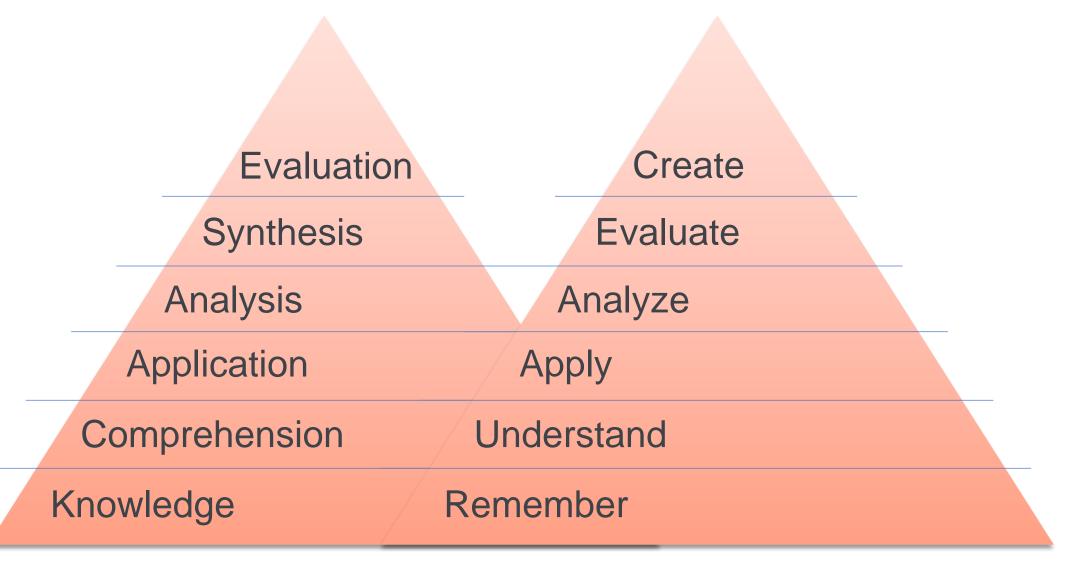
MUM prees okum tomIHalS

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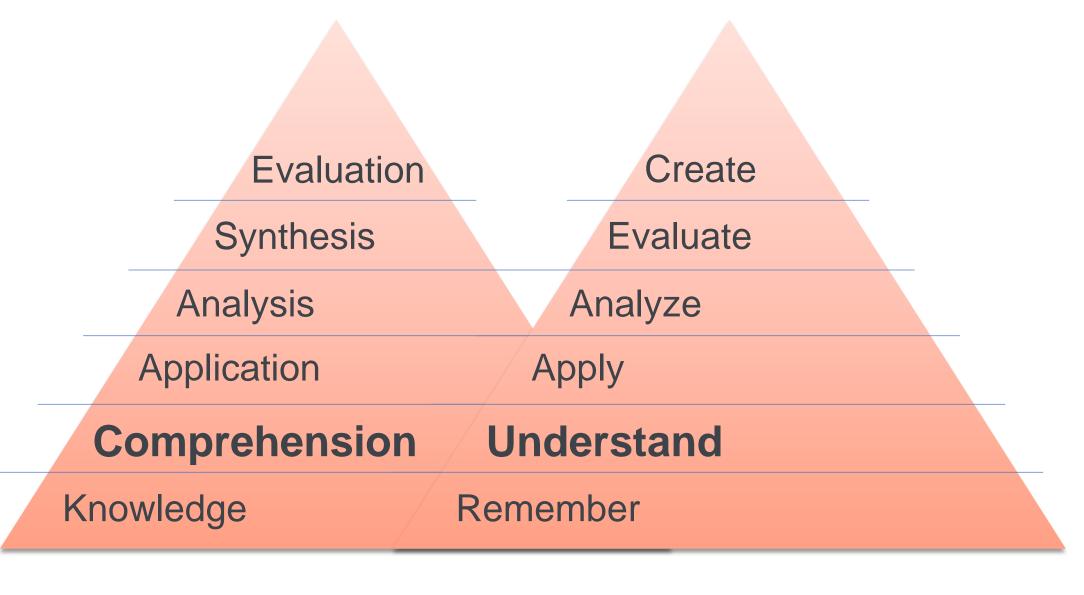


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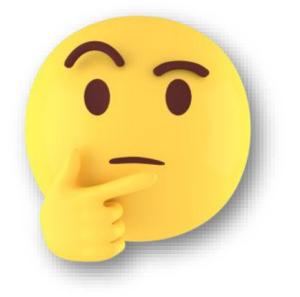


1956 2001

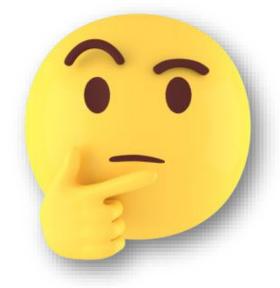


1956 2001

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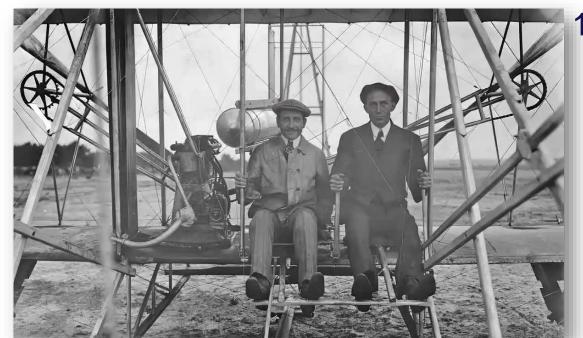


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# To sum up

- → Need of thorough understanding of Bloom's Taxonomy skills
- → Bloom's Taxonomy is primarily for educators
- → As higher-order/critical thinking demonstrated in writing is less credible since AI, Bloom's Taxonomy has a renewed relevance



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# What is Bloom's Taxonomy really for?

IATEFL Brighton, 18 April 2024

Sebastian Lesniewski

Sebastian.Lesniewski@bil.ac.uk

SebastianLesniewski.com

## References

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Bloom, B. S., Engelhart, M. D., Furst, E. J., Hill, W. H., & Krathwohl, D. R. (1956). *Taxonomy of Educational Objectives: The Classification of Educational Goals*. David McKay Company.

# BLOOMSBURY INSTITUTE LONDON



Sebastian.Lesniewski@bil.ac.uk
SebastianLesniewski.com