TAXONOMY OF LEARNING & THINKING

Create — 6. How could you extend this idea? What ideas can you add to it? How would you design your extension? You can: compose, construct, develop, produce write

Evaluate — 5. What is the most important aspect of this? Do you agree? Explain why with evidence? What assumptions are in this view point? You can: argue, assess, critique, judge, justify, value

Analyse — 4. What are the elements that make up this concept? Where does the concept come from? You can: compare, connect, differentiate, examine, question, relate, test

Apply — 3. How could you apply this to the real world or to your situation? What is significant about this learning? How does this relate to other areas you are learning about/already know/do? You can: demonstrate, implement, solve, use

Understand — 2. What do you understand about this learning. Summarise the main points. Explain it in your own words. You can: describe, discuss, explain

Remember — 1. What do you remember about this experience? What do you need to be able to recall/memorise about this learning? You can: list, memorize, recall, repeat

The route to mastery of a subject
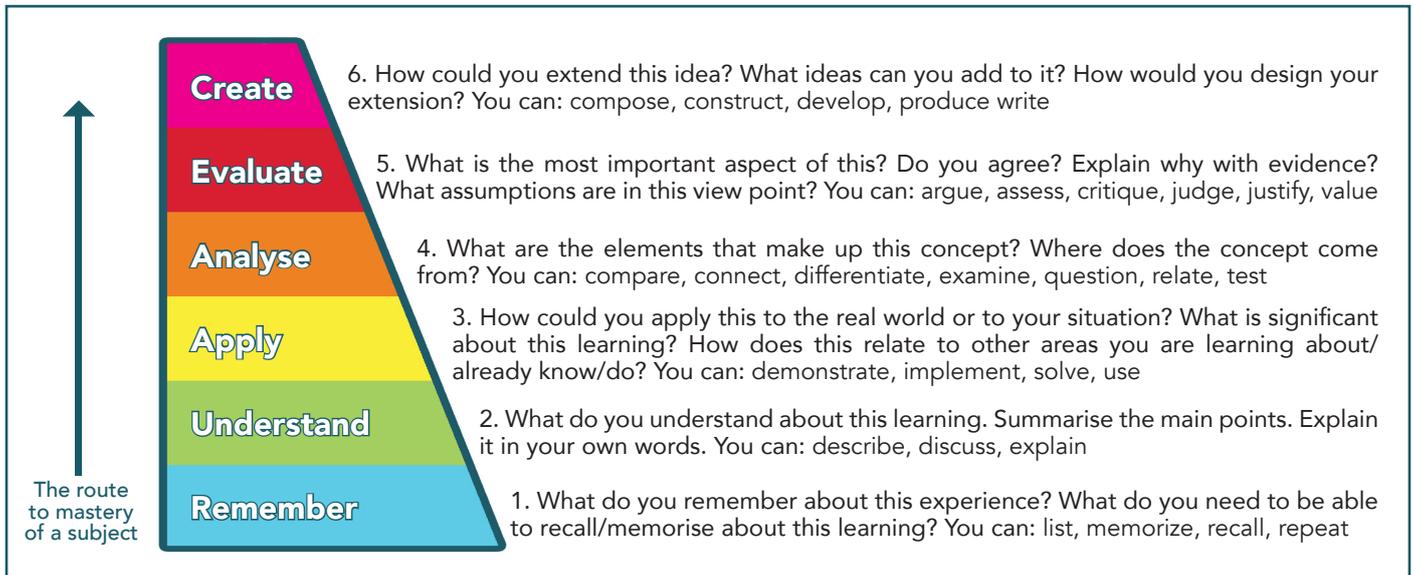
Bloom's Taxonomy is a useful model for identifying the stages we progress through as we learn a new concept. The first stages are relatively simple, helping us consider our learning at a basic, but important, foundational stage. As the levels progress we need to think more deeply and begin to apply our learning.

Assess your learning

This model is useful for checking how well you have grasped a subject. Assess where you are on your learning journey with a new concept by answering the following questions. The place where you start to feel unsure may be the level you have reached and where you need to apply some more study and thought. Don't worry if you can't reach all stages - it isn't always possible or desirable to reach the later stages when we are new to an idea. Speak to your tutor if you are worried about this.

1. What facts can I remember from this subject?

2. Can I describe it in my own words?

3. How would I apply this to a real situation? How could I apply it to myself?

4. What's my analysis of this subject?

5. What do I think of this subject? Why?

6. What could I do with this information to create something new?

These questions are also helping you to think critically about a subject.

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