Tapescripts

Unit 1

Extension task E-1.3 = Bloom taxonomy revisited

Bloom's taxonomy can be used to guide the design of curriculum, instructional materials and assessments. The first three levels of the taxonomy (knowledge, comprehension and application) are also called **lower order thinking skills** which include skills such as understanding, memorisation and concrete thinking. The three upper levels of the taxonomy (analysis, synthesis and evaluation) are normally referred to as **higher order thinking skills**. These would include abstract thinking, creativity and critical assessment.

The taxonomy has been used to guide student learning in a step-by-step and scaffolded manner. In the 1990s, the nouns in the taxonomy (e.g., knowledge, synthesis and evaluation) were changed to verbs: remember, understand, apply, and so on. This change aimed at emphasising learning as an active rather than passive process. Also, the last two elements in the higher order skills were changed to evaluate and create, so the new stages in the taxonomy are now remember, understand, apply, analyse, evaluate and create- going from the lower to the higher level.

In the digital modern world, higher order verbs associated with 'create' such as designing, inventing, and constructing can be realised in the classroom by learning activities such as blogging, remixing sources of information, and programming, all of which incorporate digital technology.