

Success Toolkit

Using Bloom's & Growth Mindset in This Class

Prepared by Melissa Demski for EN1510

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How to Use This Toolkit

1. **Start small:** focus first on Remember and Understand to get your bearings.
2. **Build up:** move into Apply and Analyze as you read and discuss texts.
3. **Stretch yourself:** practice Evaluate and Create as you draft and revise essays.
4. **Carry the mindset:** remember, every level takes practice. Unthink "bad at writing"; think "training your brain to think in new ways."

One strategy I will use when I get stuck is...

One growth mindset belief I will lean into this semester is...

One strength I already have as a learner is...

Explore Connections

Now that you've thought about how you learn, consider this: Why do we write? Is it only about completing assignments, or can it also be a way to learn, remember, and grow? In the next module, we'll explore writers asking that very question.

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Bloom's Level	Studying for the Exam	Reading Actively	Analyzing What You Read	Writing Essays	Growth Mindset in Action - "Sounds like..."
1 Remember (recall, define)	Make flashcards for key terms (e.g., thesis, citation).	Highlight or underline keywords.	Summarize the main point in your own words.	Recall assignment requirements and rubric criteria.	<i>"If I forget, I can review—it's part of learning."</i>
2 Understand (explain, describe)	Paraphrase definitions in your notes.	Write margin notes: <i>"This means..."</i>	Explain why an author is making a certain point.	Draft a clear thesis statement that shows you get the topic.	<i>"I might not get it the first time, but I can break it down."</i>
3 Apply (use, demonstrate)	Practice applying rules (like MLA format) to examples.	Ask: <i>"How does this connect to something I know?"</i>	Compare the text to real-world situations.	Use class concepts (like structure or narrative elements) in your drafts.	<i>"I can practice using this skill in different ways until it sticks."</i>
4 Analyze (compare, contrast, break down)	Make concept maps to see how terms connect.	Note similarities/differences between authors.	Identify strengths/weaknesses in arguments.	Organize essays to illustrate the relationships between ideas.	<i>"I can look deeper to find patterns—I don't need the 'right' answer immediately."</i>
5 Evaluate (judge, critique, defend)	Quiz yourself by asking: <i>"Why does this rule matter?"</i>	Question the author's evidence and assumptions.	Decide if the author's argument is convincing—and why.	Revise by asking: <i>"Have I successfully proven my thesis?"</i>	<i>"I can change my mind as I learn more—that's growth."</i>
6 Create (synthesize, produce)	Create practice questions you think might be on the exam.	Connect multiple readings into one big idea.	Generate your own response or perspective from the texts.	Create new arguments and ideas and fully explore them in your essays in your own, unique voice.	<i>"I can build something new out of what I've learned."</i>