

Verbs for Formulating Educational Objectives

1. Information				
cite	identify	quote	relate	tabulate
count	indicate	read	repeat	tell
define	list	recite	select	trace
describe	name	recognize	state	update
draw	point	record	summarize	write
Comprehension				
assess	contrast	distinguish	interpolate	restate
associate	demonstrate	estimate	interpret	review
classify	describe	explain	locate	translate
compare	differentiate	express	predict	
compute	discuss	extrapolate	report	
Application				
apply	employ	match	relate	sketch
calculate	examine	operate	report	solve
choose	illustrate	order	restate	translate
complete	interpolate	practice	review	treat
demonstrate	interpret	predict	schedule	use
develop	locate	prescribe	select	utilize
Analysis				
analyze	criticize	diagram	infer	question
appraise	debate	differentiate	inspect	separate
contract	deduce	distinguish	inventory	summarize
contrast	detect	experiment	measure	
Synthesis				
arrange	construct	formulate	organize	produce
assemble	create	generalize	plan	propose
collect	design	integrate	prepare	specify
combine	detect	manage	prescribe	validate
compose	document			
Evaluation				
appraise	critique	evaluate	rank	score
assess	decide	grade	rate	select
choose	determine	judge	recommend	test
compare	estimate	measure	revise	

2. Verbs that **describe skills**:

demonstrate	hold	massage	pass	visualize
diagnose	integrate	measure	percuss	write
diagram	internalize	operate	project	
empathize	listen	palpate	record	

3. Verbs that **convey attitudes**;

acquire	exemplify	plan	reflect	transfer
consider	modify	realize	revise	

4. Verbs to **AVOID**:

appreciate	have faith in	know	learn	understand
believe				

Stating objectives is essential to planning, implementation and evaluation of continuing education activities. Objectives should be clear and attainable for the targeted audience. Once they are written, objectives can be used to guide the development of the program and for its evaluation.

Reference

Rosof, Adrienne B. and Felch, William C., ed. **Continuing Medical Education: A Primer**. 2nd Edition. Westport: Praeger, 1992.