

The Concept of Rigor



- The key to understanding rigor is discerning the difference between difficulty and complexity.

With your elbow partner, discuss what you believe to be the difference between the terms.

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Your Feedback Matters

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Establishing Common Definitions

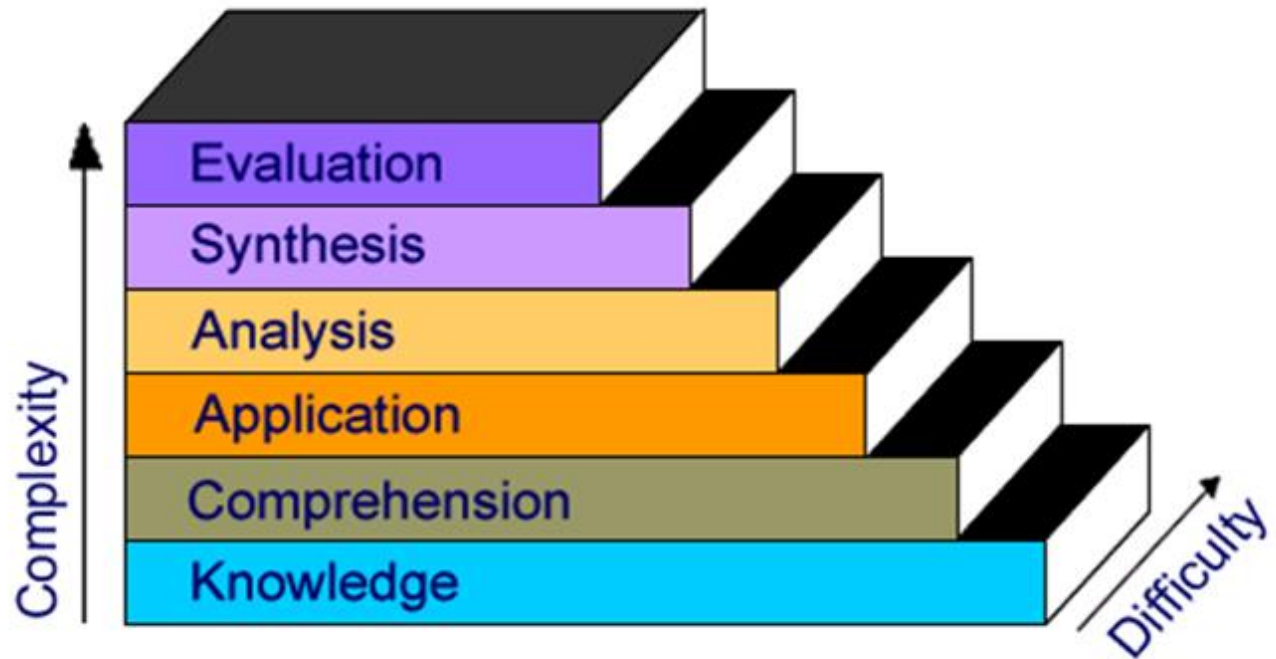
Depth of Knowledge

Strategies of Building Rigor

Action Planning

Complexity vs. Difficulty

- Increasing difficulty adds to students' efforts without increasing thinking
- Increasing rigor adds depth and higher level skills to the activity



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Complexity vs. Difficulty

- A learning activity may be increasingly difficult without becoming more complex:
 - Name the states of the Union.
 - Name the states of the Union and their capitals.
 - Name the states and their capitals in order of their admission to the Union.

Sousa, D. (2005). *How the Brain Learns*. Corwin Press: Thousand Oaks, CA.

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Complexity and Depth of Knowledge Levels

- Identify the DOK level (1 – 4) indicated by the following stems:
 - What is...
 - Why did...
 - How does...
 - When was...
- With additional information, identify the DOK level (1 – 4) indicated:
 - What is the difference between...
 - Why did Hamlet react so strongly to...
 - How does the concept apply...
 - When was the appropriate time to intro

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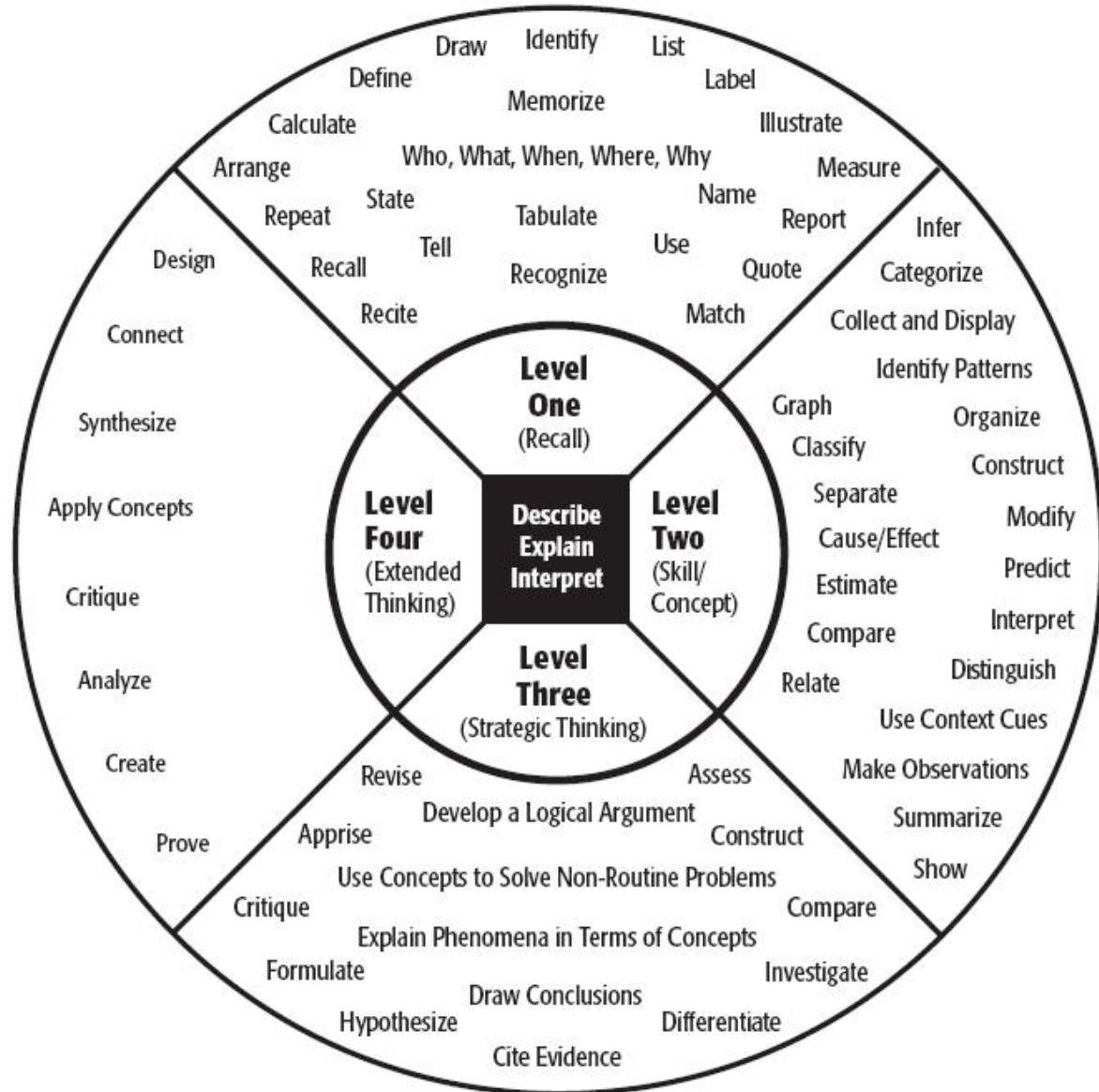
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The Depth of Knowledge “Shuffle”



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- As a table group, you will sort tasks by depth of knowledge level. You'll need a set of task cards.
- Deal the task cards out to members at the table.
- Lay out the 4 header cards on the table.
- First person places one of the task cards under the appropriate header, explaining the rationale for the placement.
- The table group confirms the placement or comes to consensus for another placement.
- Continue and repeat the process until all tasks have been sorted.