

Sample Action Verbs for Writing Outcomes

Knowledge Acquisition and Application

Add	Apply	Arrange	Calculate	Categorize
Change	Chart	Choose	Classify	Complete
Compute	Construct	Count	Define	Demonstrate
Describe	Discover	Discuss	Distinguish	Divide
Dramatize	Draw	Duplicate	Employ	Examine
Explain	Express	Graph	Identify	Illustrate
Indicate	Inform	Interpolate	Interpret	Label
List	Locate	Manipulate	Match	Memorize
Modify	Name	Operate	Order	Outline
Point	Predict	Prepare	Produce	Quote
Rank	Read	Recall	Recite	Recognize
Record	Relate	Repeat	Report	Reproduce
Restate	Review	Select	Show	Solve
Specify	State	Stimulate	Subtract	Summarize
Translate	Use			

Higher Order Thinking Skills

Adapt	Analyze	Assess	Calculate	Categorize
Classify	Combine	Compare	Compile	Compose
Contrast	Create	Criticize	Defend	Design
Devise	Diagram	Differentiate	Dissect	Estimate
Evaluate	Explain	Formulate	Generate	Group
Infer	Integrate	Invent	Investigate	Judge
Justify	Modify	Order	Organize	Plan
Prescribe	Produce	Propose	Rate	Rearrange
Reconstruct	Reflect	Related	Reorganize	Research
Review	Revise	Rewrite	Select	Separate
Specify	Summarize	Survey	Synthesize	Test
Transform				

Psychomotor Skills

Activate	Adapt	Adjust	Align	Alter
Apply	Arrange	Assemble	Calibrate	Change
Check	Choose	Clean	Combine	Compose
Conduct	Connect	Construct	Correct	Create
Demonstrate	Describe	Design	Detect	Differentiate
Dismantle	Display	Dissect	Distinguish	Employ
Follow	Identify	Install	Isolate	Locate
Make	Manipulate	Measure	Operate	Originate
Perform	Prepare	Produce	React	Rearrange
Relate	Remove	Reorganize	Repair	Replace
Respond	Revise	Select	Separate	Set
Show	Sketch	Sort	Test	Transfer
Troubleshoot	Tune	Use	Vary	

Attitude, Values, & Dispositions

Accept	Acclaim	Accommodate	Act	Adhere
Adopt	Advocate	Alter	Answer	Applaud
Approve	Arrange	Ask	Assist	Associate
Assume	Attend	Balance	Believe	Challenge
Change	Choose	Classify	Combine	Complete
Comply	Conform	Cooperate	Debate	Defend
Deny	Describe	Develop	Differentiate	Display
Endorse	Enjoy	Establish	Express	Follow
Form	Formulate	Give	Greet	Have
Help	Hold	Identify	Influence	Initiate
Integrate	Interpret	Invite	Join	Judge
Justify	Listen	Obey	Organize	Participate
Perform	Persuade	Practice	Present	Propose
Protest	Qualify	Question	Reflect	Report
Resolve	Respect	Revise	Select	Serve
Share	Show	Solve	Subscribe	Support
Tell	Use	Verify	Volunteer	Weigh
Work				

Source: Morningside College, *Assessment Handbook*
(<http://www.morningside.edu/academics/research/assessment/handbook.htm>, March 2006)