

Writing Successful Learning Objectives

Learning objectives convey anticipated outcomes of the learning activity, facilitate evaluation of student learning, and enable the learner to identify the relevancy of the educational activity to his or her own continuing education needs.

Helpful hint—when unsure if what is being stated is an effective learning objective, ask, “Is this what I want the learner to be able to do at the end of the session?”

Examples:

As a result of attending this session, the learner will be able to:

- Identify the four leading causes of ...
- Explain the steps required to ...
- Discuss the methods employed to ...
- Classify the types of ...

Learning objectives should be written in concrete terms. **Verbs like *understand, learn, appreciate, believe, and know* should not be used in educational learning objectives because they are ambiguous and cannot be measured.** Suggested verbs are listed below.

Attributes of Effective Learning Objectives: They are...

- Simple and brief
- Contain one (1) – and only one – idea, action or behavior
- Should leave little doubt about what is expected
- Begin with an action verb
 - Action verbs are measurable and provide observable behavior or performance

Please note: Your presentation must have at least two learning objectives but no more than three. If you need additional assistance in writing successful learning objectives, please contact us at SummitSpeakers@vizientinc.com.

Learning objectives should be reflective of the target audience(s) noted in your abstract submission.

Suggested verbs to use when writing learning objectives

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|--------------|----------------|---------------|-------------|
| • Apply | • Describe | • Explain | • Relate |
| • Arrange | • Develop | • Identify | • Solve |
| • Assess | • Diagnose | • Illustrate | • Translate |
| • Categorize | • Diagram | • Interpret | • Use |
| • Classify | • Discriminate | • List | |
| • Compare | • Discuss | • Predict | |
| • Create | • Distinguish | • Reconstruct | |