

How Hard Are You Thinking?

Depth of Knowledge (DOK)

Level 3: Strategic Reasoning

- ◆ Focus is on need for reasoning and planning in order to respond (e.g., write an essay, apply in new/novel situation); **complex and abstract** thinking is required; often need to provide support for reasoning or conclusions drawn; more than one "correct" response or approach is often possible.

Level 1: Recall

- ◆ Focus is on specific **facts, definitions**, details, or using **routine procedures** (measure, divide, follow recipe, etc.); explaining "that"...; can be "difficult" without requiring "deep" content knowledge to respond to item (memorize a complex theory without being able to explain its meaning or apply it to a real work situation); a combination of level ones do not = level 2; one right answer.



Level 4: Extended Reasoning

- ◆ Requires complex reasoning, planning, and thinking generally over extended periods of time for the investigation or to complete the multiple steps of the assessment item. Students may be asked to relate concepts within the content area and among other content areas or to real-world applications in new situations

Level 2: Skill/Conceptual Understanding

- ◆ Focus is on **applying skills** (in a familiar/typical situation) and **concepts**, relationships (compare, cause-effect), main ideas – requires deeper knowledge than definition; explaining how or why; making decisions – estimating, interpreting in order to respond; one right answer.