

Put your thinking
caps on



ELT
CONFERENCE

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Exams
Catalunya
Cambridge English Qualifications



Cambridge Assessment
English

Authorised Platinum Exam Centre

“We learn more by looking for the answer to a question and not finding it than we do from learning the answer itself.”

Lloyd Alexander

Outline



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- **Warm up**
- **What are thinking skills?**
- **Practical activities**
- **Closing**

Warm up

Over to you....



- If I were an **animal** I'd be abecause....
- If I were a **fruit** I'd be abecause....
- If I were a **form of transportation** I'd be abecause.....
- If I were **colour** I'd bebecause
- If I were a **song** I'd bebecause.....
- If I were a **superhero** I'd be because

Thinking skills

What are thinking skills?

Ways people use their minds to solve problems

Capacity to think in a conscious way to attain certain goals

Intelligent behaviour learned through practice

Mental capacities used to investigate the world

Mental processes to make sense of experiences

Metacognition - thinking about thinking

“The truth is that schools don’t often teach these skills explicitly. Instead, teachers hope that their learners will pick them up.” John Clegg

Characteristics of Critical Thinkers

**Separate fact
from opinion**

**Open minded
about new
ideas**

**Feel comfortable
with trial and error**

**Question things
that don't make
sense**

**Look for
connections**

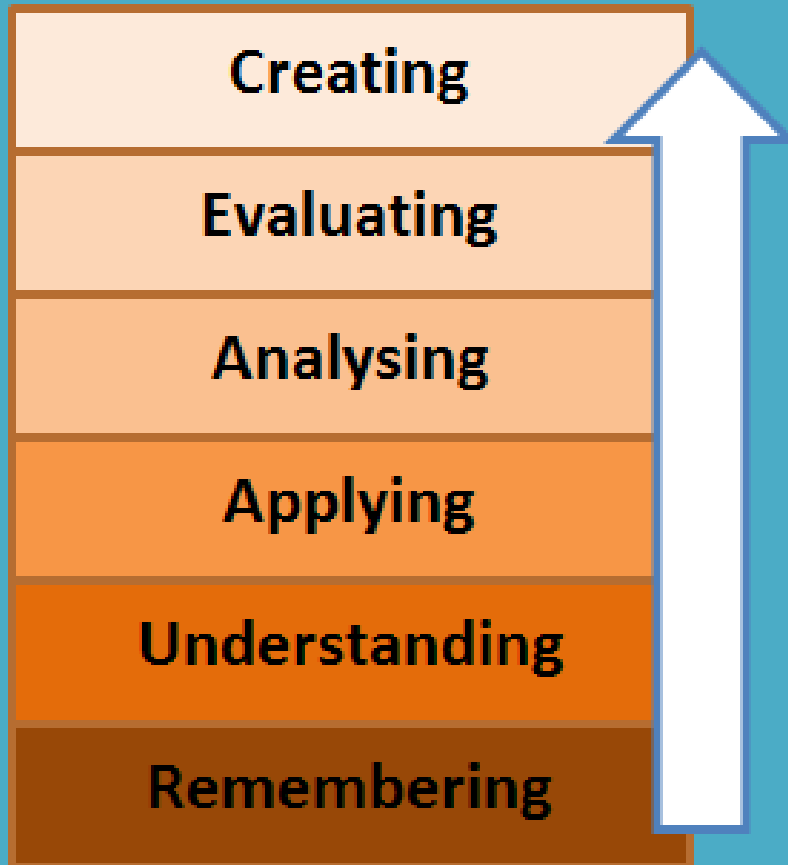
Keep in mind:



Critical thinking is not a set of skills that can be deployed at any time, in any context. It is a type of thought that even 3-year-olds can engage in—and even trained scientists can fail in.

“Critical Thinking: *Why Is It So Hard to Teach?*” Daniel T. Willingham (2007)

Higher Order Thinking Skills

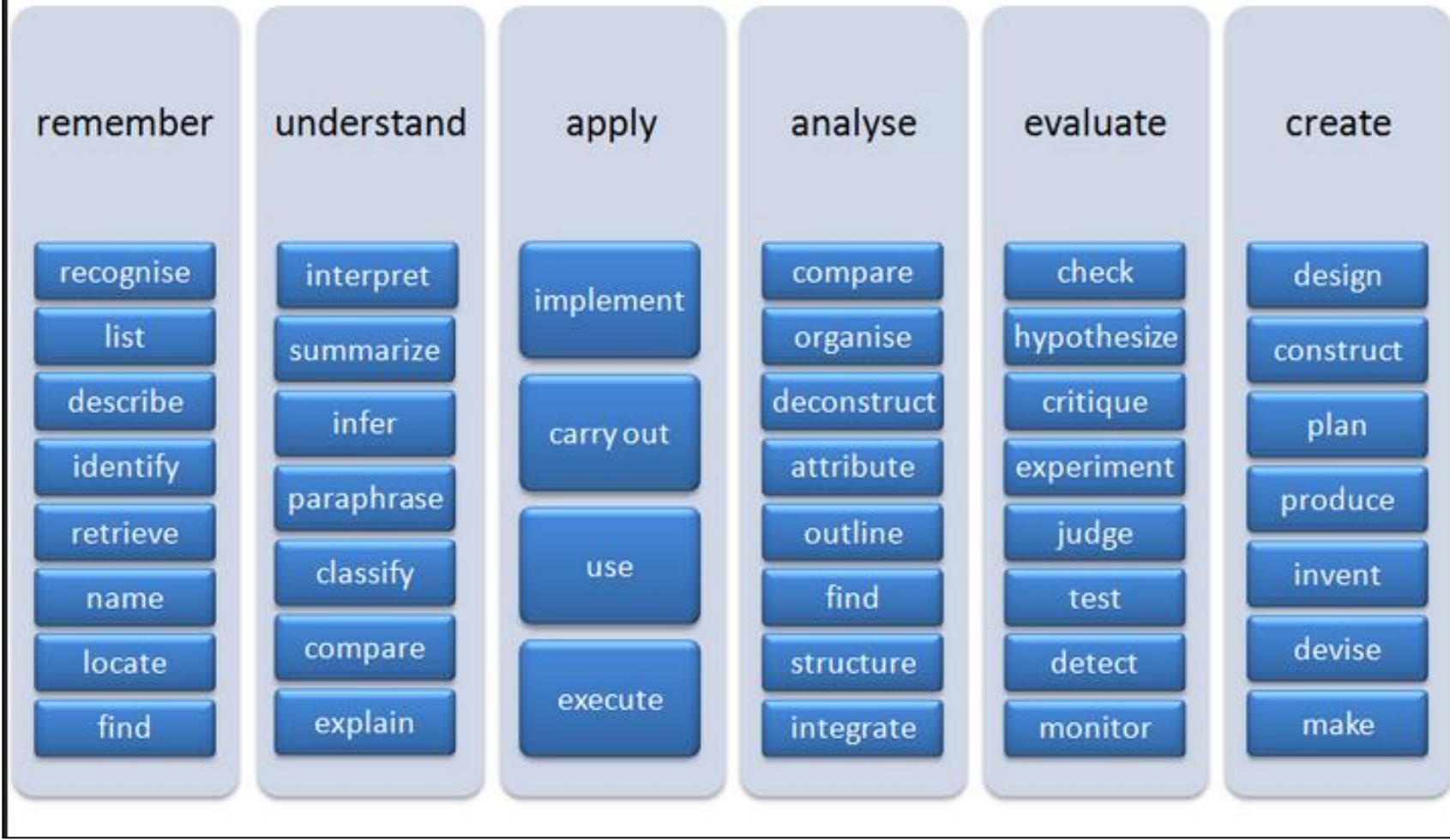


Bloom's Taxonomy

Lower Order Thinking Skills

LOTS (lower order thinking skills)

HOTS (higher order thinking skills)



Bloom's revised taxonomy (Anderson & Krathwohl, 2001).

"In our evolving world, the ability to think is fast becoming more desirable than any fixed set of skills or knowledge. We need problem solvers, decision makers and innovators. And to produce them, we need new ways to teach and learn. We need to prepare our children for their future, not for our past." Mike Fleetham

Practical activities

Think: What comes next?



10

9

60

90

70

66

96
Why?

Think: What comes next?



10 (ten)
9 (nine)
60 (sixty)
90 (ninety)
70 (seventy)
66 (sixty-six)
96 (ninety-six)

Look at the
number of
letters 😊

Asking questions



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	Closed	Open
Thin	How many ducks are there?	Can you name three activities we can do in parks?
Thick	Can you think of five things you can do on a sunny day?	What would happen if there were no parks?

A) "How would the world be different if we all had a third eye in the back of our heads?"

<http://www.npr.org/>

B) "What things wouldn't we be able to do if we didn't have thumbs?"

4-2-1 Charts

4-2-1 chart

4 qualities

A good student...

studies

From 4 go
down to 2

From these two
which is the
most important

Groups and sets

Odd couples

These pairs might seem mismatched at first glance but they have a lot in common. Think of 2 things each pair have in common.



kitten / baby

.....
.....

tomatoes / cherries

.....
.....

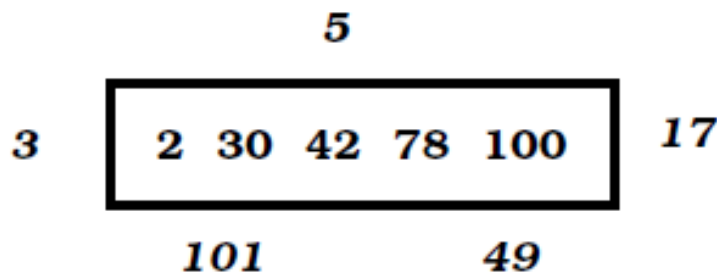
bubble / balloons

.....
.....

magazines / radio

.....
.....

A set is a collection of people, objects, or numbers. The members of the set are alike in one or more ways. Here's an example:



How are all the numbers *outside* the box the same? They are all *odd* numbers. How are all the numbers *inside* the box the same? They are all *even* numbers.

Put the following letters into two sets.
Put one set inside the box and the other set outside the box. Be ready to explain how you made your choices.

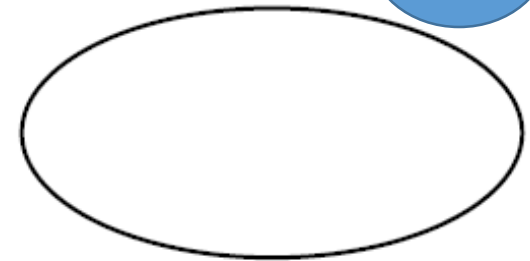
A



A B Z E D
I G O C U

Arrange the following items into two sets.
Put one set inside the circle and the other set outside the circle. Be ready to explain how you made your choices.

B



jet robin glider
kite helicopter sparrow
eagle hummingbird

Post-it feedback



Closing thoughts



“It is better to have enough ideas for some of them to be wrong, than to be always right by having no ideas at all.” — Edward de Bono

Thank you for joining us!



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