OPERATIONAL VERBS
For Writing Learning Outcomes Statements


A) Verbs describing student acquisition and preparation of tools, materials, and texts of various types (including digital and archival):
access, acquire, collect, accumulate, extract, gather, locate, obtain, retrieve

B) Verbs indicating what students do to certify information, materials, texts, etc.
cite, document, record, reference, source (v)

C) Verbs indicating the modes of student characterization of the objects of knowledge or materials of production, performance, exhibit
categorize, classify, define, describe, determine, frame, identify, prioritize, specify

D) Verbs describing what students do in processing data and allied information
calculate, determine, estimate, manipulate, measure, solve, test

D1) Verbs further describing the ways in which students format data, information, materials
arrange, assemble, collate, organize, sort

E) Verbs describing what students do in explaining a position, creation, set of observations, or a text
articulate, clarify, explicate, illustrate, interpret, outline, translate, elaborate, elucidate

F) Verbs falling under the cognitive activities we group under “analyze”
compare, contrast, differentiate, distinguish, formulate, map, match, equate

G) Verbs describing what students do when they “inquire”
examine, experiment, explore, hypothesize, investigate, research, test

H) Verbs describing what students do when they combine ideas, materials, observations
assimilate, consolidate, merge, connect, integrate, link, synthesize, summarize

I) Verbs that describe what students do in various forms of “making”
build, compose, construct, craft, create, design, develop, generate, model, shape, simulate

J) Verbs that describe the various ways in which students utilize the materials of learning
apply, carry out, conduct, demonstrate, employ, implement, perform, produce, use
K) Verbs that describe various executive functions students perform
   operate, administer, control, coordinate, engage, lead, maintain, manage, navigate,
   optimize, plan

L) Verbs that describe forms of deliberative activity in which students engage
   argue, challenge, debate, defend, justify, resolve, dispute, advocate, persuade

M) Verbs that indicate how students valuate objects, experiences, texts, productions, etc.
   audit, appraise, assess, evaluate, judge, rank

N) Verbs that reference the types of communication in which we ask students to engage:
   report, edit, encode/decode, pantomime (v), map, display, draw/diagram

O) Verbs, related to modes of communication, that indicate what students do in groups:
   collaborate, contribute, negotiate, feed back

P) Verbs that describe what students do in rethinking or reconstructing
   accommodate, adapt, adjust, improve, modify, refine, reflect, review