

## **THE LEVELS OF THINKING**

(We might also use terms such as “higher thinking”, higher brain thinking, primitive thinking, lower brain “thinking”, and such.)

Be sure to see The 7 levels of thinking!

What is your level of thinking????

Here is my proposition from all of this:

**Higher level thinking is THE path, THE most effective vehicle to a higher level life.**

**When you develop Level 7, you will literally be able to create anything you want in life.**

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### **WHY BOTHER WITH HIGHER LEVEL THINKING?**

The test of the value of anything lies in the level of value it creates/allows. One does not do higher level thinking for the lower level thinking reason of “it makes me look better” or “it’s good to be a higher level thinker”.

One does it only for the incredibly great results it produces in life, including especially a much healthier emotional life and a much, much higher level of happiness and satisfaction in life. (See [The Purpose Of Life.](#))

So, it is NOT about being an egghead. It is about being a much more functional human being who creates a much greater life by using this vehicle/doorway to attaining it!

## **WHAT IS HIGHER ORDER THINKING?**

Higher order thinking is thinking on a level that is higher than memorizing facts or telling something back to someone exactly the way it was told to you. When a person memorizes and gives back the information without having to think about it, we call that rote memory. That's because it's **much like a robot; it does what it's programmed to do, but it doesn't think for itself.**

Higher order thinking, or "HOT" for short, takes thinking to higher levels than restating the facts. HOT requires that we do something with the facts. We must understand them, infer from them, connect them to other facts and concepts, categorize them, manipulate them, put them together in new or novel ways, and apply them as we seek new solutions to new problems. Following are some ways to access higher order thinking.

<https://www.readingrockets.org/article/higher-order-thinking>

Higher level thinking includes concept formation, concept connection, getting the big picture, visualization, problem solving, questioning, idea generation, analytical (critical) thinking, practical thinking/application, and synthesizing/creative thinking.

The lowest level of “thinking” is where people do not question and just take on beliefs and let their lower brain go from there, with no real thinking. Examples of such thinking: extremists, conspiracy theorists, false cause thinking (such as antivaccinationers and any strong advocates who are doing so without thinking things through and without checking/testing the facts), people whose beliefs and models of reality do not align with reality, people who live in fantasy or “metaphysical reality”, reactive people).

Unfortunately, most of us left our schooling without having developed the higher levels of thinking. But it is not too late, as any of us can develop them.

### **DIFFERENCE BETWEEN LOW LEVEL AND HIGHER LEVEL THINKERS!**

Simple definite indication:

Lower level: facts not checked. Higher level: at least facts checked...

You can always spot the product of low level thinking or “non-thinking”: conspiracy theories, false cause, fear, not checking things out...

The people spouting them are often well-meaning, but harm is likely caused anyway.

They are operating at a Level 1 or partially at 2, where passion often overtakes reason...

**Higher level thinking is THE path to a higher level life.**

**When you develop Level 7, you will literally be able to create anything you want in life.**

## **THE 7 LEVELS OF THINKING**

### **HIGHER ORDER THINKING: BLOOM'S TAXONOMY**

#### **Level 1: Remember**

This level helps us recall foundational or factual information: names, dates, formulas, definitions, components, or methods.

#### **Level 2: Understand**

Understanding means that we can explain main ideas and concepts and make meaning by interpreting, classifying, summarizing, inferring, comparing, and explaining.

#### **Level 3: Apply**

Application allows us to recognize or use concepts in real-world situations and to address when, where, or how to employ methods and ideas.

#### **Level 4: Analyze**

Analysis means breaking a topic or idea into components or examining a subject from different perspectives. It helps us see how the “whole” is created from the “parts.” It’s easy to miss the big picture by getting stuck at a lower level of thinking and simply remembering individual facts without seeing how they are connected. Analysis helps reveal the connections between facts.

#### **Level 5: Synthesize**

Synthesizing means considering individual elements together for the purpose of drawing conclusions, identifying themes, or determining common elements. Here you want to shift from “parts” to “whole.”

#### **Level 6: Evaluate**

Evaluating means making judgments about something based on criteria and standards. This requires checking and critiquing an argument or concept to form an opinion about its value. Often there is not a clear or correct answer to this type of question. Rather, it’s about making a judgment and supporting it with reasons and evidence.

#### **Level 7: Create**

Creating involves putting elements together to form a coherent or functional whole. Creating includes reorganizing elements into a new pattern or structure through planning. This is the highest and most advanced level of Bloom’s Taxonomy.

[Source](#) - See this source for details of study methods and types of questions to ask yourself.

## **READ**

To see study method and types of questions asked at different levels, as you'll have to ask these yourself if you want to become a higher order thinker. [Bloom's Seven Levels Of Thinking](#). (The questions you ask are indicators of the level of thinking you are operating at.)

[How To Increase Higher Order Thinking](#)

## **POSSIBLE ADDITIONAL READING TO CONSIDER IF...**

If you're willing to proactively pursue higher order thinking and the mastery of life, you might also read:

[Follow The Path Of A Master Of Life](#)

[Cognitive ability and the vulnerability to fake news](#)