

What Are DOK Levels?

The DOK level describes **the kind of thinking involved in the task**, not whether it will be completed correctly. A greater DOK level requires greater conceptual understanding and cognitive processing by the students. Therefore, on average, students who reach greater DOK levels more regularly will have increased student achievement.

Level 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">involves recall and the response is automatic. Students either know the answer or not. Level 1 activities require students to demonstrate a rote response, follow a set of procedures, or perform simple calculations.
Level 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">activities are more complex and require students to engage in mental processing and reasoning beyond a habitual response. These activities make students decide how to approach the problem, involving interpreting and developing relationships among concepts.
Level 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">activities necessitate higher cognitive demands than the previous two levels. At Level 3, students are providing evidentiary support and reasoning for conclusions they draw. In most instances, having students explain and justify their thinking is at a Level 3. Typically, Level 3 activities have more than one correct response or approach to the problem.
Level 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">includes those tasks in which students must demonstrate reasoning, planning, and developing connections within and beyond a content area. These activities usually occur over an extended period of time and cannot be assessed on the Criterion--referenced Tests (CRT) or High School Proficiency Exam (HSPE). However, these tasks should be incorporated into the curriculum since it is this type of thinking we want to encourage from all of our students.