

## Operational Verbs

Verbs describing student acquisition and preparation of tools, materials, and texts of various types (including digital and archival)	Verbs indicating what students do to certify information, materials, texts, etc.	Verbs indicating the modes of student characterization of the objects of knowledge or materials of production, performance, exhibit	Verbs describing what students do in processing data and allied information
<b>access, acquire, collect, accumulate, extract, gather, locate, obtain, retrieve</b>	<b>cite, document, record, reference, source</b>	<b>categorize, classify, define, describe, determine, frame, identify, prioritize, specify</b>	<b>calculate, determine, estimate, manipulate, measure, solve, test</b>
Verbs further describing the ways in which students format data, information, materials	Verbs describing what students do in explaining a position, creation, set of observations, or a text	Verbs falling under the cognitive activities we group under “analyze”	Verbs describing what students do when they “inquire”
<b>arrange, assemble, collate, organize, sort</b>	<b>articulate, clarify, explicate, illustrate, interpret, outline, translate, elaborate, elucidate</b>	<b>compare, contrast, differentiate, distinguish, formulate, map, match, equate</b>	<b>examine, experiment, explore, hypothesize, investigate, research, test</b>
Verbs describing what students do when they combine ideas, materials, observations	Verbs that describe what students do in various forms of “making”	Verbs that describe the various ways in which students utilize the materials of learning	Verbs that describe various executive functions students perform
<b>assimilate, consolidate, merge, connect, integrate, link, synthesize, summarize</b>	<b>build, compose, construct, craft, create, design, develop, generate, model, shape, simulate</b>	<b>apply, carry out, conduct, demonstrate, employ, implement, perform, produce, use</b>	<b>operate, administer, control, coordinate, engage, lead, maintain, manage, navigate, optimize, plan</b>
Verbs that describe forms of deliberative activity in which students engage	Verbs that indicate how students value objects, experiences, texts, productions, etc.	Verbs that reference the types of communication in which we ask students to engage	Verbs that describe what students do in rethinking or reconstructing
<b>argue, challenge, debate, defend, justify, resolve, dispute, advocate, persuade</b>	<b>audit, appraise, assess, evaluate, judge, rank</b>	<b>report, edit, encode/decode, pantomime (v), map, display, draw/diagram, collaborate, contribute, negotiate, feedback</b>	<b>accommodate, adapt, adjust, improve, modify, refine, reflect, review</b>

*Adapted from Adelman, C. (2015). To imagine a verb: The language and syntax of learning outcomes statements. (Occasional Paper No. 24). Urbana, IL: University of Illinois and Indiana University, National Institute for Learning Outcomes Assessment.*