Six Thinking/Learning Levels
Based on Bloom’s Taxonomy

I. Knowledge: Recognizing and/or remembering previously learned information. Recalling facts, terms, and basic concepts.

Directive Words: Define, label, state, list, match, write, recall, name, underline, repeat, choose, record, mark, identify, recognize

Example Questions:
- Name three sources of Earth’s internal energy. (e.g. Geol 3100)
- Label the standard peripheral components of a computer. (e.g. BIS 1400)
- Write the equation for the Ideal Gas Law. (e.g. Chem 1010)

II. Comprehension: Demonstrating an understanding of the meaning of facts, terms, and basic concepts.

Directive Words: Describe, rephrase, restate, discuss, explain, express, locate, tell, indicate, condense, outline, report

Example Questions:
- Describe the different climates and give the characteristics of each. (e.g. Geog 1130)
- Give an example of positive reinforcement. (e.g. Psych 1010)
- State in your own words the meaning of Functionalism. (e.g. Soc 1010)

III. Application: Solving problems by applying acquired knowledge, facts, and techniques in a different situation.

Directive Words: Apply, use, demonstrate, illustrate, chart, solve, operate, implement,
**practice, employ, dramatize, show**

Example Questions:
- Show how to use shading to produce depth in a drawing. (e.g Art 1110)
- Using the principles of operant conditioning, solve the following case study. (e.g. Psych 1010)
- If a person has psychogenic shock, demonstrate what you should do with them. (e.g. Biol 2000)

**IV. Analysis:** Breaking complex ideas or information apart to examine various components.

Directive Words: **Distinguish, discriminate, analyze, compare, contrast, diagram, differentiate, relate, classify, examine, categorize**

Example Questions:
- Compare and contrast the major assumptions underlying psychoanalytic and humanistic approaches to psychology. (e.g. Psych 1010)
- Examine the patriarchal society in terms of lineage and dominance of the sexes. (e.g. Soc 1010)
- Analyze an oscillator circuit and determine the frequency of oscillation. (e.g. ECE 2410)

**V. Synthesis:** Compiling information or combining elements in a different way to form a new idea, pattern, or creation.

Directive Words: **Create, design, plan, organize, generate, develop, propose, assemble, compose, make, construct, formulate, prepare, invent, adapt, elaborate**

Example Questions:
- Prepare a logically organized essay in favor of euthanasia. (e.g Eng 2010)
- Design an individualized nutrition program for a diabetic patient. (e.g. NFS 1220)
- Compose a choral work using four-part harmony for men’s and women’s voices. (e.g. Music 3910)

VI. Evaluation: Making judgments about information based on specific criteria (worth, validity, accuracy, relevance, etc.).

Directive Words: Appraise, critique, judge, weigh, evaluate, select, rate, defend, prioritize, value, score, measure, assess

Example Questions:
- Assess the appropriateness of the author’s conclusions based on the evidence given. (e.g. Pol Sci 1100)
- Select the best proposal for a new water treatment plant (e.g. LAEP 2720)
- Critique the selected work of art using appropriate terminology. (e.g. Art 2720)

http://www.NTLF.com/html/lib/suppmat/84taxonomy.htm