

2.2 Learning Objectives Video Script

[Learning Objectives]

Let's talk about Learning Objectives.

The importance of a clear and well-crafted learning objective cannot be overstated.

Planning an effective workshop begins with a clearly-defined learning objective - everything you plan should function to deliver knowledge and skills that meet the learning objective.

To begin creating a learning objective, ask yourself some questions:

What problem are you looking to solve? What will participants be able to DO after completing your workshop?

[What is a Learning Objective?]

A learning objective is a narrow and specific outcome statement that defines what knowledge and /or skills participants will be able to exhibit following the workshop. It should answer the question, 'Why should I take this workshop?'

A learning objective is not a list of activities or a general topic description. Instead, it focuses on what participants will take away with them in terms of understanding, skills, or abilities.

[Creating an Effective Learning Objective]

To create a learning objective, start by asking yourself:

- What problems am I helping participants solve?
- What new skills or knowledge will they gain?
- What should participants be able to do after attending this workshop?

Educators often use Bloom's Taxonomy when creating effective learning objectives.

Researchers organised words into a hierarchical list of critical thinking processes, beginning with basic knowledge and understanding, all the way to advanced skills like analysis and synthesis.

As an example, if the intended outcome for participants is to know or remember something, the learning objective could begin with recognise, identify or recall.

If, however, the desired outcome is for participants to apply their learning, then apply, produce or modify may be better suited.

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An organised list of Bloom's Action Verbs can be found in the lesson materials and in your workbook, along with a list of vague and ambiguous words and phrases to avoid.

Your choice of verbs should match your audience's experience level.

For example, words taken from the lower levels of the hierarchy (knowledge and comprehension) may be more suitable for an introductory course. For an audience who already has some background knowledge and experience, words taken from the higher levels (such as analysis and synthesis) may be more applicable.

[Examples of Strong Learning Objectives]

Some good examples of effective workshop learning objectives are

- *By the end of this workshop, you will be able to construct and run an effective author website.*
- *By the end of this workshop, you will be able to create an outline for a compelling short story.*

Good learning objectives are:

Clear - The outcome is easy to understand

Measurable - It is possible to determine whether participants have achieved it

Achievable - The goal is realistic within the time and scope of the workshop