



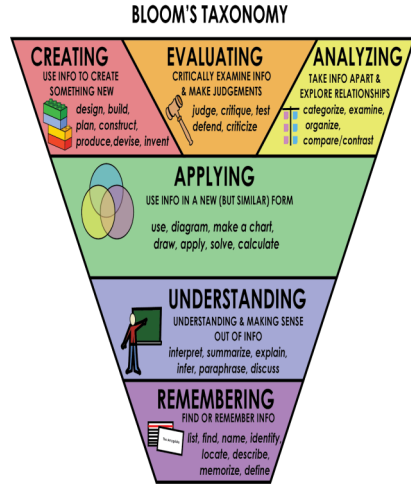
HIGHER ORDER THINKING SKILLS

Belmont Academy LTA Newsletter

What are HOTS?

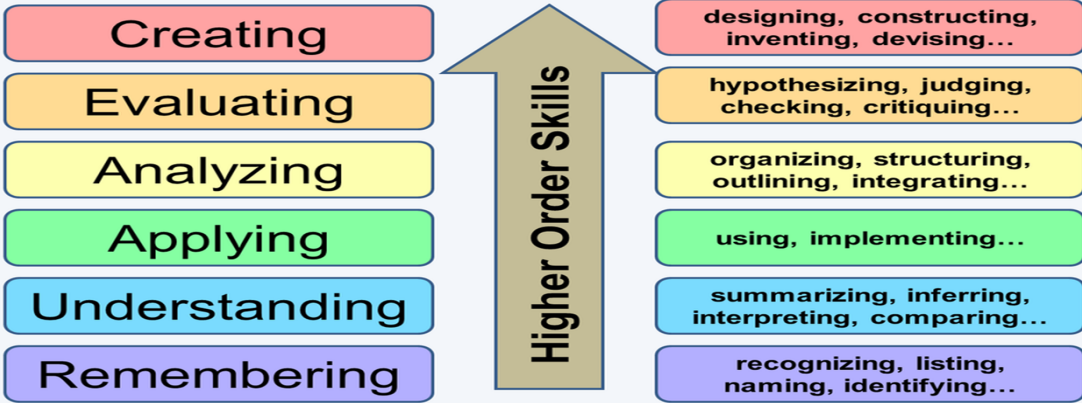
High-order thinking skills are a series of important competencies individuals can utilize in order to improve learning progress and critical thinking. Those who employ high-order thinking skills understand how to analyse and evaluate complex information and troubleshoot for solutions.

Research suggests higher-order thinking skills promote student success and achievement, giving them a wealth of transferable skills. One method which teachers can implement to develop HOTS is their **questioning techniques**.



Effective Questioning to develop HOTS

Higher-order questions put advanced cognitive demand on students. They encourage students to think beyond literal questions. Higher-order questions promote critical thinking skills because these types of questions expect students to apply, analyse, synthesize, and evaluate information instead of simply recalling facts.



Tips for Effective Questioning

- Give pupils thinking time
- Start with basic questions and add complexity as you go
 - Avoid closed questions
 - Use HOT command words
- Encourage pupils to question one and other

Examples of Effective Questioning

- What makes you say that?
- What are your reasons?
- Why do you agree / disagree with that?
- To what extent do you agree?
- What could be the consequence of this?

Self-management

Focusing	Integrity
Adapting	Initiative

Social intelligence

Communicating	Feeling
Collaborating	Leading

Innovation

Curiosity	Creativity
Sense-making	Critical thinking

HOTS Linking to the Meta Skills

The Meta Skills are defined as timeless, **higher order** skills that support the development of additional skills and promote success in whatever context the future brings. Below is an example of how HOTS can be incorporated into L.I & S.C and how the Meta Skills are clearly linked.

Learning Intention

By the end of the lesson I will be able to:

Understand why the Scottish parliament is so important.

Critical thinking

The ability to evaluate and draw conclusions from information in order to solve complex problems and make decisions

- Deconstruction
- Logical thinking
- Judgement
- Computational thinking

Success Criteria

I will be successful if I can:

- **Identify** key facts about Parliament
- **Outline** the process of passing law in Parliament
- **Evaluate** the impact of laws passed by Parliament