Standard:

Develop program outcomes, as well as learning objectives that define the knowledge and/or skills the Athletic Trainer is expected to acquire through the completion of the program.
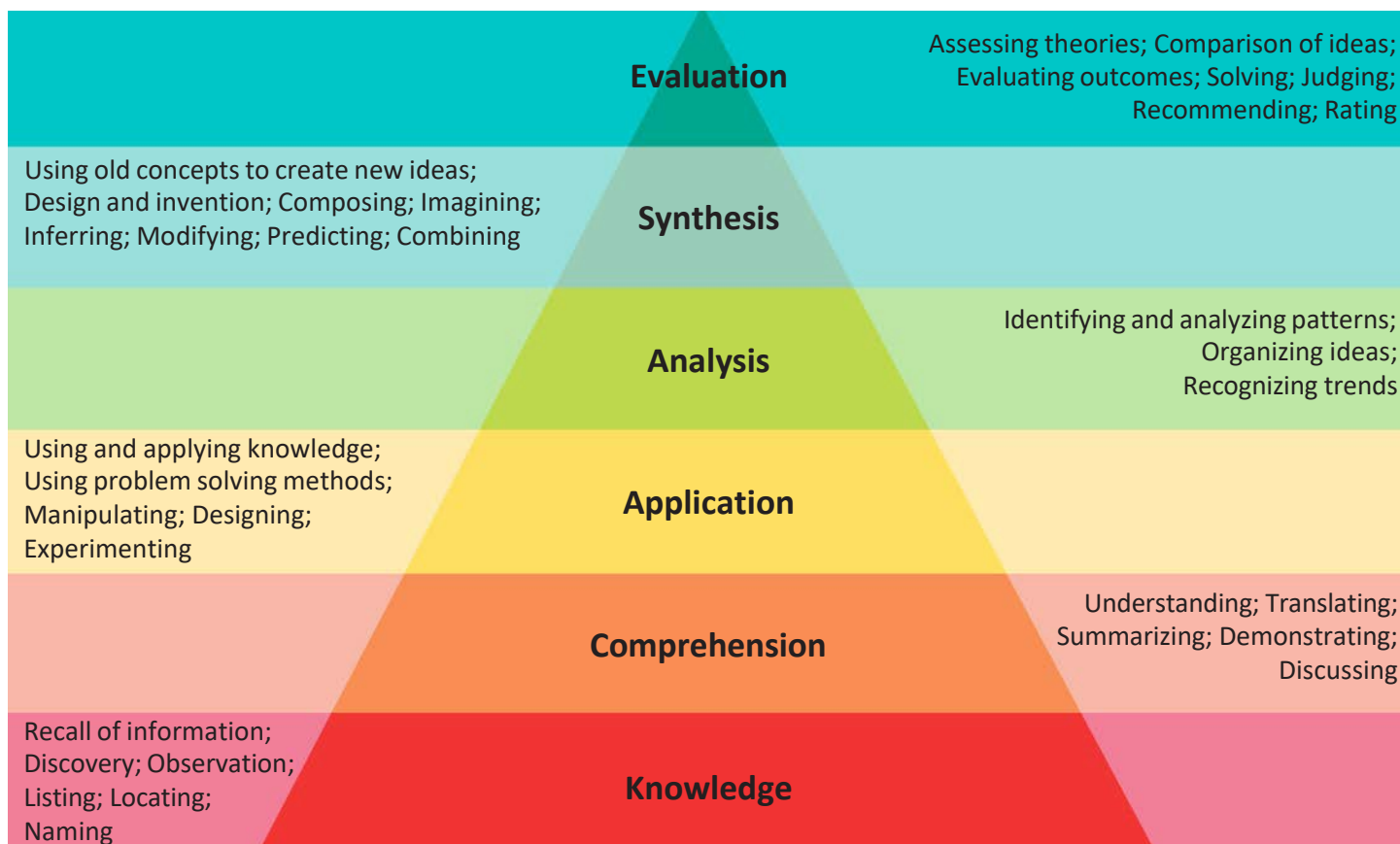
Bloom's Taxonomy is a classification of learning objectives. It contains 6 levels of interaction, each building on the previous (see pyramid below). By creating learning objectives with verbs that show measurement, the provider can match appropriate program assessments to demonstrate participant learning. Avoid using the following terms for objective construction: appreciate, comprehend, experience, know, learn and understand.

Examples of Learning Objectives

At the conclusion of the presentation, the participant should be able to:

- List the problems and strengths of research used to support bracing versus taping. (Knowledge)
- Differentiate between types of ankle braces and their purpose. (Analysis)
- Develop effective treatment and preventative strategies for muscle strengthening and neuromuscular control for ankle stability. (Synthesis)
- Recommend a return to play rehabilitation protocol for patients with ankle injuries. (Evaluation)
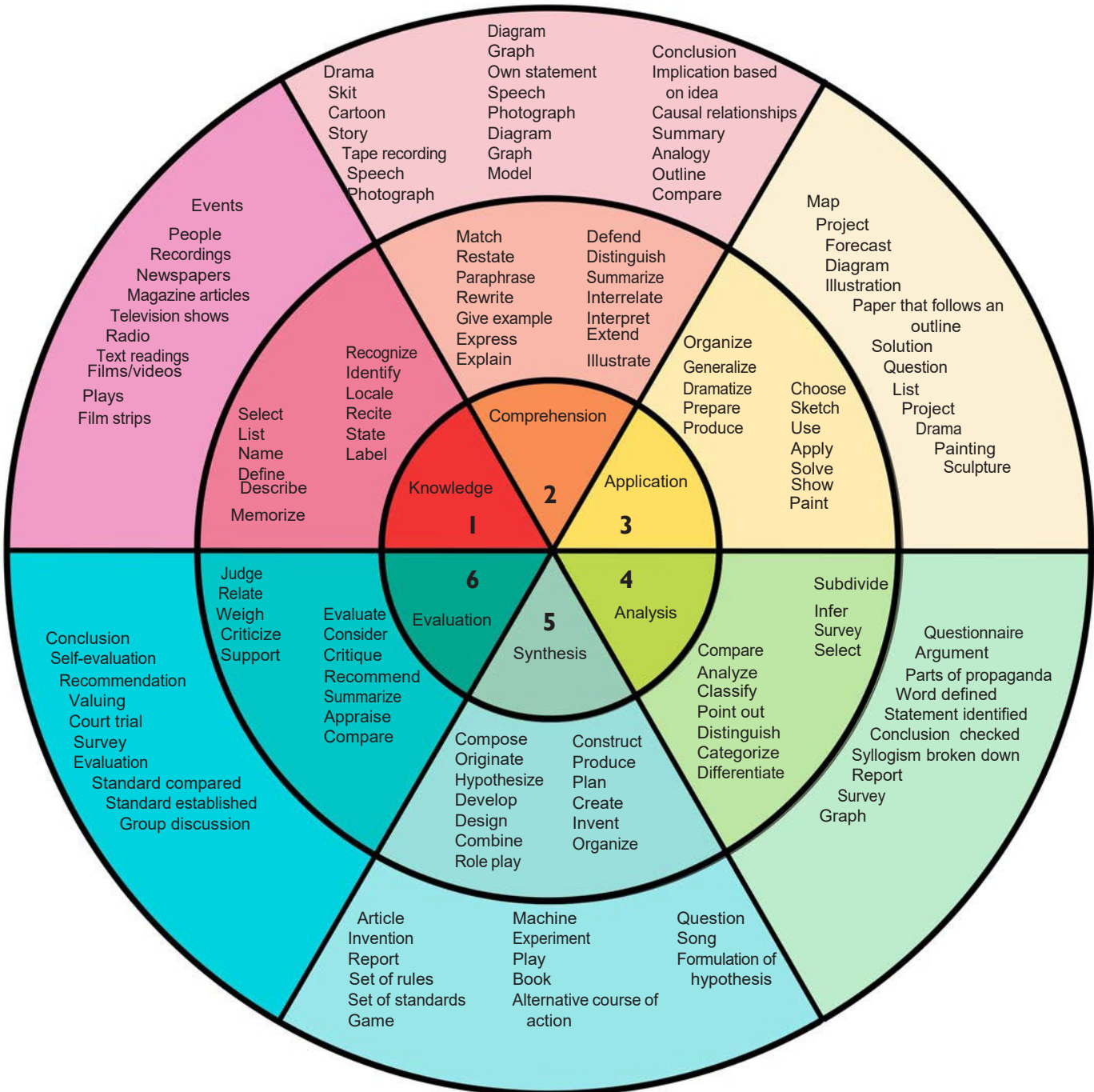
Figure 1: Bloom's Taxonomy

Evaluation
Assessing theories; Comparison of ideas;
Evaluating outcomes; Solving; Judging;
Recommending; Rating

Using old concepts to create new ideas;
Design and invention; Composing; Imagining;
Inferring; Modifying; Predicting; Combining
Synthesis

Analysis
Identifying and analyzing patterns;
Organizing ideas;
Recognizing trends

Using and applying knowledge;
Using problem solving methods;
Manipulating; Designing;
Experimenting
Application

Comprehension
Understanding; Translating;
Summarizing; Demonstrating;
Discussing

Recall of information;
Discovery; Observation;
Listing; Locating;
Naming
Knowledge

Teaching for Thinking

To promote student thinking at various levels of Bloom's Taxonomy, use the diagram below (Figure 2) to structure questions and assignments. Use the inner ring to identify the level of thinking you want to teach. These levels, as shown in Figure 1, are Knowledge, Comprehension, Application Analysis, Synthesis and Evaluation. After a choosing a level, select a verb from the middle ring. Finally, combine the verb from the middle level with a product in the outer ring to construct questions and assignments.

Figure 2: Bloom's Taxonomy Question and Task Design Wheel

Need more resources for building objectives? There's an app for that!
On an Android, search for "Learning Objectives Generator" or "Bloom's Revised Taxonomy." On the iPhone, search for "Blooms Taxonomy." Also check out the Arizona State University Instructional Objectives Builder.