

## **SIX LEVELS OF THE USES OF THE MIND**

A taxonomy of learning outcomes based upon the research of Benjamin Bloom,  
University of Chicago, 1956

**LEVEL 6--EVALUATION** (using a reasoned understanding of a synthesis of ideas as a basis of making a decision about worth, values, or priorities.)

**LEVEL 5--SYNTHESIS** (combining understandings to build new and larger and more complex concepts)

**LEVEL 4--ANALYSIS** (reducing an idea into its composite parts represented by the capacity to differentiate and identify names and functions of the component parts.)

**LEVEL 3--APPLICATION** (identifying the usefulness of information and processes already comprehended)

**LEVEL 2--COMPREHENSION** (discerning meaning, conceptual understanding, evidenced by the capacity to restate a piece of information or a concept in one's own words}

**LEVEL 1--INFORMATION ACQUISITION** (memorizing, mental filing, and recalling)

Bloom viewed each of the levels as sequential. A weakness in one level will produce a weakness in the next level. Further, each of the levels is important. More advanced uses of the mind cannot be developed effectively apart from the foundations of lower levels.

Ted Ward  
October 30, 1996